

**Subject:** Angus Place mod 8 and West Coal Services mod 5 submission

I have made a reportable political donation:

No

I am objecting to the proposal:

Yes

To whom it may concern,

My family are avid campers. We love getting out in nature and frequent our national parks and conservation areas at every opportunity. I feel passionately that we should do everything to protect our native bushland—not just to preserve our flora and fauna but so that we can immerse ourselves in it and use it to teach our children about our country and its unique environments. I believe that it's particularly important to have this protected land near to our major cities so that it's in driving distance for weekend travel and weekend's away (camping, hiking). Garden of Stone is so important because of its accessibility and nearness to Sydney. It needs to be protected so that families like mine can visit on weekends and experience its beauty. I am deeply concerned that this coal mine will damage Garden of Stone and that damage will impact not just my generation but my kids and future generations. I am also very concerned about contamination of Cox's River and Sydney's drinking water. Anything that throws contamination into our catchment, or even prompts fear of contamination, may drive Sydney—siders to consume bottled water. This creates more environmental damage (through disposable plastic bottles) and possible health implications (from reduced fluoride intake and BPA exposure ). Please knock-back this mining proposal and protect our native bushland.

I find it highly distasteful that the window for comment on this proposal has been across a school holiday period. This is 'gaming the system' and the period should be extended to enable all those families to return home, consider the proposal and respond. Absolutely shameful.

These modifications should be considered in totality and not piecemeal so that the full extent and implications are thoroughly understood. A piecemeal approach has a high likelihood of obscuring the full impact. I believe that the modifications should be withdrawn and the proposed changes should be included in Centennial's state significant development application for the Angus Place West mining area so that they can be appropriately assessed.

I am very concerned about the impact of water draw-down from this proposal. It appears likely that groundwater levels will drop significantly. It also seems likely that the (surface water) surrounding wetland areas will be extensively impacted. This includes possible loss of flora and displacement of fauna from these swamp areas. I believe that any such losses are unacceptable. These are unique environments that should be conserved. Large discharges of mine water must not be allowed to occur. This would present massive contamination events into the Blue Mountains world heritage area which millions of tourists flock to (me included) every year. It will also, selfishly, impact Sydney drinking water affecting millions of residents and undermining confidence in our drinking water.

From everything that I've read in the proposal, it appears that it will impact water levels, Sydney drinking water and contaminate water ways through World Heritage listed areas. I believe that these impacts are significant and detrimental and probably meet the 'water trigger' threshold and therefore the proposal should be referred to our federal environmental minister to assess and make this determination.

Centennial has an appalling track record failing to meet its environmental stewardship obligations. From fractured

sandstone at Airly to coal waste storage failings in the blue mountains area, discharge of toxic sludge at Springvale and the list goes on. Ecosystems are still damaged in the wake of Centennial's failings. With such a track record, any submission from them must be scrutinised with cynicism. They are not fit stewards of any land anywhere near ecologically sensitive or protected areas.