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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 and has sought to grandfather its consent until 2053, preventing future necessary adaption of 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.
- I request that if any consent is issued, then it must be reviewed every 5 years with a possibility of cancellation from 2025, and proposing to grandfather the Angus Place mine consent until 2053 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.
- To ensure this significant central part of the Gardens of Stone reserve proposal, mini- longwall mining methods should be applied instead of the intensive longwall mining proposed.
- The excessive clearing of 50 hectares of public forest for an additional roads, ventilation and pumping facilities must be reduced and all facilities located away from sensitive areas.
- Wolgan Falls must not run dry - 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 far field 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 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 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,

If you have any further concerns please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'MJA', written in a cursive style.

Dr Michael J Atherton
27th April 2020

c.c: