

Rix's Creek Mine - Modification 9

Community Newsletter - May 2020

This newsletter provides our community with an overview of a modification Rix's Creek Mine is proposing for its North operation.

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 Rix's Creek Mine northwest of Singleton. The mine includes Rix's Creek North (RCN) and Rix's Creek South (RCS).

Modification 9

Rix's Creek Mine is proposing a modification (MOD9) for its RCN operation. The proposal follows initial consultation with the Community Consultative Committee, Singleton Council and other government agencies.

The modification has three main aspects.

1. <u>Increase in height for overburden</u> emplacement areas:

The first aspect of the proposed modification will allow for an increase in height for an overburden emplacement area (dump height). Initially, the dump height will increase by 25 metres (175m RL), then will reduce by 10 metres to a final landform (165m RL). The increase in height is required to provide micro-relief to the final landform and return water back to the environment when the area is rehabilitated.

2. Blasting:

The second aspect is a change to the number of blasts per day for RCN from two to three while maintaining the maximum number of 10 events per week. This will allow the mine to make more blasts during conditions favorable to minimising impacts while not increasing the number of blasts in any week.

3. Exploration:

The third aspect seeks approval to undertake exploration activities in accordance with the Mining Act 1992 within Bloomfield Collieries Pty Limited's mining tenements.

All other aspects of the Project will remain unchanged. In particular, no disturbance will occur outside of the existing approved footprint as part of this Modification.

The environmental impacts of MOD9 have been shown to be minimal, while MOD9 will provide improvements to the final landform integrated with the approved final landuse.

Further information

We are personally contacting our near neighbours in the area to discuss the proposed modification. With COVID-19 protocols in place, discussion will preferably occur over the phone. If you have any questions or would like to raise any concerns in regard to the proposed modification please contact Chris Knight, Environment Manager, on 0403058777 or email cknight@bloomcoll.com.au by 22 May 2020.

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