



MAXWELL UNDERGROUND MINE PROJECT

MINING OPTIMISATION MODIFICATION **MODIFICATION REPORT SUMMARY**



MODIFICATION REPORT SUMMARY

BACKGROUND

The Maxwell Underground Mine Project (the Project) is in the Upper Hunter Valley of New South Wales (NSW), east-southeast of Denman and south-southwest of Muswellbrook.

The Project is owned by Maxwell Ventures (Management) Pty Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of Malabar Resources Limited (Malabar).

Development Consent State Significant Development (SSD) 9526 for the Project was granted by the NSW Independent Planning Commission on 22 December 2020. The Project was subsequently approved under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* in March 2021 (EPBC 2018/8287).

The Project is an underground mining operation that is approved to operate for 26 years (until 2047).

Malabar previously sought to modify Development Consent SSD 9526 under section 4.55(1A) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) for a minor extension to the mine entry area (Modification 1). Modification 1 was subsequently approved on 19 November 2021.

Malabar is seeking to modify Development Consent SSD 9526 under section 4.55(2) of the EP&A Act (the Modification).

MODIFICATION OVERVIEW

The Modification is located wholly within the approved Development Application Area and would comprise the following components:

- re-orientation of the longwall panels in the Woodlands Hill, Arrowfield and Bowfield Seams resulting in a minor increase in the approved underground mining extent;
- reduction in the width of some of the longwall panels in the Woodlands Hill Seam;
- repositioning of the upcast ventilation shaft site and associated infrastructure; and
- other minor works and ancillary infrastructure components (e.g. access road and ancillary water management infrastructure for the repositioned ventilation shaft site).

The enclosed figure shows the modified general arrangement for the Project.

ASSESSMENT OF IMPACTS

The modified Project would continue to comply with existing criteria, performance measures and limits described in Development Consent SSD 9526.

The Modification would involve minimal additional environmental impact compared to the approved Project. Malabar would operate the modified Project in accordance with the existing environmental management plans and environmental monitoring programs.

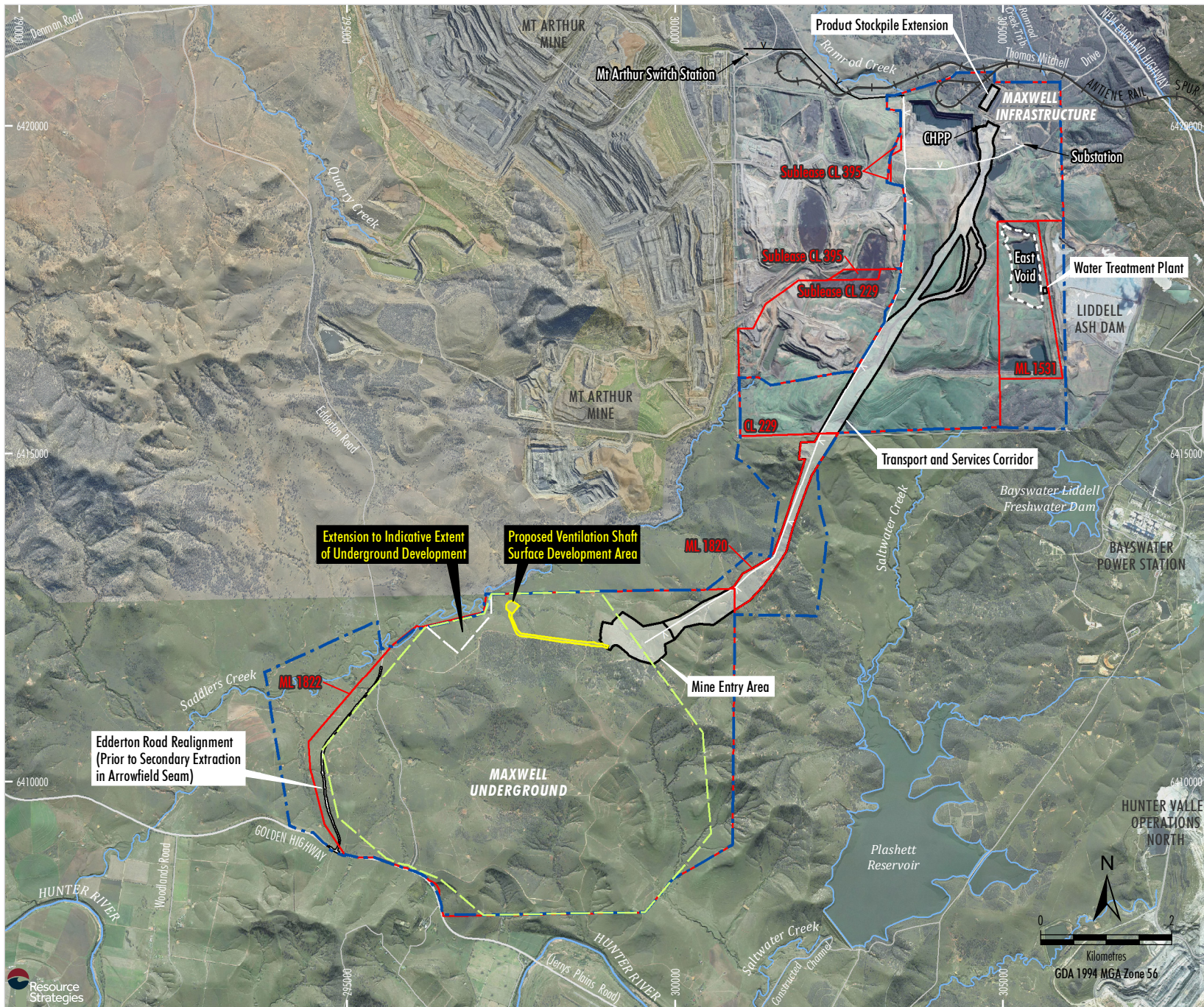
JUSTIFICATION FOR THE MODIFICATION

The NSW Independent Planning Commission found that the approved Project will “deliver significant economic benefits for the local area, region and State including 250 construction and 350 operational jobs”.

The modified Project would operate in accordance with Development Consent SSD 9526 and would be substantially the same as the approved Project.

The Modification would increase certainty of the Project being developed to its full capacity and the associated realisation of “significant economic benefits for the local area, region and State”. The Modification would provide the following benefits:

- improved mine safety due to aligning the underground mine plan more favourably with the geotechnical environment;
- improved management of subsidence impacts on Edderton Road;
- less development drivage required to achieve first longwall coal, resulting in earlier commencement of longwall production (and associated economic and community benefits);
- reduction in initial capital expenditure required to achieve steady-state production and future capital costs associated with modifications to longwall equipment;
- extraction of initial longwall panels in an area with lower gas content, which provides additional time to refine gas management strategies;
- minimises development drivage required to complete the shaft ventilation circuit, allowing development drivage to focus on achieving first longwall coal production earlier; and
- reduces life of mine ventilation pressures resulting in improved ventilation efficiency and reducing the risk of spontaneous combustion.



- LEGEND**
- Railway
 - Mining and Coal Lease Boundary
 - Proposed Ausgrid 66 kV Power Supply Extension #
 - Approved Maxwell Underground Mine
 - Development Application Area
 - Indicative Extent of Underground Development
 - Indicative Surface Development Area
 - CHPP Reject Placement Area
 - 66 kV Power Supply
 - Proposed Modification
 - Modified Indicative Extent of Underground Development
 - Indicative Modification Surface Development Area

Subject to separate assessment and approval.

Source: NSW Spatial Services (2022); MSEC (2021)
 Orthophoto Mosaic: 2020, 2019

MALABAR
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 Modified Maxwell Underground Mine

