From: [redacted]
To: pac
Subject: Springvale Mining Expansion
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Mining and Industry Projects
NSW Department of Planning & Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Springvale Mine Extension Project (SSD 5594)

I respectfully submit the following submission to support the Springvale Mine Extension Project submitted by Centennial coal.
Lithgow has always been a Coal Mining Town and as such has provided employment and also a source of fuel for base load Power Generation. Export of Coal has always had positive effect on the Australian Economy balance of trade.

Of late the Lithgow economy has been severely affected by job losses at Baal Bone & Angus Place Colliery and also within the Electricity Generation industry. This has negative effects on Lithgow's economy and surrounding areas. Business confidence is affected thru to reduction in class numbers in schools due to people having to leave the area to look for employment.

The Coal Mining Industry & Union Members have always been very generous with its donations to charitable organisations, schools, sporting bodies, athletes & families in severe financial situations. Lithgow Mercury, May 12th edition, page 3 headed "Last hurrah for mine support" detailed the end of an era of support to local charities by the Angus Place Colliery Assistance Fund due to the mines closure. If Springvale does not receive this approval it too will be an end of an era.

Springvale Coal currently employees approximately 300 direct workers and numerous local businesses carrying out associated services. Lithgow does not have any other non-coal related major employers. Without this approval employees & contractors currently working at Springvale Coal would be forced to take their families and try to seek new employment out of the district.

Centennial Coal have a very good reputation in the western coalfields as a responsible and proactive operator in the important coal mining industry. Springvale Coal Mine is an important employer locally. It's continued operation and expansion is vital to job security to its workforce. It is also important as a reliable cost effective supplier of Coal to Mount Piper (Also employing local employees).

The 300 direct workers at Springvale Coal Mine and the numerous local businesses providing services to Springvale have a flow on multiplier effect on the Lithgow Economy. Over recent times the Lithgow economy has suffered significantly because of job losses. Not approving this extension at Springvale Coal Mine will not only be devastating to the employees with more job losses but will have an extremely large adverse effect on the Lithgow Economy and Community.

Yours faithfully

Geoff Houlison

May 22nd 2015