



Centennial Coal



EnergyAustralia

MEDIA STATEMENT

November 9, 2016

THOMPSONS CREEK RESERVOIR OPTION VIABLE

Centennial Coal and EnergyAustralia today announced an enhancement to an existing proposal to build a water treatment plant to support an extension of the Springvale Mine.

A feasibility study commissioned by the companies into redirecting surplus treated water to Thompsons Creek Reservoir had proved the approach was a viable option. It will now be incorporated into the overall project.

The proposed project consists of a pipeline and water treatment plant. It will redirect water currently discharged from Springvale Mine to a facility at EnergyAustralia's Mt Piper power station where it will be treated and used for cooling in the power station.

Consultation with stakeholders had identified concerns about the possibility of discharging surplus treated water to Wangcol Creek. With the enhancement announced today, such discharges will no longer be required.

When the Springvale Mine secured its planning consent (September 2015) a commitment was given to significantly improve the quality of water discharged, and this commitment was incorporated into the conditions of consent. This project will enable compliance with the water quality conditions in the Springvale consent.

A key part of the assessment process involves gathering feedback from stakeholders so that in the final approach any impacts are mitigated or where possible avoided. An Environmental Impact Statement was available for public review for six weeks, closing 8 November.

Centennial Coal's Executive GM External Affairs, Katie Brassil said stakeholders had provided valuable feedback which would help ensure any development was socially and environmentally acceptable.

"The inclusion of Thompsons Creek Reservoir into this project provides a 'win win'. It is a commercially affordable option for us that will also deliver an improved environmental outcome", she said.



EnergyAustralia Executive – Energy, Mark Collette, said the project represented a significant long-term investment in the Lithgow community and would benefit the environment by minimising discharges into the Upper Cox’s River system.

“Today’s announcement provides improved water outcomes for the Coxs river system. We’re really pleased to be delivering a great outcome for the region,” Mr Collette said.

For more information about this project visit www.planning.nsw.gov.au

For further information contact:

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Project Description:

The proposed project consists of a pipeline and water treatment plant. It involves redirecting water currently discharged from the Springvale Mine to a treatment facility at the Mt Piper Power Station (MPPS). There, it will be treated and used for power station cooling.

The project involves developing:

- a system to transfer mine water from an existing gravity tank on the Newnes Plateau to the water treatment facility
- facilities to treat the mine water for use at MPPS
- a system to redirect surplus treated water to Thompsons Creek Reservoir for later reuse

The project will transfer water daily from Springvale and includes capacity to cater for any future water from Angus Place mine.

Water treatment will be undertaken by using and upgrading existing infrastructure and building new infrastructure. By-products from the treatment process will be appropriately managed on site at MPPS and transferred to Centennial’s Western Coal Services.