

SUBMISSION Re - Angus Place Mine Extension (SSD 12-5602)

It is vital that this proposal be revised by *Centennial Coal* to improve environmental outcomes. Carne Creek, pagodas, cliffs and the many nationally endangered swamps that the current proposal risks damage to underlying bedrock from subsidence and water table disturbance.

- **Threat from Longwall Mining** – This area is contiguous with the *World Heritage* listed *Gardens of Stone*. Important terrestrial and stream environments in this unique region must not be damaged by longwall mining but instead protected in a *State Conservation Area*.
- **Further Damage to Upland Swamps** – The damage already inflicted to nationally threatened upland swamps on the Newnes Plateau nearby by *Centennial Coal* must not be allowed to be repeated. *Centennial* was required by the Commonwealth Government to pay reparations of \$1.45 million and this can never restore the original forest landscape.
- **Fracturing** – The sandstone strata supporting the 22 nationally endangered swamps, including the 7 shrub swamps must not be fractured. This will lead to damage to the water table. It will also destabilize the pagoda formations leading to collapses and destruction.
- **Clearing** – Clearing of 14 hectares of forest as proposed for an additional ventilation facility is manifestly excessive and its siting close to the Wolgan River is unsuitable.
- **Water Treatment** – The proposed discharge of up to 43.8ML/day of eco-toxic mine effluent must be treated using reverse osmosis technology to remove all metals and salts before discharge to the Cocks River. The successful case mounted by *Blue Mountains Conservation Society* against *Delta Electricity* in 2011 demonstrates the necessity of preserving the purity of Sydney's water supply. *Delta* is liable for very expensive restitution works.
- **Water quality** – Carne Creek is currently in a pristine state, and its waters that flow through the *Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area* are of the highest standard. This creek must not run bright orange or suffer reduced flows, just like the Wolgan River after *Centennial Coal* wrecked it.
- **PAC Review & Public Hearings** – Given the above reasons and the enormous public concerns about mining projects with the current *ICAC* investigations, the *Angus Place* and the adjoining *Springvale* mine extension proposals must be subject to a *Planning Assessment Commission* review with Public Hearings held concurrently.

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