

Lincoln Amidy
69 Dumaresq St,
Hamilton 2303.
NSW

NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
GPO Box 39, Sydney NSW 2001

11th September 2019

To Whom It May Concern

Re: Maxwell Underground Coal Mine Project. SSD-9526

My name is Lincoln Amidy and I am a professional speaker and corporate trainer. I have had a professional relationship and industry reliance with the coal industry for over 20 years. I provide culture, team and behavioural programs for all types of industries including the coal industry.

I am writing to lodge my support for Malabar Coal's Maxwell Underground Project.

With investigation and understanding I believe this project that has been designed so our community can enjoy a much-needed economic boost without negatively impacting other local industries and land uses. I feel this project has been designed with the community in mind and will enhance the relationship of local communities and industry.

I support the project because it will deliver important benefits for the local community and NSW.

- **BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES.** I foresee that this project will have ongoing opportunities for many local and inter regional businesses. Professional training, support and employment opportunities will be immediate and also ongoing. The Malabar group are supporters of local suppliers. Being one of these this will be an opportunity for my business and many others. Having this project in the foreseeable future provides optimistic prosperity for these businesses
- **ECONOMIC BENEFITS:** The Maxwell Project will create 350 new jobs for the region of the Hunter Valley. These new jobs and the wages that will flow from them, will deliver a much-needed boost to the local economy. The project will also generate \$1 billion to \$1.25 billion for the NSW State Government and local Councils. This money can be used to upgrade regional hospitals, schools or infrastructure. Projects like this help ensure our ongoing prosperity and can support the economy for years to come.
- **JOB CREATION:** The project will mean 350 more skilled jobs for the local community. These jobs will inject around \$55 million in wages into our community – benefiting many other businesses in the area. Malabar has also promised to provide training for local people so the skills to operate an underground mine can be developed within the local area. They have also said they want to prioritise hiring locals to ensure that the benefits of the project stay here in the community.

- **LOCAL ECONOMY:** The project will boost our local economy and help local business owners. It will support a wide range of local businesses throughout the construction phase and operation of the mine over 26 years. Long term projects, like this one, will mean local businesses can make more investments, grow their operations, hire more people and keep workers – especially young people – in the region.

As mentioned, I am one of these many businesses and feel this provides assurance that the industry will be able to support us into the present and future

- **COEXISTENCE:** The project is a common-sense “win-win” for our community. Previous open cuts proposals were contentious, but Malabar have heard us and developed a sensible project that means our community can benefit from the economic boost a new mine will provide – while also allowing the horse studs and other land uses to continue their operations.
- **REHABILITATION:** Malabar takes mine rehabilitation seriously. They started rehabilitating the old Drayton open cut straight away and have made substantial progress so far. It is great to see a business take this role so seriously. I appreciate that they have already opened up some of the land for cattle to graze on. This shows a commitment to coexistence with other local industries. I also note that the Maxwell Project will deliver a better rehabilitation outcome in the long term by filling voids at the former Drayton Mine with reject stone and rock. This will mean a much better outcome for our community.
- **SOLAR PROJECT:** I appreciate that Malabar are also investing in a solar farm on their rehabilitated land. If approved, this could provide additional power directly to the grid, or help to power local businesses and homes. This shows the company is open to different ideas that can benefit our community.

These benefits will make a substantial long-term difference to the communities in the Hunter Valley and to NSW. Having grown up and lived in the Hunter Valley for 48 years I see this as crucial for our future. Selfishly I also am excited about the business opportunities that it will create for the region.

Our community needs a diverse economy and the Maxwell Underground Project can help make sure our economy prospers for decades to come.

Regards



Lincoln Amidy

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