

ABN: 12 133 543 272 ABN: 82 112 667 062 ABN: 11 618 766 591

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17th May 2017

Presentation by Jeffery R Young, managing director of JR Conveyors in Support of the Springvale Water Treatment Project, Western Coal Services Project MOD 1 & Springvale Mine Extensions Project MOD 2 – D465/17.

I would also like to welcome the PAC Chairman and officers to our town of Lithgow and hope you all enjoy your visit here and have a safe trip home.

My name is Jeff Young. I was born and bred in Lithgow and am the owner of the JR Mining Services Group, which consists of 4 companies that have been operating in Lithgow for the past 12 years. I am a 4th generation miner and my children, nephews and nieces are 5th generation workers in this town.

I am presenting this as a show of my support for the Springvale Water Treatment Project, which I would like to see go ahead.

The success of this meeting will help to reduce the stress and uncertainty for so many people in this district, not only the employees of Springvale, but the companies that support Springvale to operate, which for every mine worker employed, there are approximately 4 others working outside the mining industry affected, and don't forget all the other shops and businesses in Lithgow that require the support of these workers.

As I have attended and spoke at the other PAC meetings this seems a bit repetitive, but we have to get the point across of the importance the coal mining industry and the power production industry has in the Lithgow district and NSW.

Lithgow has always been a heavy industrial town and has looked after itself and the surrounding areas.

As we have heard many times before about the so called "Toxic Water" Springvale produces.

I have the following experiences to share.

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As a child, I climbed up and over all the mountains here, I played sport and swam in the local creeks and rivers.

I built a toy boat and was able to take it to Lyles crossing to paddle around the river, which we also camped at, swam, fished in and caught eels, and fed ourselves with them.

As I grew up Lyles crossing and the coxs river turned into Lake Lyall, my toy boat grew to a speed boat, our camping turned into regular camp sites and now a larger camping ground with inflatable water playground. We can still fish, swim, paddle, and can water ski, sail and canoe in this water.

If you want to wonder down or upstream from the dam you can still catch eels, fish and yabbies.

Some of the land owners water their stock from this river.

Springvale has never impacted the water quality in these areas to prohibit these activities occurring.

My businesses rely on the coal mining industry. We employ local people directly, plus sub-contractors.

That means, families are fed, housed, educated, clothed and participate in activities and sports in the local area. Over the past 12 years we have employed and trained around 300 people.

Working with Centennial has allowed us to employ people we can train to work safely and productively, and are able to pass the benefits through to the community. We strive to utilise other local supply companies to promote work in Lithgow.

Our company has sponsored many sporting teams, events, persons in need, fundraisers, aged care facilities, and many others.

Where would we be without support of all the businesses in Lithgow? Lithgow is a proud town and all whom live here, love and look after it.

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Without Centennial Coal, Lithgow would not receive the support the district is getting. Centennial and Energy Australia sponsor a number of sport and community events held within the district, either singularly or jointly.

As a local contractor, I look forward to continuing to working with a responsible company like Centennial Coal to build a future for all our children and their children in the same manner as my previous generations have done for me. I believe the proposed water treatment plant will have a positive effect on the local region not only in securing 600+ jobs directly but also benefiting the local economy and environment.

My hair colour is not from Springvale water but has more to do with when I had to leave this town for work and leave a wife and 2 girls to fend for themselves during the week, this was over a two-year period. In the recent downturn, I had men working in towns 3 to 5-hour drive from here, the worry about them away and on the roads for up to 15 hours a week (including daily travel to and from work), is far from acceptable. This will be the outcome again if this project does NOT go ahead and forces Springvale to close. Local people will either leave the region for work or be forced to be away from their families whilst working afar.

Lithgow has and can provide us with a good and safe district to live and raise our children. We need to keep our employment here and promote industry. Lithgow is part of a back bone for the Australian economy which creates employment for all our futures.

To the many people who have put in submissions against Springvale, can I ask, how many times have you been here or did you actually stay to the end of this meeting?

Many of us here today have noted on many past occasions that these people that are against our way of life, arrive here at the meeting in time to have their say and depart very soon after, probably go home to their centrally heated homes, watch TV or play on computers etc. using Mt Piper Electricity.

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You certainly don't protest about using the modern comforts that industry in this area can provide.

But when you visit here, you come in spread your vimineous words, throw your grenade and leave.

Leaving our families and our jobs threatened with uncertain futures.

Why do people that don't live in of our local area have the right to judge our future when they don't support this district?

Please support Springvale's proposed water treatment project so that we can all enjoy the benefits that this area can supply.

Managing Director JR Mining

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