



Rix's Creek Mine News

Community Newsletter – September 2024

An update from Brendon Clements, Operations Manager at Rix's Creek Mine

About Rix's Creek Mine & The Bloomfield Group

The Bloomfield Group owns and operates Rix's Creek Mine northwest of Singleton. Rix's Creek Mine was established in 1990 and is a coal mining operation. Our mining operations occur on either side of the New England Highway and are made up of Rix's Creek North and Rix's Creek South (the original Rix's Creek Mine).

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.

Community

As part of our sponsorship of this month's Singleton Show, we're looking forward to being on the ground and sharing information with our community about our operations and our projects.

Our Rix's Creek team will be manning our Singleton Show stall on 27 and 28 September. Please feel free to ask them any questions you may have.

We have recently launched our inaugural Community Investment Report. Our investments in the community are far reaching, delivering benefits in health, education and social priorities. In the last financial year, we supported over 50 community organisations across the Hunter. A copy of the report is available on our website at www.bloomcoll.com.au/sustainability/community.

Applications are now open for the Singleton Community and Economic Development Fund (CEDF). The CEDF was established by Singleton Council in partnership with The Bloomfield Group and Glencore in 2019 using proceeds from Voluntary Planning Agreements in a proactive approach to increase economic growth and productivity and promote health and wellbeing for the people of the Singleton local government area. An information session for the fund is being held on 23 September. For more information visit www.singleton.nsw.gov.au/cedf.

Rix's Creek North Continuation Project

Thank you to the members of our community who took part in the Social Impact Assessment we are developing to inform the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for our Rix's Creek North Continuation Project.

This Project proposes continuing the life of mining operations at Rix's Creek North from 2035 (current approval) until the end of 2049. Operations are proposed to continue to the west, requiring the relocation and upgrade of approximately four kilometres of the New England Highway to the north of Singleton.

Throughout this year, we have been undertaking numerous technical assessments to develop the EIS for the Project.

Rix's Creek North - Modification 10

Plans for a minor Modification to the current Rix's Creek North consent to enable some upgrades to the existing coal processing infrastructure and other general site infrastructure are currently being considered by the NSW Government.

Environmental assessments completed for the modification confirm that the proposed changes will result in minimal environmental impact.

The proposed infrastructure changes exist wholly within previously approved disturbance areas. Mining operations following the infrastructure changes will be consistent with current activities and there will be no change to annual production.

Operations

Since my last update in February, a further 10.6 hectares of rehabilitation has been completed.

As part of our ongoing commitment to minimising impacts on our surrounding community, we have recently completed the process of bringing on four new drills, which are quieter and produce fewer emissions.

We also completed the commissioning process for our newly installed evaporation fans to help remove excess mine water from the site. The fans are sound attenuated and significantly quieter than the previous units used by Vale prior to our purchase of Rix's Creek North. The units are managed in real time using meteorological monitoring which shut down the units during unfavourable weather conditions.

Rix's Creek Mine continued to operate our Rix's Creek South (RCS) West Pit and Rix's Creek North (RCN) Camberwell Pit operations. The Falbrook Pit at Rix's Creek North is currently in care and maintenance, while the Western out of pit dump (WOOPD) at Rix's Creek South is currently undergoing final shaping and rehabilitation.

Additionally, we are in the initial planning stages of development of a solar farm on our Rix's Creek Mine site. The solar farm would provide power to our site. An Expression of Interest (EOI) seeking interest from suitably qualified and experienced contractors to design and construct the solar farm has recently closed.

Land Management

Wild Dog and Fox baiting has continued this year. Letterbox drops will continue to inform our neighbours before this work is conducted. We also undertook feral pig trapping in April and a baiting program in July of this year, successfully reducing pig numbers.

Information and Blasting Hotline

Our community hotline operates 24 hours a day.

If you have any questions about our operations, please contact 02 4930 2665.

Community Consultative Committee

The Rix's Creek Mine 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, and is an important forum for open discussion between the community, local government, stakeholders and Rix's Creek Mine representatives. If you have any enquiries about the CCC, please contact the Independent Chairperson, Lisa Andrews at lisaandrews.ic@gmail.com.

Further Information

For further information about Rix's Creek Mine, please visit our website (www.bloomcoll.com.au) or call 02 4930 2600.



Brendon Clements