

Press release 01/09/2021

West Cumbria Mining Ltd face new challenges as eight groups already commit to taking direct action if Jenrick gives the go ahead after the public inquiry.

Direct action groups are signing onto a public statement, committing to take action to stop the controversial coal mine proposal, if, after the public inquiry, Jenrick approves it despite direct warnings from its own Climate Change Committee. Copies of this statement, along with a parody booklet about West Cumbria Mining Ltd's links with investors in the Cayman Islands tax haven, and a flyer for public rallies planned on the first day of the public inquiry were posted to offices of connected companies around the world this week.

EMR Capital was [recently reported to be wavering in their financial support](#) to West Cumbria Mining Ltd due to the costs in legal and expert fees of trying to win the upcoming public inquiry. The most recent annual accounts show that this finance is essential for West Cumbria Mining Ltd to operate.

Direct action can cause severe delays to large-scale projects and cost companies huge amounts—HS2 Ltd recently estimated protestors had cost the company £75million so far. The possibility of further delays and yet further costs may concern other investors or insurance providers that would have otherwise shown interest if the coal mine eventually got the go ahead from Robert Jenrick.

Direct action has been a prominent element of many struggles for social improvement and reform throughout history, more recently including civil rights movement, women's vote, disabled rights, genetically modified farming, and the phase-out of using coal to generate electricity. With the local campaign having exhausted other options, groups signing onto this statement are therefore committing to using direct action again to end all coal mining in the UK.

These groups believe, that irrespective of its stated use, industry cannot continue using coal and other fossil fuels—citing that impacts of climate change are already causing ecosystems to start failing in some countries where people are often more reliant on them for their survival.

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Editor's notes:

The statement on direct action is available here: <https://www.coalaction.org.uk/2021/08/30/pledge-of-action/>

The statement is a collaborative effort between a number of the groups, with **Coal Action Network** taking a lead on outreach.

Copies of the statement have been posted this week to senior staff in EMR Capital Investment's offices in the Cayman Islands, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Australia, and to West Cumbria Mining Ltd's offices in Haywards Heath and Crawley. Along with the statement, a copy a [parody investment brochure](#) revealing the financial fragility of West Cumbria Mining Ltd, and a flyer for the rally on the first day of the public inquiry was included.

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