

Mark Fogarty
2 Wilton Dr
East Maitland

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

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

This is a project that will provide a much-needed economic boost without negatively impacting other local industries and land users.

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

- The Maxwell Project will create 350 new jobs for the region. These new jobs and the wages that will flow from them, will inject significant spending directly into the local economy and provide stability and sustainability to the mining industry.
- Malabar has made a commitment to prioritise hiring locals to ensure that the benefits of the project stay in the local community.
- The project will boost the local economy by supporting 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 investments, grow their operations, hire more people and keep workers – especially young people – in the region.
- Further afield, 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 such as this help ensure our ongoing prosperity and can support the economy for years to come.
- The EIS for the Maxwell Project shows that the underground mine can co-exist safely with other industries allowing the horse studs and other land uses to continue their operations.
- Malabar commenced rehabilitating the old Drayton open cut and plans to utilise existing infrastructure in lieu creating a whole new operation. The Maxwell Project will deliver a better rehabilitation outcome by filling voids at the former Drayton Mine with reject stone and rock.
- Malabar has already provided funding to local community groups for over six years.
- 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.
- The Maxwell Project will produce quality coking coal which is in global demand to produce steel with high efficiency and low emissions.

These benefits will make a substantial long-term difference to the local communities in the Upper Hunter, the greater Hunter Valley and to NSW.

Our community needs a diverse economy and the Maxwell Underground Project will ensure our economy continues to prosper for several decades to come.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Fogarty', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mark Fogarty