

The Hon Gladys Berejiklian
Premier
GPO Box 5341
SYDNEY NSW 2001

9 October 2017

Dear Premier,

We are coming together to express our support for Malabar Coal's proposal for an underground coal mine within EL 5460, the site previously known as Drayton South. We understand you and your parliamentary colleagues are currently reviewing the application to renew the exploration licence (EL) and that a decision is imminent.

We are each committed to the Hunter Region, and understand the significant economic boost this Project could deliver.

Particularly, we would draw your attention to the following:

1. We understand the project will deliver about **350 new, direct, long-term jobs** into the region and many more indirect jobs. This will provide a real boost for the local economy, keeping families and young people in the region. This will provide flow on benefits to other parts of the economy as local wages are spent in our towns. Mining semi-soft coking coal, used in steel making, will also increase the diversity of our local economy.
2. During the construction phase and once mining begins, **the project will support local businesses**. The project will provide ongoing support for local businesses from the initial capital to establish an underground mine and substantial ongoing operating inputs.
3. Malabar's proposal for an underground mine only will deliver **certainty** to a community that has been frustrated by ongoing attempts to obtain approval for an open-cut coal mine on the site.
4. Malabar has outlined a different approach to **rehabilitation** of the Drayton mine that will deliver a far better outcome for locals. The local community has welcomed this improved outcome.

While we may differ on a range of issues, we unanimously support Malabar's proposal for the site and wanted to convey this support to you.

We understand the importance of co-existence in our region. Our hope is that you can see this proposal, which is vastly different to past proposals for the site, can deliver the economic boost we desperately want, while also addressing the concerns of other industries or stakeholders.

Of course, any future proposal would have to pass through the State's stringent planning approvals process. The renewal of the EL is not in any way an approval, it just provides the opportunity for Malabar to submit a proposal must be considered on its merits.

We have copied this letter to your parliamentary colleagues the Deputy Premier, the Hon. Don Harwin MP, and the Hon. Anthony Roberts MP.

Should you have any questions, contact details for each signatory are listed below.

Yours sincerely,



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