

Gavin Wilks
Twin Rivers 159
Martindale road
Denman 2328

NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
GPO Box 39, Sydney NSW 2001
Date 23/09/2019

To Whom It May Concern

Re: Maxwell Underground Coal Mine Project. SSD-9526

My name is Gavin Wilks and I am a Maintenance Supervisor at Bengalla Coal, and a Farmer.

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

This is a sensible 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 support the project because it will deliver important benefits for the local community and NSW.

- **ECONOMIC BENEFITS:** The Maxwell Project will create 350 new jobs for the region. These new jobs and the wages that with a flow on affect, delivering a much-needed boost to the local economy. Without major companies in our area, we wouldn't have other business' in this area, e.g. Big W, Woolies, Coles, Aldi.
- **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.
- **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. I'm pleased that the EIS for the Maxwell Project shows that the underground mine can co-exist safely with other industries. Co-existence has always been an important part of our community. Having a number of strong industries has helped our community to flourish. This project means that can continue for years to come.

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

Regards

Gavin Wilks

