

My job and others

- As a mining professional, this project will provide ongoing employment for our open cut workforce and add another 250 jobs at peak production. Each one of these bringing families whose children go to local schools and who spend money with local retailers. This will keep me and my family in the Hunter and without this, jobs like mine are at risk.

Career opportunities

- The NSW mining industry and Wambo, have given me many opportunities to develop my skills into a professional engineer that implements best practice in all my work.
- Wambo has programs in place to increase the opportunities for women in mining. The NSW government needs to support companies that are moving the needle in diversity. I personally contribute to the promotion of STEM in the mining industry by delivering talks about these applications to primary and high school students.

Environment

- As a current drill and blast professional, I know first-hand that Wambo is a responsible miner as evident by 0 exceedances in my tenure in the drill and blast role. We've been here a long time and do a lot of work to minimise impacts on the environment and community. We rehabilitate land after we mine it. Last year we rehabilitated 58 hectares.

Community and business

- Without mining in the upper hunter, I personally would have to seek employment elsewhere, interstate or perhaps internationally and I wouldn't be the only professional to do this. If we didn't have mining, the whole community here would shrink, we'd lose many local businesses like cafes and restaurants. Mining keeps the businesses going during the week so they're here on the weekends for the tourists.
- Mining makes large contributions to local community organisations and not-for-profits. I don't see lock-the-gate or environment groups supporting our community and are particularly quiet on other developments in the local area.
- This project will generate \$370 million in royalties which will be directly spent on schools, hospitals and other critical infrastructure. NSW will be a poorer economy if we don't support sensible, job-building brownfield projects like this one.