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Mining Projects  
 NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment  
 Locked Bag 5022  
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26 April 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

I am writing to ask that the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment recommend that this project be refused consent, for the reasons set out below.

The first reason is that the IPCC has made clear that, based on the best scientific, technical and economic analysis, the world cannot build any new or expanded fossil fuel projects, including expanded coal mines. It is imperative that Australia begins now to move away from coal and coal exporting, supporting the endeavours of responsible countries serious about reducing their carbon emissions and contribution. We know that, to avoid devastating climate change for the next and future generations, at least 88 percent of global coal reserves must remain unburned. The world cannot achieve this without the active participation of its largest coal exporter by volume: Australia. An obvious place to begin is to stop approving new coal mine extensions.

The second reason is that the Angus Place mine extension proposal has not been modified by Centennial Coal so as to adequately protect valuable and nationally endangered swamps from fracturing of the sandstone strata supporting them. Centennial Coal has already shown it is comfortable with causing damage to nationally threatened swamps, as can be seen from its damage to the upland swamps on the Newnes Plateau.

The third reason is that the consent sought by Centennial Coal is far too broad, even including a request that the grant of consent operate until 2053. This would lock in ongoing coal mining of the Angus Place extension even while the adverse impacts from climate change, to Australia and globally, were becoming more severe and time to keep global warming to 1.5°C had all but run out. This would be an extremely poor (and ultimately extremely costly) policy approach.

If, however, consent for any part of the Extension is to be given, it should be made subject to the following conditions:

1. Centennial Coal must fully commit to, and any consent must make mandatory, the prevention of damage to certain areas within the Extension area. These must include not only the nationally-endangered swamplands mentioned earlier but also the pagodas and cliffs, as well as important and spectacular sites like Carne Creek and Birds Rock. All sensitive areas must be fully protected.

2. Conditions must be imposed to rule out intensive longwall mining.
3. Water systems and courses, including Wolgan Falls, must not be adversely affected, including through reduced water flows or contamination with heavy metals from mining. I understand that other submissions have recommended that the proposed longwall 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 far field impacts associated with the extensive Wolgan Lineament Field. I support that recommendation.
4. Any conditional consent given should be for a short period only.

Centennial Coal does not have a history of rigorous environmental assessment or of responsible compliance with the environmental conditions in consents granted to it. For all of these reasons, the best option will be to subject the amended Angus Place mine extension proposal to an Independent Planning Commission hearing, review and determination process.

Thank-you for the opportunity to make this submission.

Yours sincerely,

Gillian Moon.