

18<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Department of Planning and Environment

Via NSW Major Project Portal

## New Cobar Complex Project

Dear Sir/Madam,

WesTrac NSW would like to register their support for the New Cobar Complex Project SSD-10419. When approved this modification will enable the mine to extend its mine life and maximising the resource recovery, maintaining employment for the existing workforce and contributing additional revenue to the local, state and federal governments.

WesTrac are the Caterpillar dealer for NSW and the ACT, and we directly employ over 1300 people in NSW, of whom approximately 1150 are employed outside the Sydney metropolitan area. Our workforce includes professional, trades and support staff, working in the mining and construction industries. We also have a large apprenticeship training program, helping develop the tradespeople of the future. This mine optimisation will ensure WesTrac is able to maintain our Cobar presence, where we provide onsite support, field service, workshops parts and administrative activities, all contributing to the local community and across the greater Western NSW region. This project will also generate work at other WesTrac locations, including our Newcastle state of the art component rebuilding facility.

Aurelia Metals Limited are an established WesTrac customer and we have extensive engagements with them at their Peak Gold Mine operation. In addition to direct employment opportunities, WesTrac has continued to invest in high end technology to support Peak Gold Mines and our other mining customers. In the last 12 months we have spent \$15m on capital equipment to expand our technical support capacity to our mining customers. The Cobar Complex Project provides us with the certainty to make these investments and provide ongoing skilled employment opportunities in regional NSW.

WesTrac supports the expansion of existing metalliferous mines in NSW. These mines assist the industry transition away from fossil fuels, with contributions to the regional economy including direct economic activity (e.g. direct employment and wages), expenditure on inputs to production that can be sourced from the region such as repairs and maintenance etc., and expenditure of employee wages in the regional economy.

Yours faithfully



Greg Graham  
Chief Executive NSW/ACT  
WesTrac Pty Ltd

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