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This submission is in support of the Mount Owen Continued Operations Project and encourages approval for several reasons.

Mt Owen is a mine with a small footprint and large output, this approval seeks to continue operations in to tenements close to the existing mining area and approved disturbance areas with no change to the current environmental impact or disruption to the nearby Ravensworth State Forest and biodiversity areas.

Mt Owen has a history of good community relations, management of key environmental issues such as air quality, noise, water management, controlled blasting and ongoing rehabilitation of the mined out areas along with flagship ecological programs that have provided a home to several native species and provides an important case study for nearby University students.

The infrastructure upgrades will create many jobs in the short-term and continuation of the mine will secure existing jobs for 12 more years. Continuation of the mine will have a beneficial impact on the economies of the neighbouring towns and greater New South Wales.

Regards,

Gareth Johnson.