

Darren Baguley  
PO Box 5  
Rylstone NSW 2849

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

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Submission as an Objection - Airly Colliery DA 162/91 Modification 3**

I wish to object to Centennial Coal's application to extend its Existing Consent Conditions as these are 23 years old and are clearly inappropriate for the following reasons:

The 1991 development consent was put in place nearly a quarter of a century ago and community standards as to the amount of environmental impact mines can be responsible for have changed considerably in that time. The 1991 consent lacks the necessary environmental safeguards for coal mining in a State Conservation Area, therefore this modification proposal to extend the consent should be either refused or varied to specify almost un-detectable levels of surface movements, that is mine subsidence.

The 1991 development consent allowing for up to 1.8m of subsidence is totally unacceptable in such an area as that amount of subsidence would totally destroy the sensitive rock pagodas of the area. I believe there must be no exceptions to following limits: vertical subsidence being a maximum of 125mm, a maximum tilt of 2.5 mm/m; and a maximum strain of 2.0 mm/m.

The historic Oil Shale Ruins are of special significance and it is quite appalling that Centennial Coal's environmental impact statement does not even mention them. They are one of the best preserved heritage sites of their kind in NSW, and are already a tourist attraction with potential to be developed considerably more. I oppose any coal mining that does not fully protect these historical Oil Shale Ruins from any form of coal pillar extraction.

The World Heritage Advisory Committee has already stated that the Mugii Murum-ban State Conservation Area should be added to the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area once mining has been completed. I wholeheartedly agree with this assessment and believe it should happen as soon as possible, it is totally inappropriate to continue coal mining in such an area.

I am also extremely concerned that the environmental impact statement completely failed to consider downstream impacts on the World Heritage Area in the Modification 3 proposal where operations proposed can discharge water pollution into Airly Creek. Such discharges would impact on the Gardens of Stone National Park, part of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area.

I urge the PAC to consider stipulating that Centennial Coal must treat the effluent from Airly Colliery to remove all salts and dissolved metals for any discharge to a World Heritage listed property.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Yours sincerely,

Darren Baguley