

From: opalbin@yahoo.com.au
To: [DEM:Mintabie Opal Mining](#)
Subject: Closing mining in Mintabie!
Date: Tuesday, 25 September 2018 9:36:06 AM

My name is Justine Buckley. I am an owner/manager of an jewellery and opal retail/wholesale shop in Lightning Ridge.

In my business partnership, we mine our own opals, so having been involved in the Opal Mining industry for 25 years, I feel I have a fairly good understanding of mining and opals regarding sales and tourism.

I am truly horrified that ANY town in Australia in this day and age could be closed! This is 2018...are we not supposed to be civilised people? How can a government even consider evicting people from their homes and their jobs...I mean totally cutting them off from everything they have ever known!? This is barbaric. If this is let to happen in Mintabie, then what security does ANY small town in Australia have??

And why is it happening so quietly? Why is it not put to the 'democratic' public?? Why is it not heavily covered by the media??

This act of barbaric heathenism will greatly affect the Opal industry too. Mintabie is the source of amazing and interesting opal unique to its area. And one of the only other sources of true black opal other than Lightning Ridge!

I object to our government throwing people out of their homes and cutting off their income. Opal Mining is a unique job and it is not easy to move onto another field of employment. I object to closing a town in Australia. I object to the sneaky way this government is going about this horror. I object to creating a treaty with the indigenous people that would allow a clause to close this town. It is such a horror...if this is allowed, it is an easy task to start closing all sorts of places in Australia! We are ALL Australians! We should ALL live together. What has happened in the past has happened to every country in the world at some time or other! We MUST all move on and stop things like this from happening.

Imagine loosing your home? Imagine someone telling you that your job is obsolete and you must move on??

UNACCEPTABLE!!

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