Don’t mention the other mines:
Cumulative impacts, public participation and Queensland’s Galilee Basin

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Queensland’s Galilee Basin

The Galilee Basin is an area of land measuring 247,000 square kilometres located in Central West Queensland.

One of the largest undeveloped thermal coal basins in the world.

Nine proposed coal mines

Mines are three times the size of some coal mines in the neighbouring Bowen Basin.

Map: www.galileebasin.org
Alpha, Queensland

Image: Alpha, c1974, from Postcard by Pitt, Collection of Centre for the Government of Queensland
Which mines?

Selected four case study mines from the nine proposed for the area
- Alpha, GVK Hancock
- Kevin’s Corner, GVK Hancock
- China First, Waratah Coal
- South Galilee Coal Project, AMCI

Let’s talk about Adani’s Carmichael coal mine...

Qualitative research methods used
- Document analysis
- 25 semi-structured interviews

Image: Alpha Coal Project test pit, GVK Hancock Coal
Cumulative impacts

What cumulative impacts are expected in Alpha?

• Environmental

• Social

• Economic
Five barriers to addressing cumulative impacts in EIA in Queensland

- Independent assessment of each mine
- Uncertainty
- Time delay
- Commercial confidentiality
- Economic development discourse

The solution?