From: [redacted]
To: pac pac
Subject: Submission as an objection to proposal R032/15 - Springvale Mine Extension Project
Date: Monday, 24 August 2015 6:57:23 PM

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

Dear Mr Gilligan,

Submission as an objection to proposal R032/15 - Springvale Mine Extension Project

I request that the Planning Assessment Commission (the PAC) recommend refusal of consent, as Centennial Coal has not modified Springvale mine extension proposal to protect World Heritage, National Heritage and the Coxs River, and in consequence the mine continues to cause unreasonable damage to these important values.

I have been following the action of Centennial and Coalpac and their recent submissions and believe that they feel they can bully anyone into silence or submission who is concerned with their environmental impact. Anyone who opposes them on Facebook is immediately threatened by Centennial employee's and subject to harassment and implied physical threats of violence. I believe this is encouraged by Centennial management. If you follow the hostile posts on the Lithgow Environment Group's Facebook page this is pretty evident. I suspect rather than consult with those who are concerned with their environmental impact they choose to dismiss any opponents as the lunatic environmental fringe. I think PAC very reasonable about the Coalpac submission and was willing to compromise yet they choose to cease operations and layoff staff rather than accept anything less than what they wanted. I believe Centennial is up'ing the ante based on PAC being willing to bend with Coalpac. To lay staff off prior to PAC responding to their submission, is just another bullying approach which implies they are unwilling to submit to the PAC process. My impression is that other coal mines have to treat their water and aren't allowed to dispose of it into local rivers, why should an exception be made for Centennial. After all the majority shareholders of Centennial are a Thai company called Banpu, it would be interesting to know more about this company. I'm sure Sydney Water cant be to happy about this mine effluent being emptied into the Cox's River which will end up at Warragamba Dam. The recent spill at Clarence into the Wollemgambie River show just how little they are concerned about polluting the wilderness which surrounds Sydney. Apparently they are threatening to procecute bushwalkers who are photographing the impact of this recent spill. I think such coal companies need to realize they are subject to the decisions of PAC and have to operate in a way that is environmentally sensitive and be willing to negotiate with locals who are concerned about their impact on places like the Newnes Plateau. The feeling in Lithgow is that its all about jobs but the reality is they rarely offer jobs to locals and never advertise jobs in the local papers. Being a [redacted] resident I am getting a little sick of how unconcerned they are about local jobs despite claiming otherwise. They recently laid of staff at their Angus Place mine because of the falling coal price and my impression they tried to get out of paying employees who were over sixty redundancy packages. Don't cave into their bullying.

Thank you for considering this submission as an objection to the Springvale

Mine Extension Project.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Nenke
[redacted]
Monday, August 24, 2015 - 18:57