

I would like to welcome the Commissioners to Lithgow and thank you for the opportunity to put forward my thoughts on the Springvale Water Treatment Project.

I have lived in Lithgow for most of my life and have been employed in the Power Industry for 42 years.

- Having grown up in this rural industrial town I've seen and experienced the benefits from both employment opportunities and the extra benefits those wages bring to my family, the community and the secondary businesses that are off shots to both the main Mining and Power Station industries. This is only possible with support for industry.
- However when these industries that have become woven into the fabric of the community, as they have here, are closed or down sized the disappointment, the feeling of uncertainty, financial stress, employment and flow on employment losses from the secondary industries is felt by all in the community. This is a long, slow and hard road back which I have felt with the mine, power station and light industry closures of recent times.
- To stand next to my mother in the street and see her cry at the loss of her place of employment and that wage to the family is something you don't forget very easily.
- Being heavily involved in the sporting community of Lithgow the support of both the Mines and the Power Station through grants, donations and no cost equipment hirer allows us to provide better facilities, equipment and services to all our members young and old alike.
- I'm a keen mountain bike rider and enjoy being out in the bush, so to have two companies that have joined forces to develop and move forward with a project that will treat and reuse the mine water removing the need to release this into the drinking water catchment and remove the reliance of the Power Station on the Fish River catchment waters is of a huge win for the environment and makes great sense.
- I'm proud to be involved with the proposed project and a company like EnergyAustralia that is not only aware of its responsibility to its shareholders but of it's responsibility to my community and environment.
- This proposed project is in mine a win for industry, a win for the area and a win for the environment and with that I would urge the PAC Commissioners to support this project.

Springvale Water Treatment Project – PAC Meeting Lithgow 17/05/2017

Again I would like to thank the Commissioners for their time today and this opportunity to express my thoughts on this matter.

Wayne Gaynor