



Rix's Creek North Continuation Project Update

Community Newsletter – February 2026

About Rix's Creek Mine & The Bloomfield Group

The Bloomfield Group owns and operates Rix's Creek Mine (RCM) northwest of Singleton. RCM was established in 1990 and is a coal mining operation. Mining occurs on either side of the New England Highway in the Rix's Creek North (RCN) and Rix's Creek South (RCS) operations.

The Bloomfield Group is a proud Australian-owned and operated mining and engineering group. We employ local people, work with local small businesses and have been part of the Hunter community for more than 85 years.

Rix's Creek North Continuation Project

In our December 2024 community newsletter, we provided detail on the Rix's Creek North Continuation Project which plans to extend the mine life of RCN until the end of 2049.

Operations within the Camberwell Pit Mining Area are proposed to continue to the west requiring the realignment and upgrade of approximately four kilometres of the New England Highway, located to the north of Singleton. In addition to supporting the continuation project, the realignment will remove what has been a hazardous section of the highway.

The highway realignment is proposed to commence south of the intersection of McInerney Road at Camberwell. Upon receipt of relevant approvals, we will construct the highway realignment in close consultation with Transport for NSW.

The existing highway will remain open while we build the highway realignment to minimise disruption to day-to-day traffic. We estimate that this part of the project will generate approximately 60 jobs during construction.

The project also includes:

- Continuation of mining operations to the north and west of the existing Falbrook Pit Mining Area out to Middle Falbrook and Stony Creek Roads;
- Maintaining the currently approved combined RCN peak raw coal extraction rate of six million tonnes per annum (i.e. the amount of resource extracted per annum will remain the same as currently approved);
- Revisions to the final landform, including changes to the number, location and volumes of the final voids allowing for enhanced future land use (predominantly for cattle grazing);
- Proposed mining operations within the Falbrook Pit Mining Area (previously known as the North Open Cut) to be conducted 24 hours per day, 7 days per week;
- Seeking approval to take overburden from RCN to RCS to improve rehabilitation outcomes.

Government Guidance

In November 2025, supplementary Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) were issued by the NSW Government to include guidance from the Australian Government.

This guidance will be taken into account as part of the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project and follows the decision by the Australian Government that the project is a controlled action and requires approval under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

The project will be assessed by the NSW Government under the bilateral agreement between the NSW and Australian Governments.

Technical Reports

As part of the EIS process, we engaged independent technical consultants to assess potential impacts across key areas such as, air quality, greenhouse gas, noise and blasting, water resources, biodiversity, cultural and historic heritage, traffic and transport, economic and social benefit.

The proposed mine plan and mining methods have been designed with the clear objective of minimising impacts from the project. This includes minimising the number of people and properties that may be impacted by the project.

Air and noise modelling is being undertaken to predict how the project may affect neighbouring properties during the day, evening and night.

The modelling to date indicates:

- For many homes, predicted impacts from the project will be similar to current approved levels.
- For some homes, the modelling indicates an increase in particular impacts for some years of the project, during specific mining operations and weather conditions.

Bloomfield is currently consulting with near neighbours to discuss the project and modelling predictions to date and, where applicable, the options for mitigation measures should the project be approved.

The EIS development phase of the project is nearing completion and we are aiming to submit the EIS to NSW Planning in the coming months.

Project Benefits

The Hunter is the leading regional economy in Australia (NSW Government 2022), to which RCM is an important contributor. The existing social and economic benefits of the RCM will continue as a result of the extended mine life proposed by the project.

The project will enable the continued annual expenditure of approximately \$170 million in goods and services and the continued employment of approximately 250 full time equivalent employees, while supporting approximately 520 individual suppliers.

Community

Our RCN project team are hosting two pop-ups at 750 Bridgman Road, Bridgman. Pull into the driveway, grab a coffee from the coffee cart and chat to the team about the continuation project or Rix's Creek Mine operations more generally. Pop-up dates are:

- 7am to 10am, Tuesday 10 March 2026
- 7am to 10am, Thursday 12 March 2026

We are working with Singleton based consultants, Xenith, in developing the EIS and they are also completing the Social Impact Assessment for the project. The Xenith team are keen to hear local views on the project and discuss how potential social impacts could be managed. If you are interested in participating in a 1:1 interview, please contact the Xenith office on 02 6536 2999 to arrange a suitable time.

Information and Blasting Hotline

Our community telephone hotline operates 24 hours a day. If you have any questions about our operations, please contact the hotline on 02 4930 2665.

Community Consultative Committee

The RCM Community Consultative Committee (CCC) generally meets twice per year, with the aim of keeping the community informed about our operations and our environmental performance. The CCC will next meet in June 2026. It is an important forum for open discussion between the community, local government, stakeholders and RCM representatives. Additional meetings are also held as required.

If you have any enquiries about the CCC, please contact the Independent Chairperson, Lisa Andrews, at lisaandrews.ic@gmail.com

Further Information

Our project team is available to answer any questions you have about the project and the progress of the EIS as well as our day-to-day operations. Please feel free to contact:

RCN Continuation Project Team

Phone: 02 4930 2600

Email: rcncontinuation@bloomcoll.com.au

Website: www.bloomcoll.com.au