

Andrew Forbes
2 Kime Rd
Mt Thorley
2330

25rd November 2020

NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
GPO Box 39, Sydney NSW 2001

To Whom It May Concern

Re: Maxwell Underground Coal Mine Project.

On behalf of the Daracon Group I am writing to lodge our support for Malabar Coal's Maxwell Underground Project.

On review of the proposed SSDA, 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.

As a local provider of employment in the construction and mining services industry it is evident that the following benefits can be achieved

- **COEXISTENCE:** The project is a common-sense "win-win" for our community. Malabar have 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.
- **ECONOMIC BENEFITS:** The Maxwell Project will create 350 new jobs for the region. These new jobs and the wages that will flow from them, will deliver a much needed boost to the local economy. 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 like this help ensure our ongoing prosperity and can support the economy for years to come.
- **JOB CREATION:** There will be up to 350 more skilled jobs for the local community. These jobs will inject around \$55 million in wages into our community. 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.
- **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.

- SOLAR PROJECT: 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 and to NSW.

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

Kind Regards



Andrew Forbes

Mining Business Development

Daracon Group