Monday, 26 August 2013

**Have your say on planned upgrade to coal handling facility at Blackmans Flat**

The Department of Planning and Infrastructure is inviting public comment on Springvale Coal’s plans to upgrade its existing coal handling and distribution facility near Blackmans Flat north-west of Lithgow.

The proposed Centennial Western Coal Services Project is on exhibition until **Thursday, 26 September** and, if approved, would:

- be capable of receiving up to 9.5 million tonnes per annum of coal at the site from Springvale Colliery, Angus Place Colliery and proposed Neubeck Coal Mine;
- process up to 7 million tonnes coal of coal per annum; and
- deliver coal via existing coal conveyors to the Lidsdale Siding, Mount Piper Power Station and Wallerawang Power Station.

A range of ancillary infrastructure would also be constructed including a private haul road, road bridge and water management structures.

The upgrade would support the company’s ongoing mining operations in the area and enable its existing operations at the Angus Place Colliery and Springvale Coal Mine to have access to Mount Piper and Wallerawang Power Stations.

In preparing its environmental impact statement (EIS) for the project, the department required Springvale to address a number of important issues including impacts on land and water resources, biodiversity, air quality, noise, visual amenity, heritage, traffic and transport.

The project’s EIS is available on the department’s website at [http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au](http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au) [search for Springvale Coal] as well as Lithgow Council Chambers and the Portland branch of Lithgow Library.

Submissions can also be lodged online at the above site.

All submissions received will be carefully considered in the department’s assessment of the project.

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