

Jodie O'Brien
85 Beach Road
Wangi Wangi 2267.
jodie.75@outlook.com

Attention; Major projects planning NSW Government.

Dear Centennial coal,

I am writing to express my concerns of the current application to truck one million tonnes of coal between Myuna colliery Wangi to the Awaba site to enable centennial coal to meet the current contract agreement that they hold with Eraring power station. It states that they need to mix Myuna coal with Manadalong coal to reach the standard required by Origin Energy to run the Eraring power station.

In order to do this centennial coal will need to truck one million tonnes of coal on the public roads Wangi Road and Wilton Road. This equates to Centennial's application says that transporting a million tonnes of coal a year over the local roads will require 208 truck movements per active day on "300 active days a year. Which is 62,400 truck movements a year, with 31,200 fully-laden 32-tonne trucks heading up Wangi hill and onto Wilton Rd at Awaba. This also means that there will be full truck leaving or an empty truck arriving at the old Wangi Point Road / Wangi Road intersection every 3 minutes, 10 hours a day 6 days a week.

As a concerned local citizen of Wangi Wangi I beg to differ with centennial coal. The average truck capacity is 32 tonnes with 104 active trucks per day. This is going to have a considerable impact on the roads and the local environment. Yet centennial coal doesn't see the need to do any widening and improvements to the roads to accommodate the extra strain they are placing on the public roads. For the trucks to move in /out of Wangi Point Road into a 90 kmh zone heading up hill is not a safe option for motorists. It is irresponsible to conclude that this will not place motorists in further danger of collisions and accidents that can result in casualties and even fatalities. As Wilton Road is only one lane in both directions getting stuck behind trucks will lead to increased delays when travelling and will lead to frustration in drivers as they get held up and unable to pass the trucks. Wilton Road is an essential link to the M1 freeway to Sydney & upper Hunter. I travel Wilton Road to access the freeway and it is frustrating already when being stuck behind trucks. This will no doubt lead to motorists taking risks to over take the trucks in an unsafe manner.

In my opinion centennial coal has put little effort in data collecting of the impacts that this will have on the community and the environment. They have determined that the peak times for the roads are as followed;

Wangi Road

7-8 am

3-4 pm

Wilton Road

7.30 – 8.30 am

3.30 – 4.30 pm

Wangi point Road

7 -8 am

3 -4 pm

As a resident that travels both Wangi road and Wilton Road these times do not accurately depict the peak usage times. Generally after 3pm onwards it is difficult to turn right onto Wangi Road from Wilton Road, there is always a delay even with the small merging lane on Wangi Road. Even with consideration of peak times centennial coal wants to continue with trucks, this shows no regard for their impact on the motorists using the public roads.

Centennial coal has measured air quality from the air quality monitoring site at Wyong which is an estimated 39 kilometres away based on Wangi Wangi to Wyong calculation on Maps . How can centennial coal claim that there minimal increases in air quality when they are not testing within Wangi Wangi itself. Of course Wyong would have minimal increases. Centennial coal states that coal will be crushed to a minimum of 40 mm pieces, this action alone will create coal dust and then further coal dust will be created as it is loaded into the trucks.

Coal dust contains toxic substances such as sulphur dioxide, hydrogen chloride, mercury, arsenic and cadmium that cause serious health issues. Airborne dust can get into the waterways such Lake Macquarie harming flora and fauna because it reduces the oxygen in the water. I believe that it crucial to state that coal dust disrupts ecosystems and endangers human health.

Figure 7.1 displays the current amount of emissions and figure 7.2 shows the proposed emissions and even by their own calculations there is a significant increase of emissions that will be created by the proposed application.

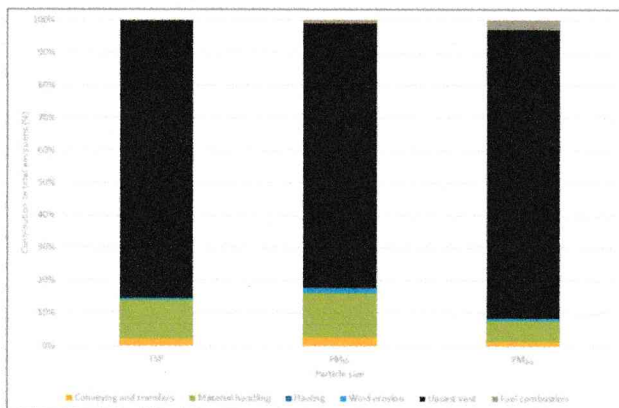


Figure 7.1 Contribution to annual emissions by emissions type and source – existing scenario

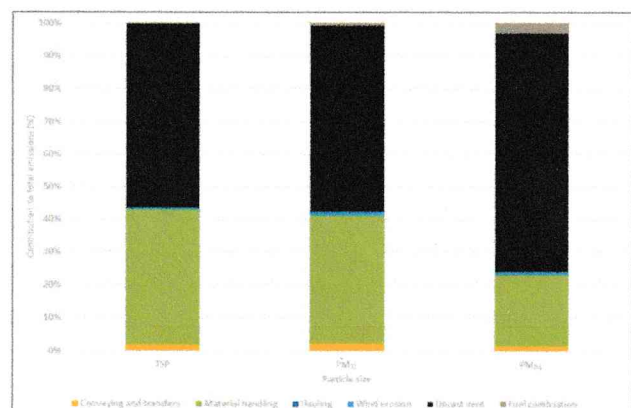


Figure 7.2 Contribution to annual emissions by emissions type and source – proposed scenario

It is for these reasons that I plead with the government to reject this modification report by centennial coal. It is not in anyones best interest that this goes ahead. Centennial coal do not appear to offset the damage they do to the environment or the roads. Centennial coal is only interested in making a profit no matter what is at stake. Currently coal in NSW is around \$80 -89 per tonne creating a gross income of \$80,000.00 per annum. Despite this gross income centennial coal have not allocated any monies towards the environment or local community. However Centennial coal will provide additional truck signage to warn motorists and they will implement a Code of Conduct on good driver behaviour. This is an absolute slap in the face for the community, centennial coal wants to profit whilst destroying our beautiful Lake Macquarie. Climate change and global warming are real issues, our government need to take immediate action and find ways to encourage the coal industry to reduce the amount of coal removed and assist companies to transition to greener fuel options.

Yours Sincerely


Jodie O'Brien

Kittani O'Brien
85 Beach Rd
Wangi Wangi 2267.
11 years old.

It has come to my attention that the Centennial Coal has launched an ill minded petition to transport the coal from Myuna Bay simply because the original coal was the improper type, to do that there will be 208 trucks each day causing the amount trucks to enter Wangi a year being 62,400, not to mention the amount of carbon dioxide to skyrocket, and for how long will this occur? you might ask oh I don't know maybe just 6 days a week per year and we're meant to approve of this?!

What makes this situation so much worse is that after the road is destroyed from years of the trucks entering and exiting with a maximum of 32 tonnes of coal each day Centennial Coal has no intent of repairing the road whatsoever, which will make the road extremely dangerous because of the pressure on the roads which will eventually cause potholes on the surface of the road, and the rage and frustration of the truck being so incredibly slow causing the deaths on Wangi's road to also skyrocket due to car accidents.

Not to mention the dangerousness of coal dust, coal dust has been proven to cause Asthma attacks which in some of the more serious cases is equivalent to a heart attack, coal dust also can cause lung cancer, meaning if this project is launched you will be stealing the lives of innocent people.

This entire project is going underway when there are much more serious problems like say global warming or climate change or even the massive hole in the ozone layer, here is a definition of climate change for you:

a change in global or regional climate patterns, in particular a change apparent from the mid to late 20th century onwards and attributed largely to the increased levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide produced using fossil fuels.
- Courtesy of Climate Change For Dummies.

The constant noise will also have the development of sleep insomnia skyrocket, sleep insomnia has also been proven to stunt growth because growth hormones are more commonly released in sleep. The noise will also provoke the wildlife native to Wangi, and the coal dust will poison the waters. So just think is this project worth it? is all the death and misery worth the profits of the transportation of coal?

Kittani O'Brien

Kittani O'Brien