

Ladies and Gentlemen of the PAC committee,

I am here to today to voice my support in regard to the Springvale Mine modification. This modification to the mine will not only provide a positive flow on effect to the local and wider community of Lithgow, but allow the company to continue production with flexibility and expansion available. This approval should only be seen as a positive for all concerned.

There is no change to the mining method or lease area, and the modifications themselves are contained within the boundaries already established for the Mine with no negative impact. Any discussions made today therefore should be very limited by the sheer fact nothing new has come along to change any concerns that were raised at previous PAC meetings when a favourable decision was returned. However, that has not stopped the opposing groups doing their best to waste money and tie up the legal system.

Although Springvale was given a green light previously, due to processes like this, our town has suffered due to the uncertainty cast over its future by external groups hell-bent on causing trouble. Effects are still taking shape. Families have suffered in many ways, people have moved on, and business' have downsized or shut and many are still in jeopardy.

Springvale and Centennial Coal are important, not only for employment opportunities but also for their generosity and commitment to community. They donate hundreds of thousands of dollars to assist many local charities and groups, areas that are hard to quantify. As an active member of many local sporting and community clubs through the involvement of my three children, I have seen first-hand how projects and companies like this assist small towns.

This industry is an extremely valuable asset to our town which needs to be recognised and supported. These modifications must be approved for continued growth in Lithgow.

I thank you for giving me the time to voice my support of this project application. I hope you will support our community and reply favourably to the Springvale modification.

Yours sincerely

Jon Pringle