

Mark D Smith
50 Wrightson Ave
Bar Beach, NSW, 2300

NSW Department of Planning
Major Projects
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To Whom It May Concern

My name is Mark Smith and I am a resident of Newcastle.

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

I am writing to lodge my support for the modification sought by Malabar Resources' for its Maxwell Underground Project.

This is a sensible modification to an approved project that has been designed so our community can enjoy a much needed economic boost without negatively impacting other local industries and land uses.

I support Mod-2 because the Maxwell project will deliver important benefits for the local community, including 250 jobs during the construction phase and once operational the mine will generate 350 long-term jobs in addition to many more indirect jobs and stimulus for local businesses.

These benefits will make a substantial long-term difference to the communities in the Upper Hunter and to NSW.

The modification sought by Malabar does not change the underground mining method, nor increase the coal production rate or total coal mined. I understand the benefits of the modification include;

- a safer environment for workers
- less use of groundwater for the life of the mine
- a reduction in the duration of mining beneath Edderton Road
- reduction in capital cost
- better gas management strategies including beneficial re-use

Our community needs a diverse economy and the Maxwell Underground Project can help make sure our economy prospers for decades to come.

This modification should be approved to increase the value to the Australian economy and benefits that will ensue to all Australians from a stronger economy, particularly with high coal prices. The coal to be mined is high quality and will contribute to the reduction in the consumption of low quality higher polluting coals that would otherwise be used overseas. It will also assist efforts in Europe to maintain electricity supplies to vulnerable people as the long-term access to coal in that area is being interrupted by Russia's military activities and there is no short term alternatives.

Regards



Mark Smith