

Appendix 2

List of speakers at the Public Meeting

Date & Time: Wednesday 17th May 2017

Venue: Civic Ballroom, Lithgow

Meeting Schedule	
10:00 am	Opening Statement from the Chair – Mr Ross Carter
Registered Speakers:	1. Mayor Stephen Lesslie (Lithgow Council)
	2. Mick Cairney
	3. Mark Collette
	4. Brian Nicholls
	5. Richard Marjoram
	6. John Tilley
	7. Jon Pirlingle
	8. Joe Smith
	9. Graham Hodson (Lithgow Chamber of Commerce)
	10. Keith Muir (Colong Foundation for Wilderness)
	11. Scott Willis
	12. Madi McLean (Blue Mountains Conservation Society)
	13. Maree Statham
	14. Ben Smith
	15. Geoff Miell
	16. Paul Moon
	17. Attia-Tull-Karim Mahmood
	18. Curtis Jones
	19. Dan Smith
	20. Ross Mcgrae
	21. Usman Mahmood
	22. Camryn Jones
	23. Guy Feeney
	24. Peter Compton

25. Gerard Martin
26. Geoff Wheeler (Lithgow Workman's Club)
27. Robert Culff
28. Rainer Scheurer
29. Matt Banning
30. Graeme Osborne
31. Stephen Jackson
32. Wayne Gaynor
33. Matthew Houlison
34. Richard Austen (Lithgow & District Community Forum)
35. Darrin Frances
36. Jeff Young
37. Gregg Guest
38. Barry Reid
39. Daniel Brebrich

Summary of the Public Meeting

Issues raised during the public meeting and in written submissions provided at the meeting are summarised below:

Economy and employment

- Mt Piper Power Station generates 15% of NSW's energy.
- The projects are necessary to deal with Springvale mine water being discharged into the Cox's River catchment and ensure that it meets strict compliance standards dictated by the PAC. The result will be an even better water quality outcome than required.
- If the projects are not approved, Springvale coal mine will no longer operate and be forced to close, as it will not have consent to discharge water.
- If the mine closes due to the project not being approved, the Mt Piper Power Station will also be forced to close because it is dependent on the Springvale mine for all of its water requirements. If that happens, there will be dire consequences for the State's energy security.
- The projects underpin the future of both the mine and the power station, and are essential to the economy of greater Lithgow.
- Construction of the water treatment facility would generate 50 construction jobs and 5 full time equivalent operational jobs, as well as secure around 600 ongoing jobs in the mine and the power station.
- Whole sale energy prices are rising. It is therefore important to maintain sustainable energy generation.
- Lithgow has a higher than average unemployment rate in the Central West region and needs additional jobs. Limited job opportunities are restricting Lithgow's future.
- The additional employment will result in additional spending at businesses in the Lithgow community. But, if the projects don't proceed, the implications for Lithgow will be devastating.
- The former mine closure in 2015 heavily impacted on the local community, and reminded us of the considerable impact on Lithgow of several other major business closures.

Water impacts

- The project would have an overall beneficial impact on the Sydney drinking water catchment.
- Recreational users of Lake Lyall for swimming and fishing have not noticed any impacts resulting from water being discharged from Springvale mine.
- Concerns that the water treatment facility does not have the capacity to treat all of the mine water proposed to be piped to Mt Piper Power Station.
- The Applicant should investigate installing a temporary reverse osmosis plant to deal with the discharge at LDP 009 until the water treatment facility is operational.
- The Department's assessment report does not satisfactorily meet the Neutral or Beneficial Effect, Sydney Drinking Water Catchment SEPP test.
- Request for a total audit of all water volumes and movements.

Environmental impacts

- Overall, the delivery of the water treatment facility is expected to deliver a positive environmental outcome from existing discharge conditions.
- The volume of water being moved by the Applicant within the pipeline network needs to be questioned and confirmed.
- The pipeline alignment should avoid endangered ecological communities where possible.
- Concerns raised about the increased pollution discharged from the Western Coal Services Site.
- The cumulative impacts of pollution on the Western Coal Services Site should not be ignored.

Other matters

- Energy Australia and Centennial Coal commenced working on a solution to discharge environmental impacts the day the mine extension consent was granted in 2015.
- The timeframe for delivery by June 2017 identified within the PAC Springvale mine consent was unrealistic.
- Concerned that of the 328 objections, 309 were form letters and that the form letters don't represent genuine objection to the specifics of the project.
- Energy Australia and Centennial Coal have been committed members of the community contributing significant amounts of financial contribution to charities and local organisations.
- The conditions of consent should be shaped to provide the community with some assurance that construction of the water treatment facility will occur. Concerns that the mine may not complete the works and request another extension in two years' time.