

**Submission re: Project Application Number 10 0080, Centennial Myuna
Pty Ltd**

Submitted by: [REDACTED]

I request that my name be withheld. That is, I do not want my name made available to the Proponent and other interested public authorities, or on the Department of Planning website.

In preface, I would like to say that I did not learn of the existence of the Project Proposal until recently, and that occurred by word of mouth. Centennial Myuna Pty Ltd seems to have had minimal success notifying Wangi Wangi residents of the impending D.A, inviting comments and contributions, and extending an invitation to view the E.A. A remarkable number of residents on the periphery of the D.A area have been excluded from the preliminary consultations because we did not receive a dedicated project information flyer, nor did we see the notices in The Lakes Mail, which is delivered to footpaths rather than addresses. It would have helped if those of us in the adjoining/abutting area had been contacted by way of letter, addressed to individual households.

I object to the proposed project which involves increasing coal extraction in my local area for a period of 21 years.

I am also aware that Centennial Coal changed ownership in October 2010. Now that Banpu Thailand owns Centennial Coal/Centennial Myuna Pty Ltd the Project takes on some changes of meaning which I will mention in comment "3".

I am a resident of Wangi Wangi and have a number of reasons for my objection. I list five of these below.

1. Unacceptable increased risk of earthquake damage with the extension of undermining

According to the project proposal the rate of coal extraction per annum could increase from 1.5 million tonnes per annum to 2 million tonnes per annum. All this coal holds up the land and Lake and its removal, albeit using bord and pillar methods, will leave voids in an area prone to earthquakes, with a major fault running beneath the Lake. Newcastle and Lake people experienced a destructive earthquake in 1989 and there have been four earthquakes of "moderate magnitude" recorded in the area since 1804.

2. Unacceptable increased risk of subsidence beneath the Lake in the longer term

The current subsidence constraints are said to be 2cm beneath land ("all land above High Water Level Subsidence Control Zone and seagrass beds) and 65cm subsidence beneath the Lake. As the majority of workings are beneath the Lake the cumulative impact of this level of subsidence over 21 years is unacceptable to a resident who values the Lake, its marine life, and culturally significant geomorphology.

3. Increased coal extracted by new owner is less likely to be used for local/domestic purposes such as electricity production at Eraring Power Station.

Currently Centennial Myuna Pty Ltd supplies coal by overland conveyer to Eraring Power Station. This may not continue now that the ownership of Centennial Coal has changed to Banpu Pty Ltd, Thailand. There is no guarantee that Banpu will consign most of Myuna coal to Eraring Power Station.

There is now an increased likelihood that more Myuna coal will be exported; if so there will be more road transport of coal from Myuna to the coal docks. If less Myuna coal is sent to Eraring Power Station (because its price is too high for the new GenTrader licensee) cheaper coal will have to be sourced from mines further afield (such as the proposed Cobbora mine in Western NSW) and this will mean more road transport of coal to Eraring. Increased road transport of coal in our “fast growing” and highly populated local area is unacceptable.

4. Acoustic impacts extend beyond the DA Zone

Heggies Pty Ltd observes that “Myuna Colliery has been operating for over 28 years and has received no community complaints regarding noise emissions over the past five years”(p15). I suggest that a reason for this absence of complaints is that, until recently, residents have had no direct way of successfully voicing complaints or making enquiries about noise. Also, whilst questions may have been asked, they have not been designated “complaints”. I say this because I know of people living on Wangi Peninsula who, within the last five years, have been disturbed by humming and vibration at night, and attempting to locate it, have received no assistance from Centennial Coal’s Myuna Colliery.

Whilst Heggies Pty Ltd state that, “It should be noted that the plant and equipment utilized underground has not been considered as it is not acoustically significant to surface receptors” (p.13), some residents, disturbed by night-time humming noises and vibration that *seem* to arise from deep in the ground would disagree with this claim.

Already existing noise and vibration from underground mining disturbs Wangi residents *other than* those nominated and described in the EA as “sensitive receptors”. Residents don’t want any more noise and vibration from the increased extraction, processing and conveyance of coal.

5. Dust, PM and TSP emissions impact beyond the DA Zone

Historically air borne emissions measurements have been made at monitors some distance from Myuna Colliery and the township of Wangi Wangi, and there has been no data collected at the colliery site. Nominated “sensitive receptors” were gauged some four to five years ago. As a resident on the Wangi Peninsula I am aware of the ubiquity of black dust deposits on my property and that of my neighbour, especially on our colorbond roofs and in rain gutters. There are also signs of acid splat damage to the colorbond (bond has dissolved to reveal steel underneath). This *could* be air-borne acid from Myuna Mine, including residue from combusted diesel oil consumed underground. It *could* be acid from the stacks at Eraring Power Station. It *could* come from droplets of uncombusted aeroplane fuel. Ordinary people do not have the means to ascertain such matters.

Centennial Myuna Pty Ltd, should be required to install and monitor air-borne pollutants gauges in the built up areas of the Wangi Peninsula to provide actual and accurate measures of local air pollution.