

I've worked for Centennial Mandalong and its previous named Mine, Centennial Cooranbong for more than 25 years, working at the mine has been wonderful for myself and my family. During that time I lived for 25 years in the Cooranbong area and this is where my children went to school and University. We shopped local, played sports local, spent local and were part of the community.

I love my job and what I do at the mine and as an employer Centennial Coal is great, I think how they treat their employees is also reflected into the community and environment, I've watched over the years the company sponsor many initiatives through out the community from crickets nets at schools to local festivals and treat the environment with the upmost respect which is what it deserves.

I watched many years ago as the fear and awe campaign raged through the community with the proposed extension of Cooranbong Mine and my family lived through that in the community as misguided fears ran rampant, the end result is nothing shocking happened, the mine continued about its business and most people you talk to don't even know we are here, where we have mined or where our surface infrastructure is, they are amazed when we tell them what we do and how we go about it and how much we care.

My Son-in-law has worked in a support industry that was heavily involved with this mine, my Son has worked at the mine and does stints here from time to time and while some family members have moved away we still get together here, still do horse riding lessons here, still spend time here and see friends here and still invest here, all because a mine exists called Mandalong Mine.

So as the accessible coal reserves in the current lease depletes I want to see the mine move into the southern area, so I can set myself up for retirement and watch the younger people in the community have an industry that they can rely on for a future, I'd love to be training and handing over my job when the time comes to younger people I've watched grow up in the community and surrounding areas, especially my Grandson.

I don't know anything other than mining, its what I've always done and that's what I want to continue to do and I can honestly say that I am proud to talk about what we do here, the systems we have in place, the procedures which set our controls, how we care and respect the environment, how we care for people, each other and the community.

Therefore, I support the project and believe that it should be approved.

Bridgette Murray