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52 Banksia Road
Wentworth Falls, NSW, 2782.

21st May 2014

Mining and Industry Projects
NSW Department of Planning & Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Sir/Madam,

State Significant Project - Springvale Mine Extension (SSD 12_5594)

Through the Colong Foundation, I have learned that there appear to be significant problems associated with the application to extend coal mining in the area of the Gardens of Stone, not least of which would be the undermining of swamps in the area, and possible damage to the wonderful fragile pagoda formations.

It would be appreciated if the extension application, along with any other in the future, to cause any kind of damage to this area be thoroughly investigated now, so that it is not an ongoing scenario where changing a paragraph or two in a submission automatically counts as a "new" application.

Some of the requirements associated with an extension of this mine should be that:

- Important swamps, pagodas, and stream environments in this significant part of the Gardens of Stone region must not be damaged by longwall coal mining but instead protected in a state conservation area.
- The Springvale and the adjoining Angus Place mine extension proposals must be subject to a Planning Assessment Commission review with concurrent Public Hearings.
- Centennial Coal must not be allowed to simply replicate the damage it has already caused to nationally threatened upland swamps on the Newnes Plateau for which it was required by the Commonwealth Government to pay \$1.45 million in reparations.
- The sandstone rock supporting the 41 nationally endangered swamps, including the 11 shrub swamps affected by the proposal must not be fractured.
- The proposed discharge of up to 43.8 megalitres/day eco-toxic mine effluent must be treated by reverse osmosis technology to remove all metals and salts before discharge to the Cocks River.
- The scenic western edge of the Newnes Plateau must be protected from further scarring by new roads, pipeline and electricity easements.
- 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 be damaged.

Please require Centennial to revise its proposal to improve environmental outcomes. Carne and Bungleboori Creeks, pagodas, cliffs and the many nationally endangered swamps must not be destroyed.

Thank you for considering my letter.

Yours sincerely,


Elizabeth Kane