

- The area where I believe that a proposed nuclear power plant would be contemplated would be in the Wallerawang area close to the existing coal fired Mount Piper Power Station.
- There are only two underground coal mines in the Lithgow area now, one is the Springvale Mine which supplies coal to Mount Piper, and the Clarence Mine on the eastern side of the Lithgow area, that I understand only exports its coal.
- I worked at the Lithgow Valley Mine, which was basically in the middle of the town of Lithgow, under where the current Coles Shopping Complex is now located. The Hermitage Mine which was located on the western side of Lithgow, and later Clarence which is close to the boundary of the City of Blue Mountains.
- I am familiar with all the other mines that existed at this time as I was a District Union Official back then and I visited them all on a regular basis.
- I remember when soon after I started work at the Lithgow Valley Mine as an electrician on the night shift, a Mine Deputy took me for a walk underground for quite a long distance, and when we came out, we were on the opposite side of Lithgow.
- To give a bit of history of the Springvale Mine, it was started in the mid 1930's by a person by the name of John Wren. For those of you who are familiar with the book, *Power Without Glory*, will know who he was. Wren used to operate the weekend boxing matches at the old Sydney Stadium and they all worked at this mine when he took them on a bus to Sydney.
- Springvale Mine has been operating continually since this time and where they have been extracting coal is anyone's guess. I am talking about a time where when the mine operators were continually robbing each other's leases during an unregulated period.
- There are many other mine operators in this area such Wallerawang Collieries and an open cut mine that were still there until around the year 2000.
- I remember working on night shift at Hermitage Mine in 1980, when the manager came underground and told us to break through into an area he said there were 150 pillars of coal that would keep us in work for another three months. When we broke through there was nothing there as it had been robbed and mined probably many years before
- In this building where we are now, when the motel was being built, where you all stayed last night, when the builders were putting the foundations down there was nothing under it. Hundreds of concrete trucks had to fill it in, at a large cost, before they could continue work.
- To even contemplate building a Nuclear Power Plant anywhere in this district is something that should never considered ever, or anywhere else for that matter.

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