



## Rix's Creek Solar Farm Update

### Community Newsletter – October 2025

#### 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 and work with local small businesses and have been part of the Hunter community for more than 85 years.

#### Rix's Creek North Solar Farm Project

Bloomfield is currently planning to construct and operate a 5 Megawatt (MW) Solar Farm at RCN. This is being referred to as the RCN Solar Farm (the Project).

Throughout this year, we have been undertaking numerous technical assessments as we develop the Statement of Environmental Effects (SEE) for the Project.

The specialist SEE technical studies include:

- Waste Management Plan;
- Stakeholder/Community Engagement;
- Ecology (BDAR and Biodiversity Management Plan);
- Noise Impact Assessment (Acoustics);
- Traffic Impact Assessment;
- Bushfire Threat Assessment;
- Visual Impact Assessment;
- Aboriginal Cultural and Historic Heritage;
- Water Management Plan, and
- Contamination Assessment.

The environmental assessment process aims to identify the potential impacts of the Project.

Contact information is provided at the end of this newsletter for those who would like additional information.

#### The Project

The Project is to build and operate a 5MW<sub>AC</sub> Solar Farm adjacent to the RCN Mine. The main aim of the project is to provide renewable energy to cover the daytime usage of the mine.

The proposed solar farm covers approximately 12Ha of land and is to be located on buffer land directly adjacent the RCN Mine, which is already owned by Bloomfield. No additional land will be acquired for the project. No public network augmentation or additional offsite power lines are required.

The project has been designed in a way which minimizes impacts to neighboring properties, whilst providing benefits to the company, the environment and the wider community.

#### Timeline

Current timing has specialist studies being completed around the end of 2025, with finalization and submission of the DA to Singleton Council in early 2026.

## Project Benefits

Whilst this project is being treated as a separate project to the RCN mine continuation, the project delivers benefits to the current operation, as well as continuing to provide those benefits well into the future. Key benefits include:

- Reduction of Scope 2 emissions;
- Generation of renewable energy;
- Reduced load on the electricity grid;
- Ability to train and upskill workers in the renewable energy sector;
- Bolstering additional renewable sector jobs in the local and wider communities;
- Providing diversification for Bloomfield.

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 would continue as a result of the extended mine life.

The solar farm further bolsters the mine continuation by adding a sustainable, renewable source of electricity generation locally onsite.

## Community Survey

Bloomfield are undertaking a community survey to understand how local communities view potential impacts and benefits that may result from the construction and operation of the RCN Solar Farm. The results of the survey will feed into the community consultation and SEE.

The survey can be completed online by scanning the QR code below or visiting

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/R7M6M22>



Hard copies of the community survey can be made available if requested. We ask that the survey be completed by 28<sup>th</sup> November 2025. Please note that your responses will remain confidential.

## Community Consultative Committee

The RCM Community Consultative Committee (CCC) generally meets twice per year, with the aim of keeping the community informed regarding the progress of the operations and environmental performance. The CCC will next meet in October 2025. 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](mailto:lisaandrews.ic@gmail.com).

## Further Information

If you have any questions in regard to the Project, SEE activities or our day-to-day operations, please contact:

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Figure 1- Regional Context

