

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

August 2023

This newsletter includes the latest news about:

- I. First coal train from the Maxwell Underground Mine
- II. Construction and operations update
- III. Recruitment drive for the Maxwell Underground Mine
- IV. Our work within the local community
- V. Malabar's NAIDOC celebrations and other Indigenous initiatives
- VI. Our rehabilitation and land management activities

Who we are

- Malabar Resources is an independent Australian-owned resources company based in the Upper Hunter Valley, in New South Wales.
- In addition to the Maxwell Underground Mine, we own the Maxwell Solar Farm based on rehabilitated land on the Maxwell Infrastructure site, Maxwell Infrastructure, the Spur Hill Underground Project, and agricultural properties including the Merton Vineyard.

Our strategy

Malabar recognises the need to transition to a low carbon economy which is why we have developed a unique strategy by employing underground mining methods, focusing on metallurgical coal, developing large scale renewable energy projects, and rehabilitating previously mined areas for sustainable activities including renewables and agriculture.



Maxwell Underground Mine update

Construction & Operations Update

Earlier this year, Malabar announced it had awarded a three-year contract to PIMS Mining (PIMS) to provide mining services for the Whynot Seam bord & pillar operation at the Maxwell Underground Mine. Mining has commenced in the Whynot Seam bord & pillar operation, creating approximately 130 direct jobs which will help to boost local employment and economic activity in the Upper Hunter Region.

The Woodlands Hill portal was recently completed and work has commenced on the drift construction (i.e. access tunnels) in preparation for the longwall operations. This work is being undertaken by PYBAR, a recognised underground mining contractor who specialises in drift construction and will create approximately 100 jobs.

The mine is expected to:

- Create over 250 new jobs and use the services of many local suppliers during construction
- Generate over 400 full-time long-term new jobs when in operation
- Deliver at least \$68 million in wages into the local economy each year.

First Coal Train

The first coal train departed from the Maxwell Underground Mine on 21 June 2023 for the Port of Newcastle and was discharged at the port later that day, marking a key milestone for the mine.

This follows the production of first coal from Maxwell Underground Mine in March 2023 and the processing of coal through our Coal Handling and Preparation Plant in early May.

Malabar would like to thank all its employees, consultants, contractors, suppliers and the local community for their long-term support in helping to reach this milestone.

Recruitment Drive

We are continuing to look for staff for the Maxwell Underground Mine with a wide range of opportunities available across all aspects of mining and operations.

Malabar offers long-term career prospects, competitive salaries and benefits including a comprehensive training program, on-site accommodation options, and opportunities for career advancement. We also prioritise work-life balance and provide a positive and inclusive workplace culture.

Wherever possible, we are prioritising employing locals because we know how important it is for the benefits of this enterprise to stay in the local community.

Further details on the roles on offer are available on our website at malabarresources.com.au/people-careers.

Operation of the Antiene Rail Spur

Malabar has recently lodged a proposal with the NSW Department of Planning and Environment to extend the life of the Antiene Rail Spur, which is the rail line servicing Maxwell Underground Mine and BHP's Mt Arthur Mine.

The proposal would extend the operation of the Antiene Rail Spur to 2047 to align with the approved operating life of the Maxwell Underground Mine, enabling the full benefits of the mine to be released for the community. Importantly, the proposal would not change any of the key elements of the rail spur's existing development consent, including transportation and train limits, transport noise requirements, and hours of operation.

Further details on the proposal are available on the NSW Department of Planning and Environment's website: www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/modification-1-extension-antiene-rail-spur-development.

Update on Malabar's renewables projects

Malabar is continually looking at ways we can reduce our emissions and our impact on the local environment.

We are developing two renewables projects which include:

- the approved 25 megawatt Maxwell Solar Farm, which will be located on rehabilitated land within the Maxwell Infrastructure site
- the Voltere Solar Farm, which is being developed with our partner EDF Renewables (EDF-R) and is still in initial planning stages.

Both projects are located in the NSW Government's designated Hunter-Central Coast Renewable Energy Zone.

We also continue to work with EDF-R to consider options to increase renewable generation and the potential for battery storage. EDF-R brings global and local expertise and has a presence in more than 22 countries, with its renewable generation portfolio exceeding 15,000 megawatts from solar and wind.

Malabar in the community

Malabar continues to engage with community stakeholders through its Community Consultative Committee (CCC) which meets on a quarterly basis. The CCC provides a forum for discussion between Malabar and representatives of the local community, key stakeholder groups and the local council on issues relating directly to the Maxwell Underground Mine.

The most recent meeting of the CCC was held on 21st June at Malabar Resources and covered items including:

- Update on Spur Hill Exploration
- Update on Maxwell Underground Mine
- Rehabilitation and land management update
- Review of environmental monitoring data

Meeting minutes can be found on the Malabar website: malabarresources.com.au/sustainability/community

Community Sponsorships

Malabar is an active participant in the local community and continues to support a wide range of local groups, businesses, and charities. Sponsorships during the last quarter included:

- Muswellbrook High School NAIDOC League Tag
- Mt Arthur Wild Dog Association
- Muswellbrook South Public School
- Jerry's Plains Public School
- MCCI - Great Cattle Dog Muster event

Community support

Malabar maintains a 24-hour community hotline (1800 653 960) for any issues or enquiries related to our operations or our plans for the local area. To date no complaints have been registered.



Malabar celebrates NAIDOC Week

On 12 July we recognised this year's NAIDOC Week with a celebration at the Maxwell Underground Mine.

With plenty of food on offer and local Aboriginal dancers from Waagan Galga, Maxwell's NAIDOC celebrations, saw a wide range of Malabar staff, contractors and suppliers – as well as important community groups – gather for the occasion.

Attendees included the Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council, members from Maxwell's Community Consultative Committee, local Councillors and Steve Fordham Managing Director from Blackrock and the Second Chance for Change Program.

The event also included the unveiling of Maxwell's newest artwork. Talented local Indigenous artist Daniel Ellis painted the masterpiece, which depicts some of Maxwell's local surrounds, including Mount Arthur, Saddlers Creek and the totem of the local Wanaruah people, the wedge-tailed eagle. The Maxwell Mine is the centrepiece of the painting, representing a meeting place where everyone is equal.

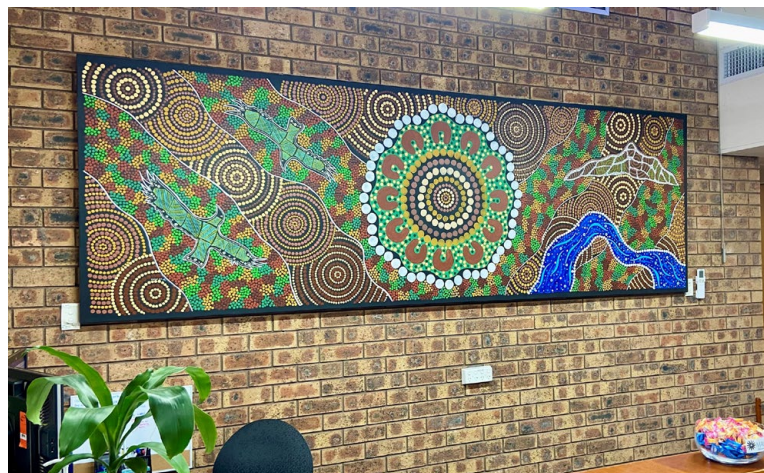
The commissioning of the artwork complements other activities Maxwell is undertaking to promote cultural awareness on site, including the provision of indigenous hi-vis work shirts of which 10% of profits from the shirts go towards the Brungle Bush Tucker Garden & Workshops, and a further 10% is set to be reinvested in the Indymarra Ngumbaay Aboriginal Corporation.

A new Acknowledgement of Country sign has also been installed at the main reception entrance and cultural awareness training is being developed for all staff, including senior management.

Rehabilitation update

Since our last update, we have continued to work on the rehabilitation of the previous open cut mine at Maxwell Infrastructure.

- A total of 21,000 trees were planted in May 2023. Since taking ownership of the site we have planted over 110,000 trees in our woodland corridor with the total trees planted at site exceeding 350,000.
- Key land management activities such as weed spraying and feral animal management continue on site and within our biodiversity offset areas.
- Maxwell is also continuing to successfully graze cattle on pasture mine rehabilitation.




Contact us

If you have any other questions about Malabar Resources or any of our projects, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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