

28 April 2020

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.

My objections principally relate to waterway pollution from pump outs at the mine and stream bed cracking and cliff/pagoda collapse from subsidence in the area overlying the proposed long wall development. Associated with streambed collapse is the dessication of shrub swamps, i.e the Temperate Highland Peat Swamps on Sandstone (THPSS) ecological communities, listed as endangered under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. These ecological communities will be severely and irreparably damaged, if not completely destroyed by this proposed extension. Further, there is currently no scientific literature available to demonstrate the effectiveness of potential mitigation or remediation measures. Centennial Coal must not be allowed to replicate the damage it has already caused to the upland peat swamps of the Newnes Plateau and the pollution of the Wollangambe River from the collapse of a coal fines stockpile at its Clarence Colliery for which it was required to pay \$1.45 million in reparations. In addition, I reject the company's assertions that its proposed offsets adequately address the environmental damage of the project.

Therefore I oppose the mine extension as it will fracture the sandstone strata that supports the Temperate Highland Peat Swamps which are nationally endangered. The pristine Carne Creek, and its waters that flow through the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area must not be contaminated with iron and manganese released or suffer reduced flows due to fracturing of surface rocks.

If the mine goes ahead it's footprint must be significantly lessened and mining methods reduced in intensity to protect the Temperate Highland Peat Swamps, the currently pristine Carne Creek, the pagodas and cliffs that are recognised as having international geoheritage significance, as noted in the original Gardens of Stone National Park proposal.

If any consent is issued, then it must be reviewed every 5 years with a possibility of cancellation from 2025 - proposing to grandfather the Angus Place mine consent until 2053

ignores the increasing scientific evidence regarding climate change and the need to move to renewable, ecologically sustainable sources of energy. In addition, given the extent of the identified 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 any political donations or gifts in the last two years.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Yours sincerely

Donna Harkess and Richard Sams

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