



Our ref: DOC22/650064-4

Department of Planning and Environment

Via Major Projects Portal

Attention: Mr Joe Fittell

1 August 2022

Dear Mr Fittell

**MODIFICATION APPLICATION
MAXWELL UNDERGROUND MINE (MOD 2) – MINING OPTIMISATION MODIFICATION
(SSD-9526-MOD-2)**

Thank you for your notification on 27 July 2022, inviting the NSW Environment Protection Authority (**EPA**) to review and comment on the application to modify SSD-9526 in respect of Maxwell Ventures (Management) Pty Ltd's proposed Mining Optimisation Modification at Maxwell Underground Mine (**the Proposal**).

The EPA understands the Proposal comprises the following components:

- re-orientation of the longwall panels in the Woodlands Hill, Arrowfield and Bowfield Seams resulting in a minor increase in the approved underground mining extent;
- reduction in the width of some of the longwall panels in the Woodlands Hill Seam;
- repositioning of the upcast ventilation shaft site and associated infrastructure; and
- other minor works and ancillary infrastructure components (e.g. access road and ancillary water management infrastructure for the repositioned ventilation shaft site).

The EPA has reviewed the Proposal and supporting documentation. The EPA does not object to the proposed modification to the consent.

Maxwell Ventures (Management) Pty Ltd holds Environment Protection Licence No. 1323 (**Licence**) under the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* (**POEO Act**) in respect of activities carried on at the Maxwell Underground Coal Mine Project, Thomas Mitchell Drive, Muswellbrook. If approved, the EPA considers that the Licence contains conditions that adequately regulates the environmental issues associated with the Proposal under the POEO Act.

If you have any further questions about this issue, please contact Sean Joyce, on 4908 6897 or info@epa.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,

STEVEN JAMES

**Unit Head Regulatory Operations Metro North
Environment Protection Authority**