Mr Brian Gilligan – Chair
Planning Assessment Commission
GPO Box 3415
Sydney NSW 2001

pac@pac.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Gilligan,

Submission as an approval to proposal R031/15 - Springvale Mine Extension Project

I request that the Planning Assessment Commission (the PAC) recommend the consent. I **strongly approve** of the proposed extension of Springvale Mine (SSD 5594) because the proponent, Centennial Coal, has made excellent efforts in the past to minimise associated environmental impacts on all water ways and land in the district. Their outstanding results should speak for themselves.

Lithgow is a very proud town built on tradition and looking after those in needs, we do not often put up our hand for help but this proposal is an example where the town will rally together!

Lithgow's FUTURE is depending on the support of Centennial Coal's submission, should never be decided by people who have never visited the town, our area and in some cases have never even visited our state or country!!! They are choosing to disagree just on sensational and un-factual headlines by groups NOT IN SUPPORT where in most cases NEVER tell the two sides of the story!!

Coal mining in the area can be conducted safely and in unison with the environment.
The proposed Springvale mine extension will also bring much needed job security to the district and the businesses conducted here. The district cannot afford another 1000 + direct and indirect job losses.

Our coal mines are under the toughest safety guide lines than ever before a~~nd yes my husband is a coal miner,~~ but the mines take safety in ALL areas very seriously. They have been in Lithgow and its surrounding areas for over 100 years!!

Springvale Colliery and its workers are held in high esteem by locals for many reasons, first and foremost is the contribution they make to the economy of Lithgow, but also Centennial Coal and past mining companies have continually donated, sponsored, assisted, and purchase millions of dollars to so much of the community and surrounding areas.

If a full count on a total amount of monies giving to local charity groups, Lithgow's Public and Lithgow Community Private Hospital, Tanderra Nursing Home, Cooinda Nursing Home, local schools, Lithgow sporting associations, families in need etc etc, the total would be millions of $$$$ given to support our diverse town!

I have family that attend the local schools and kids that participate in the many weekend leisure activities that Lithgow offers. My family is passionate about Lithgow and its surrounds. We love and respect all of what Lithgow has to offer and I strongly believe that Centennial Coal has dealt with all issues to safely run the mine with no detriment to any one or any where.

If this proposal does not get its approval how can these workers support their family! How are kids going to feel when they are ripped from the school and friends that they love, so the parents can find work elsewhere.?! AND I do mean **elsewhere,** as how can Lithgow find 300 jobs plus the fallout job losses that follow of more than double that. Lithgow will be left a ghost town!!!

Lithgow as a whole will suffer tremendously if this submission is not granted, the fallout effect will see many husbands, wives, fathers, mothers, grandfathers and sons and daughters losing jobs. Jobs lost will be not just from the coal mines, but from other businesses in a flow on affect. This in turn will start to have a domino effect in school placement withdrawals, (considering children will be pulled out of school to relocate for the parents to find employment outside the town), also hospital and Doctor Services reduction, retail sector and so on.

Many, if not all businesses in the area will directly and indirectly be affected as there will be no confidence to spend money if we do not have some sort of future in our local industries.

It is scary enough raising our kids with the knowledge that employment opportunities are few and far between, and if kids do not have Universities aspirations what future will be here for them in a trade sector. As the whole town feels the flow on affect, small businesses will also feel the pinch and more doors will close. The flow on effect is insurmountable!! Lithgow CANNOT afford to lose 300 jobs directly and another 1000 indirectly.

If Approval is not given, without our mining industry like Centennial Coal, the power stations, and the other specialised industry's contracting directly to Centennial will almost instantly disappear..

I truly believe that Lithgow depends on this submission being approved!!
Thank you for considering this submission **as an approval to the Springvale Mine Extension Project.**

Yours Truly,

Gemma King
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