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Environmental Management System

Rix's Creek South

SOCIAL IMPACT MANAGEMENT PLAN

Doc No: Social Impact Management Plan

Doc Owner: Chris Knight - Environment Manager

Approval: Group Environmental Manager – The Bloomfield Group

Signed: C Knight

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Table of Contents

1	Introduction	4
1.1	Background	4
1.2	Local Setting	4
1.3	Document Structure.....	5
2	Statutory Requirements.....	8
2.1	Social Impact Management Plan Conditions	8
2.2	Environmental Impact Statement Commitments.....	9
2.3	Planning Agreement.....	9
2.4	Plan Objectives and Performance Indicators.....	9
3	Stakeholder Consultation	10
3.1	Department of Planning, Industry and Environment	10
3.2	Singleton Shire Council	10
3.3	Community and other interested Stakeholder Consultation	10
4	Social Baseline	11
4.1	Background.....	11
4.2	Existing Social Environment	11
5	Impact and Opportunity Assessment	13
5.1	Local Impacts and Opportunities.....	13
5.1.1	Local Impacts	15
5.1.2	Local Opportunities.....	18
5.2	Regional Impacts and Opportunities	19
5.3	Mine Closure and Decommissioning.....	20
5.3.1	Loss of Employment and Supply Arrangements	20
5.3.2	Post mining land use.....	21
5.3.3	Camberwell Village	21
5.3.4	Town of Singleton.....	21
6	Mitigation Measures	23
6.1	General Measures	23
6.2	Camberwell Village.....	23
6.3	Town of Singleton.....	23
7	Stakeholder Engagement Plan	26
8	Monitoring and Review.....	28
9	Compliance Protocol	30
9.1	Compliance Reporting	30
9.2	Complaints Handling	30
10	Reporting and Review	32
10.1	Annual Review	32
10.2	Auditing.....	32
10.3	Management Plan Review	32
11	Roles and Responsibilities.....	34
12	References	35

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix’s Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	2 of 48

List of Tables

Table 1	SSD 6300 Management Plan Conditions.....	8
Table 2	Plan Objective and Performance Indicators.....	9
Table 3	Local Mining Operations	13
Table 4	Social Impacts and associated Management Approaches	24
Table 5	Indicative Stakeholder Engagement Plan	26
Table 6	Monitoring Program	28
Table 7	Roles and Responsibilities	34

List of Figures

Figure 1	Locality	6
Figure 2	Conceptual Approved Rix's Creek South Mine	7

List of Appendices

- Appendix A – Land Ownership Figure
- Appendix B – Development Consent Conditions
- Appendix C – Regulatory Correspondence
- Appendix D – EIS Commitments

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix's Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	3 of 48

1 Introduction

Rix's Creek Mine (RCM) is an open cut coal mine owned and operated by The Bloomfield Group (Bloomfield). RCM comprises the original Rix's Creek Mine, now known as Rix's Creek South (RCS) and the former Integra Open Cut Project Mine now known as Rix's Creek North (RCN).

RCM is located approximately 5 to 10 km north-west of Singleton both east and west of the New England Highway (NEH) (**Figure 1**).

This Social Impact Management Plan (SIMP) forms part of a series of Environmental Management Plans for RCM. This SIMP is applicable to RCS only and is the primary tool that will be utilised to manage social impacts for RCS.

1.1 Background

Operations at RCS commenced in 1990. Mining has been completed in the original Pit 1 and Pit 2 areas in line with Development Approval DA 49/94 on the east side of the New England Highway (NEH), which have been mostly backfilled and rehabilitated. The 'Rix's Creek South Continuation Project' (the Project) received approval for State Significant Development (SSD) 6300 on 12 October 2019 which allows expansion of the West Pit on the west side of the NEH and mining of a small section on the eastern side of the highway. The approved operations within RCS are shown in **Figure 2**.

RCS is approved under SSD 6300 until 12 October 2040 for the following operations:

- West Pit (previously known as Pit 3) and associated OEAs;
- North Pit (on the eastern side of the New England Highway);
- RCS CHPP;
- Train loading facility located on the RCN rail loop and clean coal stockpiles; and
- Associated maintenance and administration buildings.

SSD 6300 commenced on 24 February 2020.

1.2 Local Setting

RCS is located in the Hunter Valley region of New South Wales (NSW), northwest of Singleton and southeast of Camberwell (see **Figure 1**).

The area surrounding RCS typically comprises various open cut and underground coal mining operations, agricultural operations, industrial and commercial activities and a mix of rural residences and urban residential areas.

The majority of land to the north-west of RCS is privately owned or owned by Ashton mine, with RCN located directly north. A number of private residences are located surrounding RCS, as shown in **Appendix A**. The highest density of private residences is located to the south-east and an industrial precinct is located to the south of RCM. The private residences are more sparsely located in areas to the west, north and northeast.

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix's Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	4 of 48

1.3 Document Structure

The remainder of the SIMP is structured as follows:

- Section 2:** Outlines the statutory requirements applicable to the SIMP.
- Section 3:** Describes the Stakeholder Consultation undertaken.
- Section 4:** Summarises the Social Baseline for RCS.
- Section 5:** Discusses the Impact and Opportunity Assessment
- Section 6:** Discusses the general mitigation measures to be implemented.
- Section 7:** Includes the Stakeholder Engagement Plan.
- Section 8:** Details the monitoring and review to be undertaken.
- Section 9:** Describes the compliance protocol.
- Section 10:** Provides details for the reporting and review of the environmental performance process.
- Section 11:** Provides a summary of responsibilities relevant to this SIMP.
- Section 12:** Provides the references cited in the SIMP.

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix's Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	5 of 48



Figure 1
Locality

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix's Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	6 of 48

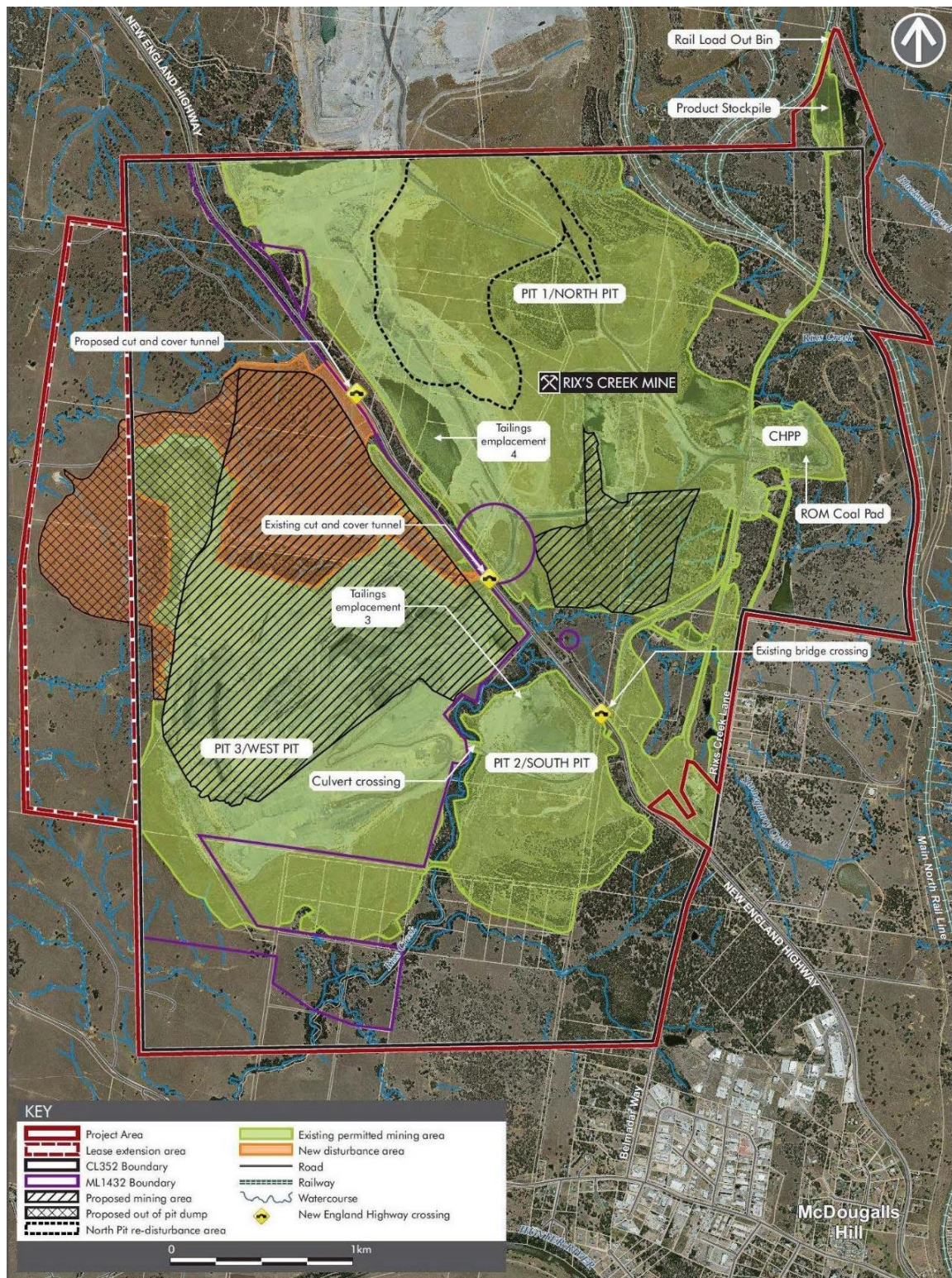


Figure 2
Conceptual Approved Rix's Creek South Mine

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix’s Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	7 of 48

2 Statutory Requirements

2.1 Social Impact Management Plan Conditions

The operations at RCS are subject to the conditions contained in SSD 6300.

The specific requirements for the SIMP and where each condition is addressed is provided in **Table 1**. Other relevant conditions are provided in **Appendix B**.

Table 1
SSD 6300 Management Plan Conditions

Ref	Condition	Section
Condition B76	The Applicant must prepare a Social Impact Management Plan for the development to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. This plan must:	
	(a) be prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced person/s;	Title Page
	(b) Be prepared in consultation with Council, the CCC, local affected communities and other interested stakeholders;	3 and Appendix C
	(c) Be submitted to the Planning Secretary for approval within six months of commencing development under this consent;	Appendix C
	(d) identify both positive and negative social impacts resulting from the development and following mine closure, both locally and regionally;	4
	(e) specify adaptive management and mitigation measures to avoid, minimise, and/or mitigate negative social impacts;	6
	(f) identify opportunities to secure and enhance positive social impacts from the development, including opportunities to assist in maintaining community services and facilities;	6
	(g) include a stakeholder engagement plan to guide the evaluation and implementation of social impact management and mitigation measures, and	7
	(h) include a program to monitor, review and report on the effectiveness of these measures, including updating the plan 3 years prior to mine closure.	8
Condition B77	The Applicant must implement the Social Impact Management Plan as approved by the Planning Secretary.	11

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix's Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	8 of 48

2.2 Environmental Impact Statement Commitments

Appendix D lists the Biodiversity management commitments made in the *Rix's Creek Continuation of Mining Environmental Impact Statement* (AECOM, 2015) (RCS EIS) and indicates where each is addressed in this SIMP.

2.3 Planning Agreement

Condition A17 of SSD 6300 requires Bloomfield to enter into a Planning Agreement (PA) with Singleton Shire Council within six months of commencing development under the consent or other timeframe agreed by the Planning Secretary. This PA must be in accordance with Division 7.1 of Part 7 of the EP&A Act and the terms of the offer in Appendix 8 of SSD 6300 (**Appendix D**).

2.4 Plan Objectives and Performance Indicators

The primary objectives of the SIMP and associated performance indicators are presented in **Table 2**.

Table 2
Plan Objective and Performance Indicators

Objectives	Performance Indicators
Compliance with legislative requirements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliance with the planning approvals. Compliance with the mitigation measures in Section 6.
Minimise the Social impacts of the development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of the management actions in Section 6.

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix's Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	9 of 48

3 Stakeholder Consultation

3.1 Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

Condition B50(c) of SSD 6300 requires Bloomfield to submit the SIMP to the Secretary of DPIE (Planning Secretary) for approval within six months of commencing development. Development commenced on 24 February 2020.

This SIMP was submitted to DPIE for approval on 18/8/2020.

A copy of regulatory correspondence is provided in **Appendix C**.

3.2 Singleton Shire Council

The draft SIMP was provided to the Singleton Shire Council (SSC) on 13 July 2020 for consultation and comment. At the time of submission of the Plan Singleton Shire Council had not provided a response to the Social Impact Management Plan, however provided an interim response noting that they will provide comments at a later date. A copy of emails sent to Singleton Council to demonstrate attempted consultation is provided in **Appendix C**.

3.3 Community and other interested Stakeholder Consultation

The draft SIMP was provided to the Community Consultation Committee (CCC) on 13 July 2020 for consultation and comment. No responses were received from the CCC.

A Newsletter inviting the community to comment on the draft Social Impact Management Plan was distributed to over 190 surrounding neighbours on 14 July 2020. Further copies of the Newsletter were also provided to Singleton Council for distribution at the Council Chambers, Singleton Library and Singleton Visitors Centre. A copy of the newsletter was also placed on the community noticeboard at Coles in Singleton and also placed on the Bloomfield Website. Furthermore, an email was also sent to 21 surrounding neighbours inviting their comment on the SIMP. No responses were received from the Community. A copy of the Newsletter is provided in **Appendix C**.

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix's Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	10 of 48

4 Social Baseline

This section discusses the social baseline developed for the Social Impact Assessment. It also discusses current NSW and SSC policies and guidelines relevant to this SIMP.

4.1 Background

A *Social Impact and Opportunity Assessment* (Umwelt, 2015) (SIA) was undertaken to support the RCS EIS. The SIA aimed to understand, from a community perspective, the issues, impacts and opportunities associated with the Project as well as the broader community values and land uses associated with the assessment area. The specific objectives of the SIA were:

- Develop an understanding of the existing social environment;
- To identify and assess the potential social impacts (positive and negative) associated with the Project;
- To develop management strategies aimed at mitigating the negative impacts and at maximising identified opportunities arising from the Project;
- To facilitate further continued community engagement and information sharing through the provision of a transparent identification and assessment of the potential social impacts of the proposed development.

4.2 Existing Social Environment

As discussed in **Section 1.2**, RCS is generally surrounded by mines and mine owned land to the north and north west, private land to the north west, west and south, the village of Camberwell to the west and the town of Singleton to the south-east with other private lifestyle living to the east and north-east.

The village of Camberwell currently contains five private residences, with the remaining properties being mine owned (**Appendix A**).

The RCS EIS undertook a demographic analysis of the local area using the 2011 census. This identified that:

- The median price of weekly rent and the median cost of mortgages in most of the local area (Singleton and surrounding suburbs, including Camberwell and Maison Dieu) were at least 10% higher than the State average (the exceptions being in Camberwell for rent and in Maison Dieu for mortgages);
- In 2011, the largest sector of employment for the local area was mining (ranging from 19.2% to 26.8%), whereas the mining industry only accounted for 1% of total employment in NSW.
- Both the median weekly personal income and the median weekly household income were higher than the State average across the local area, while the Hunter Valley showed median personal and household incomes below the State average;

A review of the 2016 Census data identified that median incomes in the Singleton LGA were generally still higher than the NSW average, while the median price of weekly rent and monthly mortgage repayments

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix's Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	11 of 48

were now lower than the NSW average. Mining was still the largest sector of employment for the area at 22%.

During the preparation of the RCS EIS, the existing RCS workforce was provided with information about the Project and was actively involved in aspects of the SIA. All Bloomfield staff were surveyed regarding a number of aspects of their employment, travel to work, residential location amongst others, as well as their engagement with the local community in regard to social, educational, business and related aspects. The information obtained provided a picture of the relationship between RCS employees and the wider community. Full details of the outcomes of employee consultation are provided in the SIA (AECOM, 2015).

The key characteristics of Bloomfield's workforce were:

- The workforce was relatively stable with over 96% of personnel employed on a permanent full-time basis;
- The most common level of school education completed by employees was Year 10 or below (55%), while 32% of employees completed Year 12. Nearly 50% of the workforce holds a Trade/TAFE qualification;
- Approximately 53% of employees have a mortgage while 25% own their property outright; approximately 14% of employees are renting.

Approximately 35% of RCS employees live in Singleton, with a high proportion of their expenditure being in Singleton (38%).

The makeup of the workforce has not changed significantly since 2015.

The survey of the principal Bloomfield Group suppliers (local, State and national suppliers) showed that an estimated annual expenditure of approximately \$52.5 million was directly dependent upon Bloomfield operations. Local businesses/suppliers (Singleton) generated expenditure of \$13.1 million and \$22.0 million was generated from regional businesses/suppliers (wider Hunter Valley). Bloomfield has continued to support local and regional businesses through its approach of seeking to work with and support local businesses first.

Bloomfield financially supports local organisations through The Bloomfield Group Foundation (TBGF) and other sponsorship programs, and encourages employees to participate in charitable and community events. Through The Bloomfield Group Foundation, Bloomfield donates to community based programs and projects that directly support local people.

At the time of the development of this Management Plan Bloomfield are finalising the requirements of the VPA with SSC.

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix's Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	12 of 48

5 Impact and Opportunity Assessment

This section discusses the local and regional impacts and opportunities of the Project, both locally and regionally. It focuses on operational impacts and opportunities, with closure after year 2040 also discussed at a relevant level.

5.1 Local Impacts and Opportunities

As discussed in **Section 1.2**, RCS is located in an area surrounded by various mining operations. All mining operations provide support to the local community through direct employment, support of local businesses, community sponsorship and Planning Agreements with local Councils. Social benefits and impacts are generally also from a combination of mining operations.

The approved Life of Mine and the employment levels for surrounding mines are provided in **Table 3**.

Table 3
Local Mining Operations

Mining Operation	Life of Mine*	Employment level [#]	Approximate Distance from RCS*
Ashton Mine	26 February 2024 or 12 years following recommencement of open cut operations	386 FTE	8 km
Mount Owen Continued Operations	31 December 2031	280 FTE	11 km
Mount Thorley Warkworth Continuation Projects	21 years (approx. 2036)	1,300 FTE	13 km
United Wambo Open Cut Coal Mine	23 years until 31 August 2042	500 FTE	14 km
Ravensworth Operations	31 December 2039	550 FTE	14 km
Liddell Coal Mine	31 December 2028	Not available	16 km
Hunter Valley Operations Complex	South – 21 years (approx. 2030) North – 12 June 2025	1,500 FTE	16 km
Bulga Optimisation Project	31 December 2035	1,000 FTE	19 km

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix’s Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	13 of 48

Mining Operation	Life of Mine*	Employment level [#]	Approximate Distance from RCS*
Mt Arthur Mining Complex	30 June 2026	2,600 FTE	30 km
Muswellbrook Coal Mine	31 December 2022	93 FTE	36 km
Mount Pleasant Operations	22 December 2026	330 FTE	40 km
Bengalla Continuation Project	28 February 2039	900 FTE	40 km
Mangoola Coal Project	21 years from grant of mining lease (to November 2029)	450 FTE	48 km

* based on most recent development consent

[#] based on most recent employment numbers provided in environmental assessment documentation or Annual Review

* determined from Google Earth as straight distance between administration areas

The RCS EIS and SIA conducted a range of community consultation and data reviews to identify perceived local social risks and opportunities from the Project. This included:

- A review of the issues screening process undertaken by AECOM during preparation of the *Preliminary Environmental Assessment* (AECOM, 2014) (PEA) (**Section 5.1.1.1**);
- A review of historical and existing issues via analysis of previous complaints (**Section 5.1.1.2**);
- Analysis of CCC meeting minutes (**Section 5.1.1.3**);
- Stakeholder consultation undertaken by AECOM and described in Section 9 of the RCS EIS (**Section 5.1.1.4**); and
- A review of other benefits and impacts such as population change, economics and community infrastructure and services (**Sections 5.1.1.6 and 5.1.1.7**).

No issues in relation to closure were raised.

More recent analysis of complaints, CCC meeting minutes and issues raised during the Project assessment has been undertaken and is discussed below.

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix's Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	14 of 48

5.1.1 Local Impacts

5.1.1.1 Issues Screening

During preparation of the Preliminary Environmental Assessment for the Project, AECOM undertook an issues screening process in order to identify the key issues likely to be most relevant to the Project. A component of the issues screening process was a broad review of key issues raised in public submissions in relation to other major coal mining projects during planning assessment processes over the past 5 years. As such, these issues raised provide a regional scale indication of community interest and stakeholder perceptions regarding mining, which may also be relevant to RCS (Umwelt, 2015).

This screening process identified that the majority of community concern was related to amenity impacts including dust, noise and the loss of ecology. Social opportunities raised included an increase in demand for local services and the creation of jobs (Umwelt, 2015).

During the assessment process of SSD6300, the following additional issues and opportunities were raised in relation to social impact from the Project:

Revised Response to Submissions (AECOM, 2017)

- SSC raised a concern in relation to the rezoning of land to the north of Singleton to residential land and the amenity impacts the Project may have on this land;
- Public submissions noted concerns regarding impacts to passenger rail services;
- Public submissions raised concerns regarding the final landuse, including possible geotechnical issues impacting the New England Highway; and
- The majority (approximately 70%) of public submissions noted the opportunity of ongoing employment and economic benefits from the Project.

Response to IPC Recommendations (AECOM, 2018)

- The IPC requested clarification regarding mine closure planning and ongoing community engagement. Bloomfield updated the Rehabilitation Strategy to address these requests.

Response to IPC Queries (Hansen Bailey, 2018)

- Further clarification was provided to the IPC in relation to the mine entering unexpected closure or care and maintenance. The IPC also requested clarification on final void options. Bloomfield identified that the Mining Operations Plan and the SIMP (this document) provides a plan for closure and both documents will be updated within three years of closure. Consultation for final landuse and void options will be conducted as discussed in **Section 5.3, 6 and 8**.

5.1.1.2 Community Complaints

Umwelt (2015) summarised a review of the RCS register of community enquiries and complaints for the calendar years 2002 to 2015. The majority of enquiries and complaints received during this time were amenity-related in relation to blasting, noise and dust.

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix's Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	15 of 48

A review of complaints and enquiries reported in the 2016 to 2019 Annual Reviews did not identify any changes in the issues raised.

No issues in relation to closure have been raised to date.

5.1.1.3 Community Consultative Committee

Enquiries are also received through the Rix's Creek Mine CCC. At the time of the SIA, the CCC was comprised of one chairperson, four community representatives and three Bloomfield employees. The CCC followed the *Guidelines for establishing and operating Community Consultative Committees* (Department of Planning, 2007), and met twice a year.

A review of the CCC minutes from 2009 to 2014 was undertaken. A total account of environmental complaints and enquiries, as discussed in the CCC minutes from May 2014, shows 19 complaints and five enquiries concerning a combination of blasting noise and odour. In 2013 a total of eight complaints and three enquiries were lodged in response to a total of seven blasts. In addition, a total of 10 complaints and one enquiry were lodged regarding noise. The CCC notes that the majority of these came from the Maison Dieu area during periods when a North Westerly wind was evident.

Overall, key points arising from the analysis of CCC minutes include the ongoing provision of environmental monitoring data from RCS, open communication with CCC members, complaints review and active management of these complaints by Bloomfield (Umwelt, 2015).

With the purchase of the Integra Open Cut Mine, the CCCs were amalgamated to create one CCC for RCM. A review of CCC meeting minutes since 2015 did not reveal any additional social issues.

The combined CCC now comprises of one independent chairperson, a representative from Singleton Council and six (6) community members. The CCC meets twice a year, with additional meetings as required and operates in accordance with the *Community Consultative Committee Guideline for State Significant Projects January 2019* (DPE, 2019).

The RCM CCC minutes can be viewed on the Bloomfield website at:

<https://www.bloomcoll.com.au/sustainability/environmental-management/rixs-creek-assessments/ccc-minutes>

5.1.1.4 Stakeholder Consultation

The Project team, with AECOM, undertook the stakeholder consultation program to ensure relevant stakeholders were informed of the Project and had the opportunity to provide input during project planning. Engagement activities were undertaken according to the *Rix's Creek Stakeholder Engagement Strategy* (AECOM, 2013). Program activities included development and implementation of:

- A Project webpage (part of Bloomfield's larger website);
- Briefings to government agencies;
- Stakeholder letters;
- Newspaper advertising (including proactive media releases featuring RCS);

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix's Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	16 of 48

- Community newsletters distributed to all residents in the Singleton township and around RCS in February and September 2014 and October 2015;
- General public tours of the project site and mine rehabilitation area associated with the Hunter Coal Festival and Tom Farrell Rehabilitation Context Site Visit
- Community Information Sessions (held in November 2015);
- Site inspections (for government agencies and the CCC);
- Consultation with Aboriginal stakeholders through the *Aboriginal Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment* (AECOM, 2014);
- Engagement with Rix's Creek and the broader Bloomfield workforce; and
- Public exhibition of the EIS on the DPIE website between 3 November and 3 December 2015.

Additional informal consultation was also provided to those residents in close proximity to RCS. Generally these residents have long relationships with Bloomfield and are in regular contact with Bloomfield regarding operations. Representatives of RCS held meetings with residents to discuss the Project in more detail and brief them on the progress of the environmental impact assessment, its outcomes, and what this may mean for them (AECOM, 2015).

Specific social issues raised by the community during community consultation included amenity concerns (air quality and noise), access to land in proximity to the new mine lease and concerns that the new access off the New England Highway may be more dangerous due to two-way traffic interactions.

5.1.1.5 Local Community Values

Social values of importance to the local community were gauged and incorporated into the development of the Singleton Council Community Strategic Plan *'Our Place: A Blueprint 2023'* (Singleton Council, 2013) (the Plan).

The Plan highlighted that the environment is of high value to Singleton residents, giving priority to the protection of the natural and built environment, sustainability in all actions and environmental. Residents value its local places and the Plan has a focus on safety, affordability, connectedness, heritage and sustainable assets.

The current Community Strategic Plan *Singleton Community Strategic Plan 2017 – 2027* identifies similar objectives and strategies, with a greater focus on the need to develop a more diversified and resilient economy for the next 10-year period.

Future Strategic Plans (or replacement document/s) will be considered in future revisions to this SIMP.

No issues in relation to social impacts related to mine closure are included in the Community Strategic Plan.

5.1.1.6 Population Change

AECOM (2015) considered four scenarios to determine the risk of population change within Singleton LGA. The scenarios are detailed in Section 19.2.2 of the RCS EIS. The worst case scenario presumed a total

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix's Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	17 of 48

increase of 99 people (employees plus families) within the Singleton LGA, which was considered unlikely to cause any community level impacts as the total population at the 2016 Census was 22,987.

Population change was considered a low social risk for the Project.

5.1.1.7 Community Infrastructure and Services

Using the workforce scenarios discussed in **Section 5.2**, an analysis was undertaken of the potential impacts of the Project on accommodation and housing and community facilities and services. Project factors that can impact community services and infrastructure include:

- Changing demand due to an increase in temporary or permanent population;
- Changing behaviours of users, such as workforce rosters determining patterns of peak service utilisation; and/or
- Direct impacts on physical infrastructure during project construction and/or operation.

Accommodation and Housing

Data from 2005-2015 indicated that there had been an overall increase in the availability of rental properties and of properties for sale within the Singleton LGA since late 2012. Consequently, it was considered that there was sufficient capacity within the housing stock to accommodate even the 'worst case' workforce scenario (scenario 2B) for incoming workers within the Singleton area. No further scenarios were assessed.

A recent search (June 2020) of the Realestate.com.au website identified 39 properties for rent and 167 properties for sale within the Singleton urban area, with the demand for properties being well below (approximately 20%) the NSW average.

Community Facilities and Services

Analysis of population estimates between 2004-2014 indicated that while Singleton had experienced higher population growth rates than NSW between 2004-2008, growth had generally slowed especially from 2011-2013, potentially due to the lack of housing in the LGA, followed by mine and associated temporary construction workforces leaving the area at the end of this period.

The Singleton Council community profile website indicates that the population within the Singleton LGA has generally remained steady since 2014 up to 2019 (Singleton Council, 2019).

Impacts on accommodation and housing, community facilities and services are considered a low social risk for the Project.

5.1.2 Local Opportunities

Potential economic opportunities of the Project were considered to include:

- Creation of up to 70 additional operational jobs at RCS and the continuation of existing jobs;
- Indirect employment generating opportunities;
- Increases in total output and associated economic impacts; and
- Increases in employee expenditure in proximal towns and regions.

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix's Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	18 of 48

The SIA estimated the annual expenditure of RCS employees to be approximately \$6.8 million across towns such as Maitland, Newcastle, Singleton and Lake Macquarie. The creation of additional jobs at RCS would therefore contribute to an increase in expenditure at these towns.

Services to Bloomfield provided by business suppliers was estimated to contribute approximately \$52 million across the Hunter Valley region, which would be expected to continue during operations.

KPMG undertook the *Rix's Creek Continuation Project – Economic Assessment* (KPMG, 2015) to support the RCS EIS. This economic assessment identified that the exports associated with the Project would have a positive net impact on activity in the NSW and Hunter Valley economies (illustrated through Gross State Product (GSP)). Modelling estimated that the increase in coal exports (relative to the base case) increased NSW real GSP by 0.04% (equivalent to \$394 million in 2012-13) and real GRP by 0.26 % (equivalent to \$104 million in 2012-13). Higher mining activity had positive flow-on impacts on other industries. Industries that supply the mining sector with inputs, such as trade, manufacturing and professional services were likely to experience additional activity as demand for inputs supplied was boosted by the mining sector.

The Bloomfield Group will continue to undertake substantial sponsorships and donations to groups in and around the communities in which their operations are based and conducted. These donations and sponsorships are purposefully directed to local community groups and thereby have direct economic flow on effects to the region.

5.2 Regional Impacts and Opportunities

In order to understand the sensitivity of local and regional communities to changes in mining operations and employment, the SIA undertook a Community Capitals analysis of the local area and wider region was for the RCS EIS. The Capitals analysis utilised a 'Sustainable Livelihoods' approach to social profiling, which centres on people rather than resources with the intent of empowering individuals and communities (Umwelt, 2014).

The key areas of risk for the region were:

- Conflicting land uses particularly mining, agriculture, vineyards and equine industries;
- Lack of economic diversity in the Hunter Region;
- Lack of public transport (apart from the rail line);

Key areas of resilience for the region were:

- Continued economic support from the mining industry;
- Comparatively good provision of utilities, built infrastructure and transport infrastructure for a regional area; and
- The area is well connected by both rail and road.

The *Hunter Regional Plan 2036* (DPIE, 2016) (HRP) considers the ongoing significance of coal mining in the Hunter region, while noting that growth will be influenced by global and national energy demands and policies. The HRP identifies a number of opportunities for the region including:

- Enhancing connections to the Asia-Pacific through the Newcastle Airport and the Port of Newcastle;
- Transform the productivity of the Upper Hunter;

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix's Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	19 of 48

- Develop manufacturing, defence and aerospace hubs;
- Grow tourism in the region;
- Manage the ongoing use of natural resources;
- Diversify and grow the energy sector; and
- Plan for greater land use compatibility.

The HRP or future versions will be considered in any updates to the SIMP.

5.3 Mine Closure and Decommissioning

The cessation of mining at RCS after 2040 has the potential to materially affect:

- the local population where people leave to seek other employment;
- demand for housing where employees leave or other people move to the LGA as a result of future long-term use of the site after mining; and
- demand for social infrastructure and local business trade where there is a change in the population or demand for consumable goods and services.

In the case of RCS, the presence of other existing and potential mining operations and social trends over the life of the mine are likely to influence the social impacts of the closure of RCS. Future SSC and NSW policies will also influence closure planning, land use and resulting social impacts and opportunities.

RCS is at the start of its 21 year mine life and as a result, plans and strategies to manage social impacts during mine closure are at an early stage.

The SIMP will be periodically reviewed and updated as necessary to be consistent with the mine closure and to provide details of the social impact management strategies that will be implemented during this phase of RCS mine life.

Bloomfield will undertake targeted community consultation on specific closure planning to inform the update of this SIMP three years prior to closure in accordance with Condition B56(h).

The likely social impacts and opportunities in relation to closure are discussed below.

5.3.1 Loss of Employment and Supply Arrangements

Current operational employment at RCS is approximately 160. The numbers are predicted to decline closer to closure after 2040. The closure of RCS will result in a loss of employment and may result in personnel and their families having to relocate to secure new employment.

The cessation of RCS operations will contribute to a decline in supply and contract opportunities and to a loss of direct and indirect revenue to businesses servicing RCS or benefitting from employee expenditure, which may lead to further indirect job losses.

There are currently eight mining operations in the Singleton area, and five others near Muswellbrook which may provide alternative employment for employees and contract companies as shown in **Figure 1** and described in **Section 5.1**.

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix's Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	20 of 48

Singleton is also currently supported by a number of other industries including farming, horse breeding and light industry which may provide alternative employment for some personnel. The Singleton Council Community Strategic Plan (**Section 5.1.1.5**) identifies the need to provide access to education for community members affected by the transition of the local economy as employment opportunities diversify.

The HRP (**Section 5.2**) focuses on the diversification of employment opportunities in the Hunter region, including in the defence sector, manufacturing, food and agribusiness, and medical technologies and pharmaceuticals. The number of jobs available within the Hunter region is predicted to rise from 322,000 to 384,000 by 2036.

Bloomfield will provide regular communication to the workforce and local suppliers on the proposed closure, and will assist with transition arrangements as necessary.

5.3.2 Post mining land use

Bloomfield is committed to rehabilitating RCS to agricultural land, specifically grazing, as detailed in the *Rehabilitation Strategy* (Bloomfield). Once mining operations cease and as final rehabilitation progresses, there will be opportunities for the return of agricultural activities. Other final land uses for the site would be proposed based on the community consultation to be undertaken as discussed in **Section 5.3**.

5.3.3 Camberwell Village

As discussed in **Section 4.2**, there are currently five private properties within Camberwell Village, with the remaining properties owned by Ashton Mine.

No RCS employees currently reside in Camberwell Village. The closure of RCS may have a positive impact with reduced amenity issues, however Camberwell Village is in close proximity to Ashton, Mt Owen and Ravensworth mines which may reduce these positive impacts.

Ashton Coal (Ashton) has development consent PA 08_0182 to develop the South East Open Cut. Schedule 2 Condition 16 of PA 08_0182 requires Ashton to develop a 'Camberwell Village Enhancement Strategy'. This strategy would provide for the implementation of community enhancement measures including continued maintenance and occupancy of mine owned dwellings, and potentially walking paths, street plantings and landscaping.

5.3.4 Town of Singleton

The impact of RCS closure on the town of Singleton will vary depending on the mines in operation at the time. As discussed in **Section 4.2**, approximately 35% of RCS employees (approximately 56 people) live in the Singleton area.

At the 2016 census, the total population of Singleton was 16,346 with 24% of these being employed in mining (the largest employment industry). Should all employees at RCS need to leave the Singleton area, and all other mines are operating, the relative impact on Singleton will be low. However, should other mines be reaching the end of their existing approvals, progressive redundancies from these mines would result in a significant negative change to employment availability and supply opportunities.

The HRP (**Section 5.2**) predicts an increase in employment in the Singleton LGA of 3,233 roles by 2036 through growing and diversifying its industry base, including growth in viticulture and related tourism and significant opportunities in conservation and tourism.

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix's Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	21 of 48

Bloomfield will continue to meet with Singleton Council as required to discuss general mine closure options, including final land use and final void options. Bloomfield will meet with Singleton Council at least three years prior to proposed mine closure to consult on detailed mine closure options.

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix's Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	22 of 48

6 Mitigation Measures

This section identifies the management and mitigation measures to be undertaken.

6.1 General Measures

Bloomfield currently undertakes a number of monitoring, management and mitigation activities in relation to identified community concerns on a range of issues. These include:

- Amenity mitigation;
- Manning of a 24 hour community hotline; and
- Regular meetings of the CCC.

It also contributes to wider community needs through the Bloomfield Foundation and other programs.

These programs and protocols would continue to be implemented throughout the life of the Project which would ensure that social amenity impacts are minimal and community benefit is maximised (AECOM, 2015).

Table 4 summarises the impact risks and provides proposed management and monitoring approaches.

6.2 Camberwell Village

No issues were specifically raised in relation to Camberwell Village. As discussed in **Section 4.2**, the majority of properties in Camberwell Village are owned by Ashton Mine, with only five remaining as private properties (**Appendix A**). Under Condition D1 of SSD 6300, all five private properties are included in Table 7: Land subject to acquisition upon request.

Bloomfield will continue to consult with the private landholders to monitor and assess any issues of concern.

6.3 Town of Singleton

No issues were specifically raised in relation to the town of Singleton. As discussed in **Section 5.1.1.6**, the impact assessment considered that the Project would have no impacts through population change on community infrastructure and services. Singleton is supported through a number of surrounding mines and is not reliant on RCS. Bloomfield have entered into a Planning Agreement with Singleton Council outlined in **Section 2.3** and will continue to support Singleton Council in the provision of community services where applicable. Bloomfield will also continue to provide sponsorship and funding to local community funding through the Bloomfield Foundation.

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix's Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	23 of 48

Table 4
Social Impacts and associated Management Approaches

Social Impact	Actions	Timing	Stakeholders
Operations			
Amenity (noise, air, visual, ecology, water, rehabilitation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community hotline for reports of complaints and blasting related issues. <p>Inform the community of implemented mitigation strategies through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community information sheets Community information sessions Feedback through social, online and print media Inclusion of monitoring results in community information sheets and as an agenda item for each CCC meeting. 	Ongoing	Local community CCC
Residential amenity and character	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement Mitigation upon Request, Property inspections and Acquisition upon request in accordance with SSD 6300 Ongoing implementation of cross-tenure weed and feral animal control 	Ongoing	Relevant Property Owners
Surrounding community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement maintained as agreed with individual residents Continue biannual CCC meetings, with minutes available through the Bloomfield website. 	Ongoing	Local community

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix’s Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	24 of 48

Social Impact Management Plan

Rix's Creek South

Social Impact	Actions	Timing	Stakeholders
Population change	Continuation of local employment policy	Ongoing	Local community
Community Infrastructure and Services	Contribution to community infrastructure through a Voluntary Planning Agreement (Section 2.3)	2021 or as agreed by SSC	Singleton Council Local Community
	Continue community sponsorship and funding through the Bloomfield Foundation	Ongoing	Local Community
Final Land use and Final void options	Ongoing consultation with Singleton Council	Ongoing	Singleton Council
Closure			
Workforce employment	Early workforce communications and transition program	Prior to 2038	RCS workforce
Suppliers	Early communications	Prior to 2038	RCS suppliers
Singleton Council	Communicate impending closure to Singleton Council, suppliers and the Singleton Business Chamber	Prior to 2038	Singleton Council LGA Business and Industry

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix’s Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	25 of 48

7 Stakeholder Engagement Plan

This section introduces the Stakeholder Engagement Plan to guide the evaluation and implementation of management and mitigation measures.

Condition B76(g) requires Bloomfield to include a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) to guide the evaluation and implementation of social impact management and mitigation measures.

Table 5 provides a summary of indicative stakeholder engagement proposed for RCS relevant to this SIMP. Actual methods and timing may differ dependant on circumstances at the time over the next 21 years.

Table 5
Indicative Stakeholder Engagement Plan

Company / Department	Timing	Method	Comment
Operations			
Singleton Shire Council (SSC)	As required	Meeting	Implementation of Planning Agreement (Section 2.3) New projects Review of final landform and final void options as detailed in the Rehabilitation Strategy
	As required	Newsletters	For dissemination of specific information
	As required	Phone call	To discuss new projects
Rix's Creek CCC	Every 6 months (or as agreed)	CCC Meeting	Minutes of meeting made available on Bloomfield public website
	As required	Extraordinary meeting	For dissemination of information for new projects or matters which cannot be delayed until next scheduled meeting
	As required	Newsletter	For dissemination of information required prior to next meeting
Rix's Creek Mine Personnel and Contractors	Ongoing	Pre-start meetings	Provide environmental information
	As required	Newsletter	For dissemination of specific information
Near neighbours and tenants	Ongoing	Website	Monitoring information made available on Bloomfield public website.
	As required	Newsletter	For dissemination of specific information

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix’s Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	26 of 48

Company / Department	Timing	Method	Comment
	As required	Phone calls / meetings	For dissemination of specific information
	Ongoing	Community Hotline	Ongoing service that allows community members to raise concerns or queries.
Wider Community	Ongoing	Website	Monitoring information made available on Bloomfield public website.
	As required	Newsletter	For dissemination of specific information
	Ongoing	Community Hotline	Ongoing service that allows community members to raise concerns or queries.
	As required	Community information sessions	Disseminate information on new projects Could occur in conjunction with other events such as the Hunter Coal Festival
Closure			
Singleton Shire Council (SSC)	Three years prior to closure	Meeting	Consultation on closure options
Rix's Creek Mine Personnel and Contractors	Three years prior to closure	Various in accordance with internal policies	Consultation on closure options
Rix's Creek CCC	Three years prior to closure	Extraordinary meeting	Consultation on closure options
Near neighbours and tenants	Three years prior to closure	Meetings	Consultation on closure options
Wider community	Three years prior to closure	Meetings	Consultation on closure options

8 Monitoring and Review

This section outlines the monitoring to be undertaken to review the effectiveness of the mitigation measures.

Table 6 outlines the social issues identified during the RCE EIS and SIA process and the proposed performance measures to be monitored.

Should any trends be identified through monitoring, such as increased complaints regarding a particular topic, Bloomfield will review the actions being undertaken and revise this SIMP as appropriate.

Table 6
Monitoring Program

Issue	Measurement	Timing	Indicator
Operations			
Amenity Concerns	Monitoring results indicate noise, dust and vibration levels are below criterion stipulated in regulatory documents or relevant management plans. No increase in complaints.	As required under EPL or SSD 6300)	Monitoring results Rix's Creek Community and Blasting Hotline CCC meeting minutes
Community Infrastructure and Services	No significant concerns raised by Singleton Council.	As required	Implement the Planning Agreement discussed in Section 2.3 .
Local employment and supply	Local residents continue to have the opportunity to apply for on-site employment opportunities	As available	Employment opportunities are advertised on the Bloomfield website and through SEEK.
	Local suppliers continue to have the opportunity to apply for on-site service provision.	As available	RCS supply opportunities are promoted to local suppliers.
Community and Stakeholder Engagement	Timely responses by Bloomfield to complaints. Offer regular contact and respond to feedback from local residents.	As required	Continued use of the Rix's Creek Community and Blasting Hotline Continued face to face consultation with interested residents.
Closure			
Community and Stakeholder Engagement	SIMP is updated to include detailed social impacts and opportunities related to closure and incorporates community and stakeholder views following activities in Table 5 .	2037 - 2038	Community consultation is completed prior to SIMP update. Singleton Council and Business Chamber are

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix’s Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	28 of 48

Issue	Measurement	Timing	Indicator
	Mine Closure Plan incorporates SIMP information		involved in closure planning.
Social impacts of closure	Singleton business community well informed and prepared for changes	2035 – 2040	Early advice communications program
	RCS employees are well informed and prepared for mine closure	2035 – 2040	Regular and timely information provided.

9 Compliance Protocol

9.1 Compliance Reporting

Condition E7 of SSD 6300 requires Bloomfield to immediately report any incidents to DPIE and any other relevant agencies. An incident is defined as:

“An occurrence or set of circumstances that causes or threatens to cause material harm and which may or may not be or cause a non-compliance.”

An incident report includes:

- Identification of the development (including development application number and name);
- Location and nature of the incident;

Bloomfield is required to report any non-compliances to DPIE in writing within seven (7) days of becoming aware of the non-compliance under Condition E8 of SSD 6300. A non-compliance is defined as:

“An occurrence, set of circumstances or development that is a breach of this consent.”

A non-compliance report includes:

- Identification of the development (including development application number and name);
- Set out the condition of this approval that the development is non-compliant with;
- The way in which it does not comply and the reasons for the non-compliance (if known)
- What actions have been, or will be, undertaken to address the non-compliance.

9.2 Complaints Handling

Bloomfield has a 24-hour telephone hotline (02 4930 2665) for the members of the public to lodge complaints and concerns or to raise issues associated with the operations. This service aims to promptly and effectively address community concerns and environmental matters.

The hotline number is advertised on the Bloomfield Group web site (<https://www.bloomcoll.com.au/>) and members of the community are encouraged to contact the hotline if they need to highlight any environmental issues or seek information regarding environmental aspects associated with RCM.

In addition, a member of the community can contact an RCM Environmental Advisor or Manager in person, by phone, e-mail or letter. Any person that is likely to be in a position to receive concerns is trained to deal with complaints in a professional and effective manner.

All complaints received are recorded in accordance with the *Privacy Act 1988* and lodged in the complaint register. The complaint register is only viewable by environmental personnel and is protected to prevent others viewing recorded information. All complainants are questioned if they would like their complaint and details recorded. Information which may be recorded includes:

- Date and time the complaint was lodged;
- The method by which the complaint was made;
- Personal details provided by the complainant;
- Nature of the complaint;
- Action taken or if no action was taken, the reason why; and

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix's Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	30 of 48

- Follow up contact with the complainant following investigation.

All anonymous complaints will be received, investigated and actioned (if required). However, if no details are provided Bloomfield will not be able to provide feedback to the complainant. The outcome of the complaint will be recorded in the register.

Only generalised, non-personal information is published in the monthly complaint register on the Company website. No personal details such as name, address, phone number are published or any other information which may allow the complainant to be identified. A summary of complaints also will be reported in the EPL Annual Return and Annual Review and presented at the CCC meetings.

The complaint record will be kept for at least four years after the complaint was made.

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix's Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	31 of 48

10 Reporting and Review

10.1 Annual Review

By the end of March each year, Bloomfield will provide an Annual Review required under Condition E9 of SSD 6300 to the Planning Secretary. The Annual Review will

- Describe the development over the previous calendar year and that proposed for the next calendar year;
- Report on actual versus proposed surface disturbance;
- Summarise the environmental performance of RCS for the previous calendar year, including the effectiveness of noise and air quality management systems and compliance with relevant criteria,
- Include the presentation and analysis of the results of monitoring, including any relevant trends;
- Discuss any non-compliances, incidents, complaints and any management actions implemented at RCS over the reporting period.
- Identify any discrepancies between the predicted and actual impact of the development and analyse the potential cause of any significant discrepancy; and
- Include a description of what measures will be implemented over the coming year to improve environmental performance.

The Annual Review will be made publicly available through placement on Bloomfield's website <http://www.bloomcoll.com.au/> and will be provided to the CCC.

The Annual Review will include a discussion on progress against the monitoring outlined in **Table 6**.

10.2 Auditing

Under Condition E10 an independent environmental audit of the RCS operations will be conducted every three years and the results reported to the Secretary DPIE and made available on the website. This audit will consider any relevant Social Impact information.

Actions and recommendations are communicated to senior management and actioned as necessary. Any relevant findings are considered in the planning processes as part of the Environmental Management System.

10.3 Management Plan Review

Condition E5 requires that, within three months of the submission of the following documents, Bloomfield will review, and if necessary, revise the SIMP to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary:

- Annual Review in accordance with Condition E9;
- Incident report under Condition E7;
- Audit report under Condition E10; or
- Modification to the conditions of SSD 6300 (unless the conditions require otherwise).

When a review leads to revision of the SIMP, then within six weeks of the review decision, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise, the revised SIMP will be submitted to the Secretary for approval.

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix's Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	32 of 48

Any major amendments to the SIMP that affect its application will be undertaken in consultation with the appropriate regulatory authorities and stakeholders. Minor changes such as formatting edits may be made with version control.

The SIMP must be reviewed and updated three years prior to mine closure in accordance with Condition B76(h).

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix's Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	33 of 48

11 Roles and Responsibilities

Relevant roles and responsibilities associated with this SIMP are presented in **Table 7** below.

Table 7
Roles and Responsibilities

Role	Responsibilities	Section
Mine Manager	• Provide adequate resources for the implementation of this SIMP.	2.1
	• Responsible for consultation with and reporting to internal stakeholders	6
Environment Manager (or delegate)	• Implement this plan during mining operations to ensure compliance with consent requirements.	2
	• Responsible for ensuring that the plan is relevant to current operations.	10.3
	• Responsible for coordinating the reviews of this SIMP	10.3
	• Responsible for consultation with and reporting to external stakeholders	3, 9.1, 6
	• Ensure monitoring required as part of this plan is implemented and reported	8
	• Implement the Stakeholder Engagement Plan	7
	• Manage and report on complaints	9.2
Communications and Community Relations Manager	• Review plan within 3 years of mine closure	5.3
	• Provide community communications as required	6
	• Assist the Environment Manager with implementation of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan	7

12 References

- AECOM (2013), *Rix's Creek Stakeholder Engagement Strategy*
- AECOM (2014), *Aboriginal Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment*
- AECOM (2014), *Preliminary Environmental Assessment*
- AECOM (2015), *Rix's Creek Continuation of Mining Environmental Impact Statement*
- AECOM (2015), *Rix's Creek Mine Non-Indigenous Heritage Impact Assessment*
- Bloomfield (2019), *Rix's Creek Mine Mining Operations Plan*
- Bloomfield (2020a), *Rix's Creek Mine Noise Management Plan*
- Bloomfield (2020b), *Rix's Creek Mine Air Quality Management Plan*
- Bloomfield (2020c), *Biodiversity Management Plan*
- Bloomfield (2020d), *Rix's Creek Mine Water Management Plan*
- Department of Planning (2007), *Guidelines for establishing and operating Community Consultative Committees*
- Department of Planning and Environment (2019), *Community Consultative Committee Guideline for State Significant Projects January 2019.*
- Hansen Bailey (2018), *Rix's Creek South Continuation of Mining Project Response to IPCN Queries following Proponent Meeting*
- KPMG (2015), *Rix's Creek Continuation Project – Economic Assessment*
- Singleton Council (2019), Community Profile Website
- <https://app.remplan.com.au/singleton/community/trends/population?state=Zw9pSR!Zw9pSJPEBsKJ76QSNX2ZwSyT0t05ViYtltVuDtDZ8>
- Umwelt (2015), *Social Impact and Opportunity Assessment*

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix’s Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	35 of 48

Appendix A – Land Ownership Figure

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix's Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	36 of 48

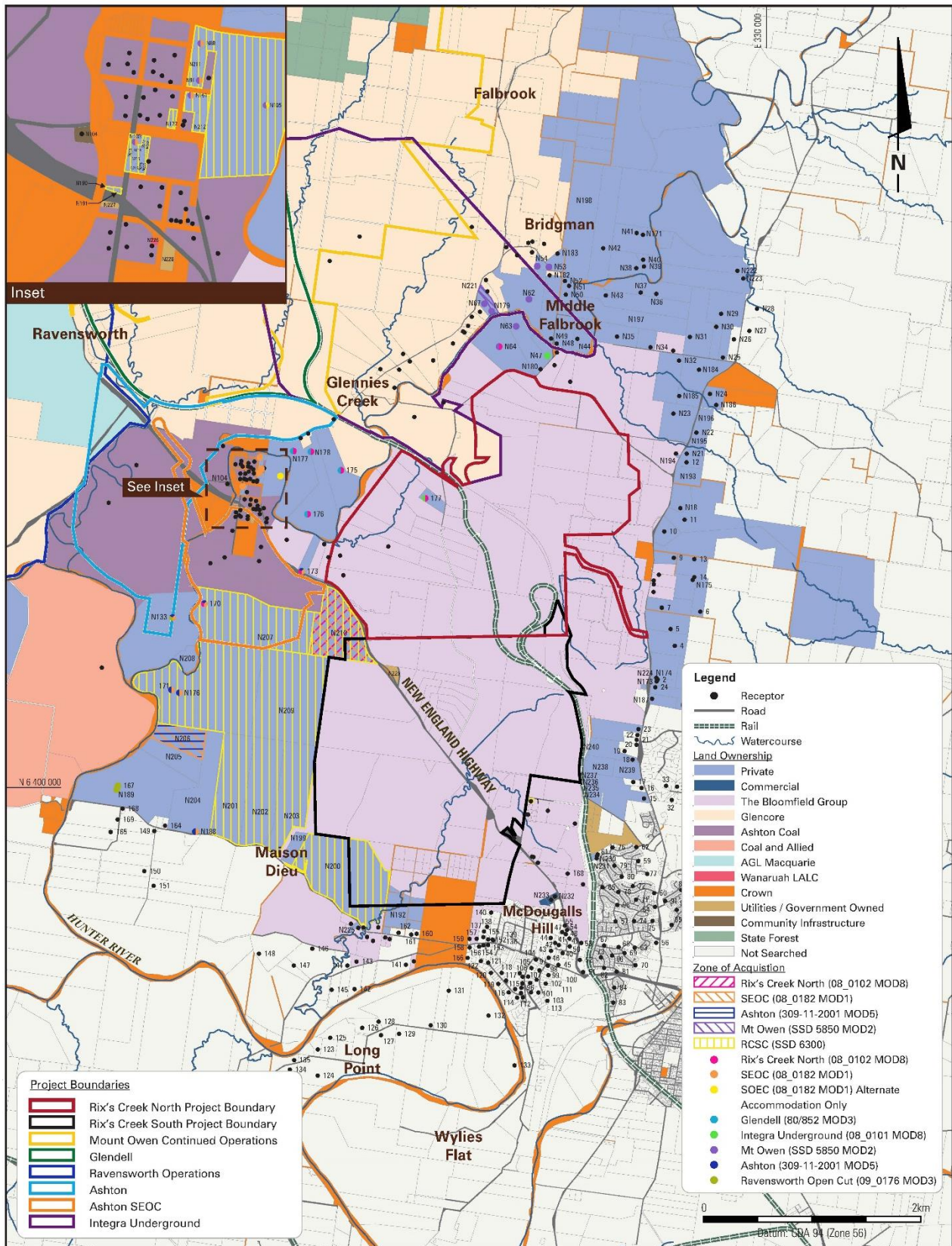


Figure A1
Land Ownership

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix's Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	37 of 48

Appendix B – Development Consent Conditions

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix's Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	38 of 48

Table A 2
SSD 6300 Consent Conditions

Ref	Legal Requirement	Section
Part E Condition E4	Management plans required under this consent must be prepared in accordance with any relevant guidelines, and include:	
	(a) a summary of relevant background or baseline data;	4
	(b) details of:	
	(i) the relevant statutory requirements (including any relevant approval, licence or lease conditions);	2
	(ii) any relevant limits or performance measures/criteria; and	N/A
	(iii) the specific performance indicators that are proposed to be used to judge the performance of, or guide the implementation of, the project or any management measures;	2.4
	(c) any relevant commitments or recommendations identified in the document/s listed in condition A2(c)	2.2
	(d) a description of the measures that would be implemented to comply with the relevant statutory requirements, limits, or performance measures/criteria;	6
	(e) a program to monitor and report on the:	
	(i) impacts and environmental performance of the project; and	10.1
	(ii) effectiveness of any management measures (see (c) above);	8
	(f) a contingency plan to manage any unpredicted impacts and their consequences and to ensure that ongoing impacts reduce to levels below relevant impact assessment criteria as quickly as possible;	8
	(g) a program to investigate and implement ways to improve the environmental performance of the project over time;	10
	(h) a protocol for managing and reporting any:	
	(i) incident, non-compliance or exceedance of any impact assessment criteria or performance measure;	9.1
	(ii) complaint; or	9.2
	(iii) failure to comply with other statutory requirements;	9.1
	(i) public sources of information and data to assist stakeholders in understanding environmental impacts of the development; and	10.1

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix's Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
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Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	39 of 48

Ref	Legal Requirement	Section
	<p>(j) a protocol for periodic review of the plan.</p> <p><i>Note: The Planning Secretary may waive some of these requirements if they are unnecessary or unwarranted for particular management plans.</i></p>	10.3
Condition E5	<p>Revision of Strategies, Plans & Programs</p> <p>Within 3 months of:</p> <p>(a) the submission of an incident report under condition E7;</p> <p>(b) the submission of an annual review under condition E9;</p> <p>(c) the submission of an Independent Environmental Audit under condition E10, or</p> <p>(d) the modification of the conditions of this consent (unless the conditions require otherwise),</p> <p>The suitability of existing strategies, plans, and programs required under this consent must be reviewed by the Applicant.</p>	10.3
Condition E6	<p>Revision of Strategies, Plans & Programs</p> <p>If necessary, to either improve the environmental performance of the development or cater for a modification, the strategies, plans and programs required under this consent must be revised, to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. Where revisions are required, the revised document must be submitted to the Planning Secretary for approval within 6 weeks of the review.</p> <p><i>Note: This is to ensure the strategies, plans and programs are updated on a regular basis, and incorporate any recommended measures to improve the environmental performance of the development.</i></p>	10.3
Condition E7	<p>Incident Notification</p> <p>The Applicant must immediately notify the Department and any other relevant agencies immediately after it becomes aware of an incident. The notification must be in writing to compliance@planning.nsw.gov.au and identify the development (including the development application number and name) and set out the location and nature of the incident.</p>	9.1
Condition E8	<p>Non-compliance Notification</p> <p>Within seven days of becoming aware of a non-compliance, the Applicant must notify the Department of the non-compliance. The notification must be in writing to compliance@planning.nsw.gov.au and identify the development (including the development application number and name), set out the condition of this approval that the development is non-compliant with, the way in which it does</p>	9.1

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Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	40 of 48

Ref	Legal Requirement	Section
	<p>not comply and the reasons for the noncompliance (if known) and what actions have been, or will be, undertaken to address the non-compliance.</p> <p><i>Note: A non-compliance which has been notified as an incident does not need to also be notified as a non-compliance.</i></p>	

Appendix C – Regulatory Correspondence

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix's Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
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Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	42 of 48



13 July 2020

Rix's Creek Mine

Community Newsletter Number 8 – July 2020.

This newsletter provides our community with an update on the Rix's Creek Mine. It also provides an opportunity for the local community to comment on the Draft Social Impact Management Plan for Rix's Creek South Mine.

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) operations.

Rix's Creek South Update on Operations

Rix's Creek South Mine commenced operations under the new State Significant Project Approval (SSD 6300) on 24 February 2020. The new consent brings a number of contemporary conditions for environmental management, monitoring and operational requirements to minimise impacts on our neighbours.

As part of the new conditions, a number of new and revised Management Plans have been distributed for consultation to our Community Consultative Committee and various Government Regulators. Over the coming months, copies of the new and revised Management Plans, once approved, will be available on the Bloomfield website at: www.bloomcoll.com.au

Social Impact Management Plan - Rix's Creek South

As part of the Rix's Creek South Continuation Project, a Social Impact and Opportunity Assessment was undertaken. The assessment seeks to understand, from a community perspective, the issues, impacts and opportunities associated with the Project as well as the broader community values and land uses associated with the assessment area. As required by the Project Approval, Rix's Creek Mine has drafted a Social Impact Management Plan (SIMP) and invites the local community to review and comment on the Draft Plan.

The specific objectives of Social Impact Management Plan are to:

- Document an understanding of the existing social environment;
- Identify and document the potential social impacts associated with the Project;
- Develop management strategies aimed at mitigating any potential adverse impacts and at maximising identified opportunities arising from the Project; and
- Facilitate further continued community and stakeholder engagement during the life of the development.

You can view the Draft Social Impact Management Plan at:

<https://www.bloomcoll.com.au/sustainability/environmental-management/rixs-creek-assessments/management-plans-and-strategies>

If you have any comments or questions on the draft Social Impact Management Plan please email Chris Knight, Environmental Manager, on cknight@bloomcoll.com.au.

Consultation on the plan will close on 31 July 2020.

More information

If you have any questions about Rix's Creek Mine or require further information please contact:

Chris Knight, Environmental Manager

- 0403 058 777
- cknight@bloomcoll.com.au

Geoff Moore,
Chief Development Officer
The Bloomfield Group

Telephone: 02 4930 2600

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Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	43 of 48

Chris Knight

From: Mary-Anne Crawford <mccrawford@singleton.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 17 August 2020 3:57 PM
To: Chris Knight
Subject: RE: Consultation- Rix's Creek South Management Plans

Hi Chris

Thanks for the reminder, unfortunately we have 10 SSD matters on foot in the portal at the moment, which impacts some pretty stretched resources ☹️

We won't be able to meet the deadline of today and appreciate that we can still provide comment into the process for consideration at a later date. We will note this on the file, when the next audit is due, which looks like in about 6 months?

MAC

From: Chris Knight <cknight@bloomcoll.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 17 August 2020 3:05 PM
To: Mary-Anne Crawford <mccrawford@singleton.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Consultation- Rix's Creek South Management Plans

Hi Mary-Anne,
 I hope all is well....thank you for sending through SSC's comments in regard to the Rehabilitation Strategy last Friday. I note that we are yet to receive Council's comments on the Social Impact Management Plan (comments due 10 August) and the Historic Heritage Management Plan (comments due 7 August) which were sent for consultation to SSC through the NSW Major Project Portal.

In accordance with our Project Approval for SSD 6300 Rix's Creek Continuation we are required to submit all Management Plans within 6 months of commencement being 24 August 2020.

Unfortunately in order to be able to address Council's comments appropriately we would need Council's response to the above plans by close of business today. If not received from Council today we would be happy to accept them after this date and can review and address any comments at the next update of the Plan (which would be during review of the plan by DPIE or after the upcoming IEA or the next Annual Review).

Please give me a call to discuss if you have concerns.

Best Regards



Chris Knight
 Environment Manager
 E: cknight@bloomcoll.com.au | T: 02 6578 8824 | M: 0403 058 777
 W: www.bloomcoll.com.au
 PO Box 4, East Maitland, NSW 2323
 North: Bridgman Road, South: Rix's Creek Lane, Singleton, NSW 2330 Australia

Please note: If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender immediately by reply e-mail and delete all copies of this transmission together with any attachments as the information contained and any attached files may be confidential and/or subject of legal professional privilege.

From: Chris Knight
Sent: Tuesday, 11 August 2020 9:32 AM
To: 'Mary-Anne Crawford' <mccrawford@singleton.nsw.gov.au>

1

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix's Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	44 of 48

Cc: Geoff Moore <gmoore@bloomcoll.com.au>
Subject: RE: Consultation- Rix's Creek South Management Plans

Hi Mary-Anne,
 I hope all is well...Just a quick email to follow up if you received my email last week in regard to the Rix's Creek South Rehabilitation Strategy and Social Impact Management Plan which were sent for consultation to SSC through the NSW Major Project Portal.

In accordance with our Project Approval for SSD 6300 Rix's Creek Continuation we are required to submit all Management Plans within 6 months of commencement being 24 August 2020.

If comments are not received from Council by the end of this week we would be happy to accept them after this date and can review and address any comments at the next update of the Plan (which would be after the upcoming IEA or the next Annual Review).

Please give me a call to discuss if you have concerns.

Best Regards



WE CARE. WE DELIVER.

Chris Knight
 Environment Manager
 E: cknight@bloomcoll.com.au | T: 02 6578 8824 | M: 0403 058 777
 W: www.bloomcoll.com.au
 PO Box 4, East Maitland, NSW 2323
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Please note: If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender immediately by reply e-mail and delete all copies of this transmission together with any attachments as the information contained and any attached files may be confidential and/or subject of legal professional privilege.

From: Chris Knight
Sent: Monday, 3 August 2020 11:26 AM
To: 'Mary-Anne Crawford' <mcrawford@singleton.nsw.gov.au>
Cc: Geoff Moore <gmoore@bloomcoll.com.au>
Subject: Consultation- Rix's Creek South Management Plans

Hi Mary-Anne,
 Just a quick email to follow up on a couple of Management Plans / Strategies which have been submitted for consultation with Singleton Council via the NSW Major Projects Portal.

- Rehabilitation Strategy- submitted 17 June 2020.
- Social Impact Management Plan – submitted 13 July 2020.

In accordance with our Project Approval for SSD 6300 Rix's Creek Continuation we are required to submit all Management Plans within 6 months of commencement being 24 August 2020.

To allow inclusion of any comments or recommendations from Council can you please provide feedback on the above documents by 13 August 2020, or sooner if possible please.

If you require anything further please don't hesitate to give me a call.

Best Regards,



WE CARE. WE DELIVER.

Chris Knight
 Environment Manager
 E: cknight@bloomcoll.com.au | T: 02 6578 8824 | M: 0403 058 777
 W: www.bloomcoll.com.au
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Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	45 of 48



Planning,
Industry &
Environment

Christopher Knight
Environment Manager
Four Mile Creek Road
Astonfield NSW, 2323

19/11/2020

Dear Mr Christopher Knight

**Rix's Creek Coal Extension (SSD-6300-PA-26)
Social Management Plan**

I refer to your response to the RFI which was submitted in accordance with Condition B76 of Schedule 2 of the condition of consent for the Rix's Creek Coal Extension (SSD-6300-PA-26).

The Department has carefully reviewed the response received and is satisfied that it meets the RFI issued. Thank you for providing clarification.

If you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact Charissa Pillay on 02 9995 5944.

Yours sincerely

Matthew Sprott
Director
Resource Assessments (Coal & Quarries)

As nominee of the Planning Secretary

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Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	46 of 48

Appendix D – EIS Commitments

Document Title:	Social Impact Management Plan – Rix's Creek South			Document Owner:	Chris Knight
Prepared By:	K Blaikie	Print Date:	19/11/2020	Version No:	Final
Reviewed By:	D Munro			Issue Date:	18/08/2020
Approved By:	Chris Knight	Review Frequency:	Per Condition E5	Page No:	47 of 48

Table D1
SSD 6300 Social Commitments

	Factor	Management and Mitigation Measures	Section
25.	Post Mining Land Use consultation	Targeted community consultation will be undertaken on mine rehabilitation and closure planning and responses to issues documented within the RMP.	6 Rehabilitation Strategy
42.	Social	A dedicated enquiry and complaints hotline will be operated by the Mine for the duration of the Project. Complaints will be managed in accordance with the EMS and recorded in a complaints register.	9.2
43.	Social	Sponsorship and funding through the Bloomfield Foundation (and other programs) will continue for the life of the Project.	6
44.	Social	Offers of face to face consultation with immediate neighbours and stakeholders will continue for the life of the Project.	6
45.	Social	The Community Consultative Committee (CCC) will continue in accordance with the "Community Consultative Committee Guideline: State Significant Projects January 2019" or conditions of consent.	6
46.	Social	Contributions to local infrastructure will be provided through a Voluntary Planning Agreement with Singleton Council with contributions being applied to the Singleton Community and Economic Development Fund for use by Council across the Singleton LGA.	2.3
47.	Social	Should there be a requirement to employ staff over and above the dedicated Bloomfield workforce, preference will be shown to members of the local community where feasible.	6

Table D2
General Terms of the Planning Agreement

Applicant's Contribution	Intended Use	Payment details
\$432,000	Singleton Community and Economic Development Fund	Two equal payments of \$216,000 to be paid. The first within one month and the second within 12 months of commencement of development, unless Council agrees otherwise.