



**Mining &  
Energy  
Union**

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ABN: 80 814 987 748

President: Robin Williams

Secretary: Shane Thompson

9 March 2026

Energy and Resource Assessments  
NSW Department of Planning, Housing, and Infrastructure  
Via Major Projects Planning Portal

To whom it may concern,

**RE: Submission in support of Mod 8 – Extension of mine life (DA92/97-Mod-8)**

The Mining and Energy Union Northern Mining and NSW Energy District (MEU) is proud to represent coal mine workers in the northern coalfields of NSW, including at the Mount Pleasant Operation.

We support the approval of the Mount Pleasant Mod 8 – Extension of mine life application (DA92/97-Mod-8). The application provides certainty to over 700 direct full-time equivalent employees and their families, 70 per cent of whom live locally in Singleton, Muswellbrook, and Upper Hunter local government areas, and secures the future of the mine through to 31 December 2032 while legal proceedings around application SD 10418 are resolved. The Mount Pleasant Mod 8 application must be supported to protect these workers' livelihoods beyond the expiry of current approvals in December of this year.

Despite Mount Pleasant receiving Independent Planning Commission approval almost four years ago to operate through to 2048, workers at the mine remain in a state of uncertainty about the future of their jobs, with that matter now headed to the High Court. Mod 8 will ensure continuity of employment for these workers in the short and medium term while the matter is resolved.

Securing Mount Pleasant jobs through to 2032 is critically important in the broader context of the region and its transition. With BHP's Mt Arthur and Glencore's Mangoola mine already scheduled to close in 2030, the unexpected and unintended closure of Mount Pleasant in 2026 would upend careful planning for an orderly transition in the Upper Hunter and compound the challenges faced by the community in managing the local unemployment and economic impacts of site closures.

An extension to 2032 affords Mount Pleasant workers time to plan for their future and supports more positive transition outcomes over the longer term and in the broader local context of mine and power station closures. Indeed, when considering this regional context, Mount Pleasant's status as a large-scale employer of skilled mine workers intending to operate for decades to come takes on even greater importance to the local community and economy. Mount Pleasant can be a long-term source of reliable economic activity for the Hunter region as planned new industries ramp up over time.

The Mod 8 application would protect the livelihoods and incomes of hundreds of local workers, including those at local supply chain businesses who support the mining industry. In turn, these workers use their incomes to support the local small businesses and community groups that form the very fabric of the local community and its wellbeing.

The Mod 8 application includes extensive commitments around emissions management and mitigation. Mount Pleasant is subject to federal emissions reduction obligations under the Safeguard Mechanism. Due to its low emissions intensity and moderate fugitive emissions, the modification would see the mine continue well-below the Safeguard Mechanism's emissions intensity baseline for coal production and remain one of the lowest emissions intensity coal mines in NSW. An extension to Mount Pleasant therefore aligns with federal and state government commitments to an orderly transition for the coal industry, which supports local communities and workers, serves export partners, and promotes sustainable operation.

Mount Pleasant Mod 8 is both a sensible and necessary application and the MEU strongly supports its approval.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Robin Williams', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Robin Williams  
**District President**