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NSW Department of Planning

Major Projects

11<sup>th</sup> August 2022

To Whom It May Concern

My name is Neil Birchall and I live and work in the Hunter Valley, NSW.

**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

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

Kind Regards

Neil Birchall