

June 10, 2014

Mining and Industry Projects NSW Department of Planning & Infrastructure

Dear Sir/Madam,

Submission on Centennial Coal's Angus Place Colliery PA06_0021 Modification 4 Pre-emptive development of roadways and headings for long-walls 1001 and 1003

I reside in the Blue Mountains and am lodging my objection to Centennial Coal's above proposal.

This proposal actually forms part of state significant development 5602 which is a major mine extension over 2,638 hectares of Newnes Plateau. Centennial Coal claims it needs this minor modification to allow it to continue mining while the 'big project' (SSD 5602) is assessed. This small amount of proposed mining is not needed for continuity of operations at Angus Place but will set a precedent that allows damaging mining in the sensitive Carne Creek catchment area that contains the best swamps on Newnes Plateau. The swamps feed the headwater tributaries of Carne Creek, currently a pristine surface water system that feeds into the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. The GBMWhA is part of the drinking water catchment areas for the Blue Mountains, Lithgow and Sydney.

- The Modification 4 proposal should either be refused or its determination deferred until the major mine extension for Angus Place (SSD5602) is assessed and determined by the Planning Assessment Commission.
- Centennial Coal advertised this minor Modification during the exhibition for the major mine extension causing confusion and to be fair all the submissions to Modification 4 and SSD5602 proposals must be considered in relation to both these proposals.
- 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.
- The proposed first workings being applied for under Modification 4 set up long-wall mining of panels 1001 and 1003 that are wider than those previously approved and will lead to more environmental damage in the sensitive Carne Creek catchment than was caused in the Wolgan River catchment.
- Centennial Coal is manipulating the planning system to gain a tactical benefit, namely to set the width of the long-walls 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.
- Centennial Coal is attempting to "lock in" the position of regulatory authorities regarding damaging mining in this sensitive Carne Creek area before the Planning Assessment Commission has decided the matter.