Garry McDiarmid
[redacted]

Mr Brian Gilligan – Chair
Planning Assessment Commission
GPO Box 3145
SYDNEY NSW 2001
pac@pac.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Gilligan

RE: R031/15 Proposed Springvale Mine Extension

I wish to **STRONGLY SUPPORT** the proposed extension of the Springvale Mine (SSD 5594)

As a retired coal miner I am fully aware of the stringent conditions placed upon the Company as a requirement of any development and Centennial Coal, as a responsible corporation, I believe it is fully prepared to meet these obligations.

The Lithgow economy has already been severely affected by job losses at Baal Bone and Angus Place Colliery as well as the Wallerawang Power Station. The rejection of this application would certainly lead to the demise of this area.

In addition to direct employment benefits to the area the coal mining industry as well as Union members have always been very generous with donations to many charitable organisations, schools, sporting bodies, hospitals, community owned pool complex, families in need and many, many more.

Lithgow has no alternative major employer. Without this approval approximately 400 people will be without employment. There will be no option for people to leave the region to seek employment elsewhere.

This town cannot afford either economically or socially for this extension not to be approved. The effect would be devastating and felt immediately across the region.

I hope when considering this application that the views of the local community is given more weight to the argument than those non-locals who generally have no real concept of the working of the coal mine, the stringent environment protection conditions placed upon it nor the affect that the rejection of this proposal would have on our small local area.

Yours faithfully

Garry McDiarmid