

My submission is in support of the Northern Coal Logistics Project and is based on my experience as an employee of Centennial Coal. I have worked in the mining industry for over 32 years with Centennial Coal and its predecessors and in particular at the three Lake Macquarie operations involved in the project.

These three coal mines have been operating and providing employment within Lake Macquarie and their local communities over the past 35 years to over 120 years in the case of Newstan Colliery. The mine's involved in the project are an important part and significant contributor to supplying coal for reliable electricity generation for New South Wales. They have been specifically designed to support the local power stations with dedicated infrastructure including overland conveyors and private haul roads.

The Centennial operations have proven to be important part of the local community, providing consistent employment for those working at the operations and those in the supporting industries. As well as providing the benefits of employment, Centennial operates in an environmentally and socially responsible way. This has been proven over many decades of operation and with both Myuna and Mandalong Mines designed to minimise surface impacts.

Centennial also supports local sporting and community groups including football clubs, schools and childcare services. Centennial Coal and in particular these three operations have provided my family and I with the opportunity for a wonderful lifestyle in Lake Macquarie over the past 30 years. The approval of the Northern Coal Logistics Project will assist in providing further opportunities to local families' like mine.