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## SUBMISSION ON BEHALF OF FYFE PTY LTD IN RELATION TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS) FOR THE MOUNT PLEASANT OPTIMISATION PROJECT

On behalf of Fyfe Pty Ltd, I would like to express our full support of the Mount Pleasant Optimisation Project, and the items detailed in the MACH Energy Executive Summary document and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Fyfe Pty Ltd has a long history associated with Mt Pleasant Operations, as we were engaged with the project from the initial planning and feasibility studies when the mine was a 'green fields' project to the present day. Our companies continue to rely on each other for professional advice and ongoing project engagement. Employed as the Statutory Mine Surveyors for Mt Pleasant Operations, MACH Energy is our primary client and greatest revenue stream for the Upper Hunter division of our company.

At present, our Upper Hunter Survey team comprises of eight full time employees and 3 part time office support staff based locally in Muswellbrook who assist with the day-to-day survey operations, as well as engage in specific projects including:

- Boundary definition for the Biodiversity Offset Area.
- The Stage 2 Rail Infrastructure project.
- Upgrades to the existing CHPP and coal handling infrastructure, workshops, and ancillary infrastructure.
- The relocation of facilities including local roads, powerlines, and pipes.
- · Ongoing mine exploration activities.
- Monthly drone flights and volumetric surveys.

In late 2019, Fyfe were engaged by MACH Energy Mt Pleasant Operations to work on the 'Receiver Identification Verification Exercise' which entailed a field survey to identify all structures on every property within a 20 square kilometre radius of the mine-excluding the Muswellbrook and Aberdeen townships. MACH Energy's communication between subcontracts and key stakeholders throughout this project was impeccable, and Fyfe Pty Ltd were pleased to be associated with a corporation that upholds its commitment to the local people and the environment, further cementing our successful professional relationship.

Fyfe Pty Ltd predict that the approval of the Optimisation Project for Mt Pleasant Operations would result in an increased workload for our own workforce, and we expect to employ additional staff to meet the requirements of our major client. Fyfe would seek to recruit tertiary educated professionals either locally or encourage them to move to the area to undertake the position. As a result of this business growth and increased revenue, Fyfe Pty Ltd would be able to diversify into other market sectors enabling us to fully establish our company within the Upper Hunter community and complete our business model of premier Surveyors, Engineers, Town Planners and Environmental Advisors.

In conclusion, Fyfe Pty Ltd would be especially eager to see the Mount Pleasant Optimisation Project move forward as it would bring significant economic growth opportunities not only to our own business but create an indirect ripple effect across a multitude of related industries in the area. The future of our region depends on the expansion of the already established mining leases and their continued operation, expenditure, and employment.

Yours faithfully,

**Chris Nixon** 

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Christopher Nixon