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2nd September, 2021 Planning Services Department of Planning Industry & Environment GPO Box 39 Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Sirs,

RE SSD-9526 MAXWELL UNDERGROUND MINE PROJECT MINE ENTRY MODIFICATION

The Muswellbrook Chamber of Commerce & Industry represents over 200 member businesses and supports the application by Malabar Resources for this modification.

MUSWELLBROOK

COMMERCEAND

INDUSTRY INC.

CHAMBER OF

Our support is based on Malabar's Modification Report which identifies improvements to the project's safety & efficiency without detrimental environmental or economic effects. We particularly note –

- a safer straight drift at a reduced grade.
- sooner than planned production of run-of-mine coal.
- reduction in capital costs.
- reduction in the number of conveyors and transfer stations.
- improved water management outcomes.
- reduction of disturbance of previously rehabilitated land.
- continued protection of neighbouring businesses and residents.

The Maxwell Project is a welcome addition to the Upper Hunters economic diversity with the development of this predominantly metallurgical coal resource. The Chamber welcomes the company's, already apparent, commitment to local employment and procurement.

The Chambers support of this project has been documented in our previous submissions to the DPIE & IPC. This support remains and the Muswellbrook business community looks forward to the Departments approval of this modification with the appropriate conditions of consent.

We thank you for the opportunity to make this submission and would be please to provide any further information the Department may require.

Yours sincerely,

M.J.Kelly President