

## Submission as an Objection

### **RE- Angus Place Colliery PA06-0021 Modification 4 Pre-emptive development of roadways & headings for longwalls 1001 & 1003**

This application is yet another cynical ploy by Centennial Coal to exploit the application process. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> modification to a plan that was refused by *Dept of Infrastructure & Planning* last year. They are trying to wear down opposition in a war of attrition backed by their deep pockets and lawyers.

The Submissions Deadline for their previous modifications only closed the day that submissions about this new modification application opened. It is a cynical attempt to set a precedent which will allow the beginning of mining under the as yet unspoilt Carne Creek catchment.

- **Proper determination** - This Modification 4 proposal should either be refused or its determination deferred until the *Planning Assessment Commission (PAC)* has assessed and determined the major mine extension proposal for Angus Place (SSD5602).
- **Attempted Precedent** - The small amount of mining in this Modification isn't needed for continuity of operations at Angus Place. It's merely an attempt to set a precedent and lock in the position of regulating authorities. I oppose this proposal as it pre-empts decision making for the major mine extension proposal (SSD5602) being assessed currently by *PAC*.
- **Confusion** - This minor Modification was advertised during the exhibition for the major mine extension. This has created confusion. For proper consideration, all the submissions to Modification 4 and SSD5602 proposals must be considered in relation to both these proposals.
- **Prior decision** - Centennial Coal must not be allowed consent for Modification 4 over an area where first workings have already been sought and approved last year in a restricted manner that did not preempt decisions on the major extension by the Planning Assessment Commission.
- **Water table damage** - The proposed first workings in Modification 4 (Panels 1001 & 1003) are wider than those previously approved. The damage to aquifers, aquicludes and the water table above from collapse along the longer panels will lead to even greater environmental damage in the sensitive Carne Creek catchment than was caused in the Wolgan River catchment.
- **Longwall width** - Centennial Coal is manipulating the planning system to gain a tactical benefit, namely to set the width of the longwalls as a precedent in the sensitive area proposed for future mining under SSD 5602 before the Planning Assessment Commission as considered the major extension proposal.
- **Catchment damage** - 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. The Wolgan River has reduced flow and its waters were orange

after Centennial Coal damaged and polluted it. It would be shameful to allow the same to happen to Carne Creek.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Please ensure that this cynical proposal is refused outright or sent to the *Planning Assessment Commission* for proper consideration with the other current proposals.

Yours sincerely,

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