Mining Projects, NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment Locked Bag 5022 Parramatta NSW 2124

Dear Sir/Madam,

State Significant Project – Angus Place Mine Extension (SSD 5602-Amendment Exhibition)

I request that the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (the DoPIE) recommend refusal of consent, as Centennial Coal has not modified the Angus Place mine extension proposal to adequately protect nationally endangered swamps (endangered under the EPBC Act). The proponent has also sought to grandfather its consent until 2053. This is a ridiculously long approval period and prevents future necessary changes to the energy sector to address the growing climate emergency.

As a result:

- I oppose the mine extension as it will fracture the sandstone strata supporting the nationally endangered swamps. This is known to have happened nearby, causing the drying out of swamps.
- I request that if any consent is issued, then it must be reviewed every 5 years with a possibility of cancellation from 2025. I oppose the plan to grandfather the Angus Place mine consent until 2053, as this totally ignores the growing climate catastrophe by locking in coal-fired electric power.
- Please require Centennial Coal to revise this amended proposal to prevent damage to spectacular Birds Rock, Wolgan River, Carne Creek, pagodas, cliffs and the nationally endangered swamps in the 2,000 hectare Study Area.
- Centennial Coal must not be allowed to further replicate the damage it has already caused to nationally threatened upland swamps on the Newnes Plateau. Government should act to protect the biologically and geologically unique Newnes Plateau.
- To ensure this significant central part of the Gardens of Stone reserve proposal, minilongwall mining methods should be applied instead of the intensive longwall mining proposed.
- The proposed excessive clearing of 50 hectares of public forest for additional roads, ventilation and pumping facilities must be reduced and all facilities located away from sensitive areas.
- Wolgan Falls must not be allowed to run dry due to this proposal draining off water in the river and its tributaries due to cracked sandstone caused by the proposal.

- The proposed longall mining panels must be shortened by hundreds of metres along the Wolgan River side of the Study Area to prevent river water losses due to the subsidence impacts associated with the extensive Wolgan Lineament Field.
- Pristine Carne Creek, and its waters that flow through the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area and past the Wolgan Valley resort must not be contaminated with iron and manganese released by the proposal, or suffer reduced flows due to fracturing of surface rocks.
- In the seven years since Centennial's consultants identified the need for targeted surveys of nationally endangered plants, the company in fact has failed to undertake these searches. Lithgow Environment Group has in that time identified many sites within the proposal where these Federally-listed plants occur, highlighting the weakness of the company's environmental assessment.

Due to the extent of mining impacts and duration of approval being sought, the amended Angus Place mine extension proposal must be subject to an Independent Planning Commission hearing, review and determination process.

I have not made political donations or gifts totalling \$1,000 or more in the last two years.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Haydn Washington Environmental Scientist 2515 Nullo Mountain Rd Nullo Mountain, NSW 2515