

NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

GPO Box 39, Sydney NSW 2001

Date __16__/_09__/2019

To Whom It May Concern

Re: Maxwell Underground Coal Mine Project. SSD-9526

My name is Teresa and I'm a Geologist who has worked in the Upper Hunter Valley at various coal mining operations, and previously lived in the Upper Hunter Valley for 8 years.

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

This project brings a much-needed economic boost to the local area and state of NSW, without negatively impacting other local industries, and surrounding land uses.

I support the project because it will deliver important benefits for the local community and NSW such as;

- Providing locals with employment- having been made redundant at a coal mine in the Upper Hunter Valley during the downturn and seeing the impact this had on local businesses and our family was devastating, this area needs employment opportunities and the Maxwell Project will create 350 new jobs for the region. 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.
- Rehabilitation- Malabar has shown that it takes mine rehabilitation seriously. They started rehabilitating the old Drayton open cut straight away and have made great progress so far. It is great to see a business take this commitment to rehabilitating a mine seriously. Malabar have also invested in cattle to graze on their land; this shows a commitment to coexist with other local industries and appreciate that together both mining and agriculture can go hand in hand.
- Solar Energy- 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 Upper Hunter Valley.

Regards

Teresa