

1.9.2019

Submission to Maxwell Project Application

I support the Maxwell Application and believe it should be approved

The project has addressed the main concerns of the opponents to the Drayton South Project on the same area. It does not have any visual impact because it is an underground project and the point of entry is well away from the nearest residents and positioned in a natural valley. Further it will not have the potential for dust or noise impacts.

The Project makes efficient usage of the previous infrastructure established for the Drayton Mine and as a result will be more cost effective to develop. Its use of the existing Coal Handling and Processing Plant, the existing train loading infrastructure and the existing administration buildings will mean that these structures do not have to be demolished and will have a further life reducing the capital cost required to mine the Maxwell Project area.

In the Muswellbrook area, there is potential for job losses at a time when the Liddell Power Station is planned to close. This Project would have the potential to significantly offset the loss of jobs by providing a significant new source of employment.

The coal produced by this Project will be high quality with both semi-soft coking coal and higher quality thermal coal with low ash and high energy content. This coal has a strong demand in the market place and is being sought after by customers. Use of this coal would improve the outcome for Greenhouse Gas Emissions compared to coals from Indonesia or South Africa.

The approval of this Project would have the benefit of royalties and taxes to benefit the NSW State Budget, whilst having very low impacts.

Sincerely,

John Richards