

Bill Dean
Brisbane Qld

NSW Department of Planning
Major Projects
6 August 2022

To Whom It May Concern

My name is Bill Dean and I am a mining engineer with over 45 years' experience encompassing quarrying, open cut and underground coal mining. I spent much of my working career in the Hunter Valley coalfields.

Re: Maxwell Underground Mine (MOD2) – SSD-9526-Mod-2

I am writing in support of the modification sought by Malabar Resources' for its Maxwell Underground Project.

This modification is an enhancement to an approved Project and will not affect the previously detailed benefits to the local community which due to the construct of the Project will provide an economic boost without negatively impacting other local industries and land uses.

I support Mod-2 because the Maxwell project will deliver a range of important benefits to the local area, including 250 jobs during the construction phase and once operational, 350 long-term jobs, in addition there will be many more indirect jobs plus other stimulus for local businesses and the community.

These benefits will provide a substantial long-term advantage to communities in the Upper Hunter along with the overall NSW economy.

The modification sought by Malabar does not change the approved Projects fundamental approach including underground mining method, maximum coal production rate or total coal mined. I understand the benefits of the modification include;

- a safer environment for workers
- less use of groundwater over the life of the mine
- better gas management strategies including beneficial re-use

Our communities need a diverse economy, and the Maxwell Underground Project can help the Hunter Valley to prosper for decades to come.

Regards

Bill Dean