

9th July 2023

Mr J Fittell
Team Leader
Energy and Resource Assessments | Planning and Assessment
Department of Planning and Environment

Antiene Rail Spur – Life Extension Modification

Dear Mr Fittell,

I am writing to express my support for Malabar Resources and the Antiene Rail Spur (DA 106-04-00) – Life Extension Modification.

The Modification will extend the operation of the Antiene Rail Spur to align with the approved operating life of the Maxwell Mine (i.e. until 2047). Importantly, the proposed Modification will not change any key components of the existing development and will not result in any new surface disturbance.

I support the Modification as it will provide the following benefits:

- Extend the operation of the Antiene Rail Spur to align with the approved operating life of the Maxwell Project (i.e. until 2047);
- Deliver significant local, regional and State economic benefits through subsequent mining royalties and taxes, with the Maxwell Mine expected to generate approximately \$955 million in royalties and a total net benefit to the NSW economy of over \$1 billion;
- Allow the Hunter region to maintain existing freight transport networks that would minimise negative impacts of freight movements on urban amenity, in accordance with the Hunter Regional Plan 2041;
- Continue to provide efficient access of coal to national and international markets; and
- Facilitate local and regional employment, including more than 250 construction jobs and more than 400 operational jobs at the Maxwell Mine.

Malabar plays a key role in the local community and has a unique approach to developing their assets. This approach is expressed through, employing less intrusive underground mining methods, focusing on metallurgical coal, developing large scale renewable resources, and rehabilitating previously mined areas for sustainable activities including renewables and agriculture. Malabar has shown that they can co-exist with the local community and other local industries.

I support the Antiene Rail Spur (DA 106-04-00) – Life Extension Modification.

Regards,

John Saunders

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