

Ms Genevieve Lucas
Senior Environmental Assessment Officer,
Mining and Industry Projects NSW
Department of Planning, Infrastructure and Environment
Locked Bag 5022 Parramatta NSW 2124

27 April 2020

Dear Ms Lucas,

Objection to – Angus Place Mine Extension SSD 5602 - Amendment Exhibition

Thank you for this opportunity to make a submission on the above project. However, I feel it will make no difference regardless of my points of objection given previous submissions, and as usual the project will be approved given the history of approvals by the Department despite knowing full-well of the previous damage to the natural areas on Newnes Plateau from mining operations.

I object to and equally oppose this project for the following reasons. Refusal of this project will result in no loss of jobs (as Angus Place mine is in care & maintenance), will reduce emissions, reduce destruction of habitats, reduce contamination of waterways, reduce loss of waterfalls, will maintain continuity for Mt Piper Power Stations and prepare Lithgow for transition by 2024.

This company has a long history with Angus Place mine as with Springvale mine known by the Department with the loss of unique habitats i.e. Endangered Ecological Communities of Upland Peat Swamps, historic loss of surface water, groundwater aquifers, missed or omitted threatened flora not recorded, loss of waterfalls, contaminated waterways, cracks and cliff collapses.

Other sources of coal *can* be accessed to support ongoing operations for Mt Piper Power Station without disruption. Those being Centennial's Lidsdale Coal Unloader and Mt Piper Power station's approved Pipers Flat Coal unloader, which can immediately access coal from outside the area via the Sydney, Gwabegar, or Parkes rail network from Centennial's Airly Mine, Clarence Colliery, and other sources utilising empty return trains with removal of the existing TARP at Lidsdale siding.

Noted in Mt Piper Power Stations CCC meeting notes March 2020. Meeting notes Page 9, Presentation, Dot Point 4 -Coal Unloader/Coal Security Project in Focus

[https://www.energyaustralia.com.au/sites/default/files/2020-03/EA%20Lithgow%20CCC%20Meeting%20Notes%2020200302 Final.pdf](https://www.energyaustralia.com.au/sites/default/files/2020-03/EA%20Lithgow%20CCC%20Meeting%20Notes%2020200302%20Final.pdf)

Recommendations:

That the Department refuse this Proposal given there is no risk to supply to Mt Piper Power Station as stated above with other sources available to obtain coal using empty return coal trains. Centennial will have no loss of coal export given current operations at Clarence, Mt Airly, and Springvale until 2024;

That the Department refuse this Proposal to reduce known health impacts related to coal emissions;

That the Department refuse this Proposal and immediately commence a "*transition now plan for Lithgow by 2024*". The opportunity for the next 4 years prior to closure of Springvale to introduce and for the Company to commence diversification with current mining operations to retrain workers, renewable energy projects (which the parent company has been doing overseas for years). Project, plan and action by commence by 2024 proposed renewable projects or with existing mining operation opportunities of renewable infrastructure i.e. solar pumping, pumped hydro;

That the Department commit and approve the current Gardens of Stone Destination Pagoda Tourism Plan opening opportunities for Lithgow with another avenue for sustainable economic growth.

Gardens of Stone documentary August 2019

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hycFbPhGEk&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR0-Ds0tU9lv25uFvTPgFEyEaXQRgnmZANc0Sx8KIC9nK6a4bSvKrl7BqbQ>

https://www.gardensofstone.org.au/files/Blog/final_destination_pagoda-300319_web.pdf

Sydney Morning Herald April 7 2019

<https://www.smh.com.au/environment/conservation/unlikely-alliance-aims-to-protect-promote-garden-of-stone-s-3000-sisters-20190405-p51bco.html>

Lithgow Mercury April 10 2019

<https://www.lithgowmercury.com.au/story/6010328/mining-tourism-to-coexist-gardens-of-stone-tourism-plan-launched/>

My eyes are saddened by the landscape damaged over the last 20 years of intense walking, monitoring, recording with my husband Chris Jonkers in this area. In just the last 4 years we have lost two permanent waterfalls (Carne West and Gang Gang). What we have seen and what has been written in annual reports, EIS's, etc does not reflect what is occurring on-ground. See images below.

Please refuse this Proposal and retain this natural ancient landscape for now and into the future and diversify to a cleaner, brighter, sustainable, progressive, forward thinking future for Lithgow.

I have not accepted any donations. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours sincerely

Julie Favell



Wolgan Falls - after the Fire - 11 February 2020



Carne West Swamp - October 2014 prior to undermining by Springvale LW418 & 419



Carne West Swamp -after being undermined by Springvale LW418 & 419 - 4 months after fire



Broad Swamp – 29th March 2020, 4 months after fire – no underground mining.



Broad Swamp – 29th March 2020 4 months after fire – no underground mining.