



Rod Davies

18<sup>th</sup> of February, 2023

# HVO South

Open Cut Coal Continuation  
Project. SSD-11826621

This is a submission in support of the HVO South Open Cut Coal Continuation Project. My name is Rod Davies, I have over 20 years of experience working as a plant mechanic on heavy-earth-moving equipment in the mining industry. Although I don't work at Hunter Valley Operations, I do work as a maintenance supervisor in a coal mine located next door to HVO.

Mining has occurred at Hunter Valley Operations for over 70 years. Approval of this continuation application will allow this project to continue to contribute to the local Hunter economy and provide employment opportunities to residents of the area. Many people I know will be adversely affected if this project application is not approved.

Many people in the area would be adversely affected if these continuation applications are not approved. My friend and neighbour Geoffrey Stevenson works full time at Hunter Valley Operations, and has done so for the past 11 years. His job is very important to him and his family and to many other people I know whose income is dependent on HVO and its contractors.

# HVO

HVO's annual contribution is listed below (source: <https://www.hvo.com.au/>)



Moses Crossing on 3<sup>rd</sup> of November, 2022

\$537m Spent on goods and services.

1500 Local jobs supported.

4450 Flow-on jobs.

740 Suppliers connected to HVO.

\$862m Direct economic contribution.

\$900K Annual community grants program.

## The project proposal

### Continuation – not expansion

The application will not expand the boundaries of the mine's footprint outside previously mined areas. The HVO North project will source extra coal by extending the Mitchell Pit south towards Carrington Pit. Mining in Carrington Pit will extend past the currently approved Bayswater seam, down to the much deeper seams of Lemington A, B, C D, Pikes Gully, Arties, both Liddell seams and the Barrett seam.

### Reduction in some mine areas

The HVO South proposed consent will reduce HVO South's currently permitted annual production of 20 million tonnes per annum (*Mtpa*) down to 18 Mtpa. Currently approved mining areas (*Riverview South East, Lemington South 1 & Lemington South 2*) will be forfeited.

### Lemington Road flood immunity

The relocation of Lemington Road will be of benefit to the community. Not only will the relocation of the road and nearby electricity infrastructure benefit the local economy, but will benefit motorists too by providing a reliable route between the Golden Highway & the New England Highway. The current Lemington Rd crossing of the Hunter River (*Mosses Crossing*) has been frequently flooded over the past two years. At the time of writing, Lemington Rd has just been closed indefinitely. The continuation project's new river crossing will be a far more resilient and reliable route.

### Job security and economic certainty

The project approval will provide job security to the local workforce.

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