

**14<sup>th</sup> February 2011**

**Dear Commissioners,**

**I would like to raise the matter of the floods in Emerald in early January 2011.**

**The flood inundated approx 80% of the buildings in Emerald.**

**Emerald also flooded in early 2008.**

**During the 2008 flood approx 60% of the Emerald flooded and could have been greater if a very high and long flood bank hadn't broken down stream.**

**The wall of earth is located at or near a mine down streams from Emerald and was approx 23 meters high in 2008 when the water breached the bank.**

**The bank blocks approx 2km to 3 km of the natural flood plain.**

**When the wall broke in 2008 the flood level dropped approx 2 metres in Emerald.**

**In 2011 the mine was building up this same wall to an approx height of 33 meters before they were forced to stop raising it by the raising water.**

**The wall is there to protect the open cut coal mine and its machinery.**

**I am not trying to put blame on the mine if the wall is a partial cause of the flood height reached in Emerald in 2008 and 2011.**

**The wall was possibly permitted by the EPA or other relevant Government authorities.**

**I would like to see if something can be done to help plan for Emerald to suffer less when the next flood comes.**

**Maybe if the overburden from the mine was used to put levies each side of the river flowing through Emerald?**

**I have written to the Central Highlands Regional Council (Emerald) regarding the flood and possible solutions, but unfortunately I have had no response, nor from the State Government.**

**I thank you for the time you have taken to read this email and hopefully a solution can be found that will appease all parties.**

**Regards**

**Cliff Mitting**

