

## Public Meeting – Springvale Water Project

24.

- Name: Peter Compton
- CFMEU Mining and Energy Central Councillor
- Currently employed by EnergyAustralia at Mt Piper Power Station, 3rd Generation Power Industry Employee, and have had a family member involved in the industry since the original Lithgow Power Station.
- Since leaving school in the late 80's have witnessed the regions steady decline in large scale employers and subsequent opportunities for our kids growing up, such as the lack of apprenticeships or even getting a start somewhere.
- This Water Project is extremely important for the ongoing viability of two of this regions last major employers, there are only a handful of industries left that have any reasonable level of employment in the region. This also does not take into account the knock on effect it will have on local contractors and suppliers.
- This is also about the type of employment these organisations provide, if this project was to be rejected then there would be a massive reduction in skilled employment in this community, and with that the cumulative effect of these well paid jobs disappearing out of the local economy.
- With the current environment nearly all of these skilled employees that would lose their jobs would have to leave the area to get another job, whether that be DIDO or FIFO or relocate their family. There is not the option to head down the road to the next Power Station or Mine.
- This mass exodus of skilled workers leaving the area would be economically and socially catastrophic for this region.
- I believe this Project has significant benefits to not only the local economy and community but also to the environment locally and further downstream in the Cocks River catchment area and it should be approved.
- I thank the Planning Assessment Commission for the opportunity to address them.

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Peter Compton  
Energy Industry Employee  
CFMEU Central Councillor