



Mount Pleasant Operation

6<sup>th</sup> September 2022

## **MACH Energy Response to IPC Decision**

MACH Energy today welcomed the decision by the Independent Planning Commission NSW (IPC) to approve the Mount Pleasant Optimisation Project (the Project).

The Project's approval will extend the mine life of Mount Pleasant from 2026 to 2048.

The Project will see a gradual and staged increase in mining activity at Mount Pleasant within a consolidated mine area, with mining activity moving away from the town of Muswellbrook.

Local operational job numbers will increase from 380 to 830 at peak production as over \$1 billion of additional capital is invested in the mine over coming years.

MACH Energy Managing Director, Ferdian Purnamasidi, said the IPC decision marked an important milestone for the local community.

"Over recent years, there has been growing uncertainty across the Hunter Valley as some mines close and wind down production.

"The Hunter Valley is a diverse region where a range of industries co-exist.

"This Project provides scope for that co-existence to continue as longer-term structural changes take place across the Valley.

"Today's decision by the IPC finally provides certainty for local communities and ensures Mount Pleasant can continue to contribute to those local communities and the entire State for many years to come.

"We acknowledge the significant conditions that have been attached to this approval and will continue to take an evidence-based approach to meeting our responsibilities as the operators of this important Project," Mr Purnamasidi said.

Hundreds of local residents provided submissions to the IPC during the extensive consultation process.

A number of independent specialists in areas such as biodiversity, air quality, groundwater and noise provided input into the assessment process, while 19 Commonwealth, State and Local Government agencies provided comprehensive analysis and recommendations.

51 speakers provided input at the IPC public hearing, including representatives from a variety of community, business and environment groups.

Additional information on the IPC's comprehensive assessment process can be found at

<https://www.ipcn.nsw.gov.au/projects/2022/05/mt-pleasant-optimisation-project-ssd-10418> and <https://pp.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/mount-pleasant-optimisation-project>

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