



Ref: DD_17_217_1528

31/03/06

Mr Colin Phillips
Environmental Planning Officer
Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Colin

Submissions to Lamberts Gully and Angus Place Extension Applications

In response to your request of 10 March 2006, please find our reply on the submissions received for the Lamberts Gully and Angus Place Extension Project Applications.

Subsequent to your further advice that Council wishes to discuss a contribution, Centennial will liaise direct with Council on this and advise of progress and outcomes.

For any further information please contact me on telephone 49 358 924.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Donna Dryden'.

Donna Dryden
Group Environmental Manager

Encl.

[..\Collieries General\Angus Place-AP\LEA DA\2006-03 Response to Submissions.doc](#)

[..\Collieries General\Lamberts Gully\Extension DA\2006-03 Response to Submissions.doc](#)

**Centennial Coal
Proposed Lamberts Gully Extension
Response to Submissions
March 2006**

Department:	Forests NSW
Issue:	<i>Inclusion of fire prevention, asset protection and communication measures</i>
Response:	A Bushfire Management Plan will be developed for the site.
Department:	Department of Primary Industries
Issue:	<i>Mining Operations Plan</i>
Response:	A MOP will be lodged prior to mining in those areas not currently covered by a MOP.
Issue:	<i>Reject Emplacement Areas</i>
Response:	Appropriate applications under s126 will be made by the Mine prior to the emplacement of reject material within the REA.
Issue:	<i>Drainage System – catchment capacity</i>
Response:	There is only a very small area of clean catchment above the future mine area. Wherever practical clean water will be adequately diverted from entering the working area. Although there is an increase in dirty water catchment, there will be no additional stormwater loading entering the pollution control system. As described in Section 7.1.1, the extension will operate in the same manner as the existing open cut and retain stormwater in inlet sumps. This water is used for dust suppression and on site water demand.
Issue:	<i>Topsoil Management</i>
Response:	Topsoil stockpile will be maintained and will have appropriate erosion controls. Details of the location and the controls will be provided through the AEMR or MOP process.
Issue:	<i>Revegetation – seed collection and hollow logs</i>
Response:	The original Lamberts Gully MOP was modified to allow for the spreading of larger cleared timber, including any hollow logs, over the prepared rehabilitation areas. Centennial's native seed collection contractor currently working at Charbon Colliery will be used to collect Capertee Stringybark at Lamberts Gully. The contractor uses both direct sowing of native seed collected as well as nursery raising of tubestock. Both methods will be used at Lamberts Gully.
Department:	Department of Environment and Conservation
Issue:	<i>Threatened Species - revegetation monitoring and maintenance</i>
Response:	Springvale Colliery will undertake revegetation monitoring over a longer period and will implement a maintenance programme including weed control.

Issue:	<i>S87/90 permits not required</i>
Response:	The Mine acknowledges that under the Part 3A process the above permits will not require a separate approval. The Archaeologist has since re-inspected the identified sites and tagged Site 7 45-1-0218 to ensure that it is not inadvertently disturbed by the future mining works. No identified sites will now be disturbed by the proposed extension to the open cut.
Department:	City of Lithgow Council
Issue:	<i>Cumulative impacts on Blackmans Flat</i>
Response:	The Lamberts Gully EA and subsequent responses by Centennial have adequately addressed cumulative noise, blasting and dust implications on the residents of Blackmans Flat
Issue	<i>Rehabilitation Plans</i> Rehabilitation plans are being prepared as part of the MOP to be approved by DPI-MR and progress against these plans will be reported in the AEMR. Copies of the AEMR are provided to Council.
Issue	<i>Formulation of a Community Consultative Committee</i> Springvale supports the formulation of a CCC
Department:	Department of Natural Resources
Issue:	<i>NSW Farm Dams Policy</i>
Response:	The Colliery concurs with the Department's conclusion that licensing is not required for on-site dams.
Issue:	<i>Rivers and Foreshores Improvement Act</i>
Response:	The Colliery will include the Department in future Government department consultation and particularly on the circulation of the AEMR.
Issue:	<i>Clean Water Diversion</i>
Response:	Wherever practical clean water will be adequately diverted from entering the working area.
Issue:	<i>Minimise disturbance to Watercourses</i>
Response:	As previously advised, the Rehabilitation Plan presented in the EA includes the rehabilitation of a section of the old Huon No 6 cut which is currently being used for disposal of coal reject in accordance with an approved plan under S126 of the Mining Act.
Department:	Sydney Catchment Authority
Issue:	<i>Relocation of Watercourses</i>
Response:	No watercourses require relocation as part of the mine extension. Drainage is required to continue along the old Huon No 6 cut as this enters the old mining void which is used as a water supply storage for both the Washery and the Mount Piper Power Station's ash emplacement.

Issue:	<i>Revegetation</i>
Response:	The current Lamberts Gully Open Cut has been in operation for only 17 months. As stated in the EA, the first sowing is scheduled for 2006. Topsoil is always prestripped in advance of overburden removal and used in the rehabilitation program. Methods to improve ground cover will be investigated.
Issue:	<i>Water Management System</i>
Response:	The water management system at the Springvale Services site is not complex. All dirty water drains reports to the main pollution control ponds near the site access. This represents the only licence discharge point for the site. All dirty water in the open cut reports to inpit sumps which is then available for re-use. All water contained in the old Huon No 6 void, which is managed by Delta Electricity (subject to an Environment Protection Licence), is used as a primary water supply source for the Washery and Delta's Ash Emplacement.
Other Stakeholder:	Western Region Development Committee
Issue:	<i>Changes to Current traffic arrangements</i>
Response:	The proposal will not result in any changes to the current traffic arrangements.
Other Stakeholder:	Lithgow Environment Group and Chris Jonkers, Julie Favell, Connor Favell (answered together as the issues and submissions are essentially the same)
Issue:	<i>Community Consultation</i>
Response:	Community consultation has been undertaken throughout the operation of Lamberts Gully and this was continued for the current proposal.
Issue:	<i>Social Equity and Justice</i>
Response:	The Lamberts Gully mine will provide social benefits such as: • Ongoing employment for 30 people with a total annual payroll of \$3.6 Million; • Payment to the State Government of a total of \$4.5 Million in coal royalties directly attributed to the coal to be extracted from the Lamberts Gully Open Cut extension; • Total annual extraction costs including fuel, maintenance, services, and external contractors in excess of \$4 Million; • Certainty of fuel supply to Delta Electricity for domestic electricity generation.
Issue:	<i>Compliance with Legislation</i>
Response:	The Mine believes it has made its application and operates the Mine in accordance with relevant legislation. The proposal meets all planning requirements.

Issue:	<i>Hazardous Development – asbestos dump and landfill</i>
Response:	The Mine is not responsible for an asbestos dump and the dump is not on any mining lease.
Issue:	<i>Traffic noise and headlight glare along the Mount Piper Haul Road</i>
Response:	This application does not propose any activities relative to Mount Piper Haul Road. This road is owned and operated by another company under its own development consent.
Issue:	<i>Surface and Groundwater pollution</i>
Response:	The assessment of threatened species has been discussed with DEC. DEC has also investigated a claim that Long Swamp has been degraded by Angus Place Colliery and found the claim to be anomalous. There is no potential for toxic leachate from the proposed mine extension. The proposal relates to open cut operations only. All references made by LEG to subsidence and longwall mining are not relevant to this proposal.
Issue:	<i>Environmental Issues</i>
Response:	Hydraulic oil – water is pumped from the mine to the surface where it is regularly tested for soluble oil content. Aquifer recharge and pollution – the proposal does not seek any effect on the claimed recharge zones. A comprehensive aquifer impact assessment has been undertaken. Weeds – a regular programme of weed control is in place on Colliery owned land. Temperature inversions – the proposal does not seek to alter any activities during the night-time period.
Issue	<i>More Detailed Monitoring Required</i> All of Centennial Coal operations carry out thorough environmental monitoring in accordance with development consent and license requirements as a minimum.
Issue:	<i>Cumulative Impacts</i>
Response:	Cumulative impacts are taken into account in the assessment process and are adequately addressed in the EA and subsequent information provided by Centennial
Other Stakeholder:	Wayne and Michelle Vincent
Issue:	<i>Blasting damage and dust deposition</i>
Response:	Blast and dust monitoring results show that the mine operates within current limit conditions
Other Stakeholder:	Blue Mountains Conservation Society
Issue:	<i>Groundwater and Endangered Swamps</i>

Response: A thorough groundwater assessment has been undertaken. Comments relevant to Angus Place Colliery have been addressed in a separate response.

Other

Stakeholder: Matt Mushalik

Issue: *Global Warming*

Response: The Colliery does not consider it appropriate to comment on Mr Mushalik's opinion on global warming. The greenhouse emissions of Lamberts Gully Mine were not a matter requiring consideration by the Director-General.