Any worries the community might have had regarding how Malabar Coal intends to do business are being put to rest. Just one week after officially taking ownership of the site on February 26, Malabar Coal has proudly informed us that it has begun rehabilitation of the Drayton Mine.

THE FIRST BULLDOZER COMMENCED WORK ON THE MINE SITE IN THE UPPER HUNTER THAT WEEK – THE FIRST STEP IN A TWO-YEAR REHABILITATION PROGRAM.

Malabar Coal Chairman Wayne Seabrook said he was extremely pleased to see progress so quickly, "Malabar has been eager to start rehabilitating the site since taking ownership and have hit the ground running to restore the land thanks to the effort of the staff at the mine led by local mining engineer Rob Hayes."

© The Coalface has gotten to know the people behind this project and looked very closely not only at their plans but talked extensively with the people charged with bringing the vision to life. Without trying to sound biased, they are delivering even more than they say they will. They are people of their word in all we have seen so far and if this down to earth open and progressive approach continues, there is no doubt one of our most controversial mines will become one of our most admired.

Mr. Seabrook said, “Mine rehabilitation is a multifaceted process and one we take extremely seriously. It is critical that miners fulfill their obligations to the community by restoring the land for our future generations. We’ve had some preliminary conversations with members of the local community about the different ways the land might be used once we have finished rehabilitation. We will continue to engage with the community as we work our way to a final decision.”

“It’s been great to formally take control of these assets and to be able to get to work so quickly. I’ve really enjoyed being on site and meeting our newest employees. At Malabar Coal, we do what we say we will do. Getting started on the rehab so quickly is an important way for us to show our commitment to living up to our promises.”

© The Coalface look forward to seeing and hearing lots more about progress on this project and what will be achieved and sharing it with the community.