



13th June 2019

Rix's Creek Continuation of Mining Project

Project Newsletter Number 6 - June 2019

This newsletter covers important developments in the Rix's Creek South (RCS) approval process. It forms part of our commitment to maintaining an open and constructive relationship with our neighbours and the community.

The Bloomfield Group and Rix's Creek Mine

The Bloomfield Group is a proud and successful Australian mining and engineering group. Australian owned and operated, Bloomfield has been part of the Hunter for more than 80 years and now employs almost 600 local people. Bloomfield operates the Rix's Creek Mine northwest of Singleton. The mine includes Rix's Creek North (RCN) and Rix's Creek South (RCS).

Continuation of Mining Project – Update

We are seeking approvals to continue operations at RCS for the next 21 years. The overall continuation of mining project consent application would see the current Rix's Creek South operations progress in a westward direction away from Singleton, with land being backfilled and remediated as has happened since the mine started in 1990. If approved, it will be very much business as usual at the site, with our neighbours and the surrounding community not likely to notice any significant change. The continuation was always intended when the mine started 30 years ago and will allow the remaining open cut resource to be fully mined.

We commenced the continuation application process more than six years ago. The Independent Planning Commission Public Hearing on the project took place this time last year. We have worked tirelessly and in good faith to follow the planning process during this significant period of time.

At this stage a determination on this project has not been reached.

Approval of a short-term consent extension for operations at Rix's Creek South Mine

The approval to mine coal from RCS was set to expire on 24 June 2019. On 12 June 2019, Bloomfield was advised that the Independent Planning Commission

had approved a short-term extension of nine months at the operation.

The decision provides the Independent Planning Commission with additional time to complete its assessment of the long-term continuation consent application, and allows the mine to continue operating until March 2020.

All aspects of the mining operations will remain as currently approved, including within the current approved footprint.

The total material that will be extracted and processed during the extension period will be within the volumes that were expected to be mined by this time under DA 49/94. Operational activities will be consistent with the Approval and have therefore been previously assessed.

Summary

Operations at Rix's Creek will be business as usual for the immediate future.

We remain in a process seeking a determination on the long-term Continuation project for the Rix's Creek South Mine. Once a determination on the long-term continuation consent application has been made we will provide you with a further update.

More information

If you have any questions about the Project or require further information please contact:

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