

Appendix F

Special Interest Group &
Community Submissions

Appendix F-1 Interest Group Submissions

Rix's Creek Extension Project Submission

Submission

Rod Campbell
December 2015

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INTRODUCTION

The economic assessment of the Rix's Creek Extension Project, written by consultants KPMG, heavily overstates the benefits of the project while largely ignoring potential costs. Key flaws are:

- High coal prices.
- Unorthodox treatment of wages.
- Assumption that most external costs are fully offset or mitigated, with no consideration of risk around these impacts.
- Minimal detail provided on economic impact assessment.

COAL PRICES

KPMG base their revenue estimate on World Bank forecasts of Australian thermal coal prices. The prices used are shown in Table 4-5 of the assessment. No date is provided for the source of their forecasts, however the prices used are higher than the World Bank's estimates for January, April and July 2015 and far higher than the latest October 2015 forecast, as shown below:

Table 1: KPMG and World Bank Price Forecasts (nominal USD/tonne)

Year	KPMG forecast	January 2015 World Bank forecast	April 2015 World Bank forecast	July 2015 World Bank forecast	October 2015 World Bank forecast
2013	84.6	84.6	84.6	84.6	84.6
2014	77	70.1	70.1	70.1	70.1
2015	79	67	62	58	58
2016	80.9	69.7	64.4	59.5	50
2017	82.8	72.6	66.8	61.1	51.9
2018	84.8	75.6	69.3	62.6	53.9
2019	86.8	78.6	72	64.3	55.9
2020	88.9	81.9	74.7	66	58.1
2021	91	85.2	77.5	67.7	NA
2022	93.2	88.7	80.5	69.4	NA
2023	95.4	92.3	83.5	71.2	NA
2024	97.7	96.1	86.7	73.1	NA
2025	100	100	90	75	70

Sources: World Bank Commodity Markets Outlook, January, April, July and October 2015.¹

¹ Available at: https://www.worldbank.org/content/dam/Worldbank/GEP/GEP2015b/Global-Economic-Prospects-CommodityMarketOutlook_Jan2015.pdf;

KPMG's economic assessment of the Rix's Creek project is dated July 2015. It is unclear why the authors did not use up-to-date forecasts from the World Bank from that month, or at least from earlier in 2015. Their use of outdated data serves to overstate the value of the project and should be corrected.

Based on the latest World Bank forecasts and the production schedule outlined in KPMG's Chart 4-3, the present value revenue of the project is \$687 million at a 7% discount rate. This lower revenue estimate makes the project financially marginal and may not cover capital and operating costs.

Note that this revenue estimate is in present value US dollars and relates to production from 2019 to 2038. This is because 2018 is the final year that the project will produce coal under the base case scenario, as shown in Chart 4-3. It appears that KPMG's revenue forecast of \$997.5 million is also in present value US dollars for the 2019 to 2038 period, as our calculation using their price forecast and Chart 4-3 is \$997.1 million. As our estimate is based on sight reading of Chart 4-3, there is some small discrepancy.

While revenue estimates appear to be in present value US dollars, it is unclear whether other costs and benefits are in Australian dollars or US dollars. There is no discussion of exchange rates or assumed future inflation rates anywhere in the assessment. It appears that KPMG have compared US dollar revenue estimates with Australian dollar costs.

For example, Table 4-6 is sourced from *Australian Bureau of Statistics Catalogue 6302.0 - Average Weekly Earnings, Australia, Nov 2014, TABLE 10I. Average Weekly Earnings, Industry, Australia (Dollars) - Original - Persons, Total Earnings*.² These figures are clearly in 2014 Australian dollars and serve as the basis for KPMG's estimate of 'wage premium' in Table 4.7.

KPMG should make it clear what units are being used, what exchange rates have been assumed and where necessary make corrections.

https://www.worldbank.org/content/dam/Worldbank/GEP/GEPcommodities/GEP2015b_commodity_Apr2015.pdf;

http://www.worldbank.org/content/dam/Worldbank/GEP/GEPcommodities/Price_Forecast_2015072_2.pdf;

<https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/22786/CMOOctober2015FullReport.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>;

² Note that KPMG incorrectly claim that this refers to NSW weekly earnings by industry, when it is actually for Australia. The catalogue is available here:

<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/6302.0Nov%202014?OpenDocument>

WAGE PREMIUM

KPMG assumes that if the project goes ahead, all workers will earn mining industry average wages, whereas if the project does not go ahead, all workers will earn average Hunter Valley wages. This is not a realistic assumption, as many experienced mine workers will go on to work elsewhere in the mining industry.

From an economic perspective, KPMG assume that labour is not priced at its opportunity cost. This is contrary to standard cost benefit analysis assumptions and NSW Treasury Guidelines:

The use of resources (manpower, finance or land) in one particular area will preclude their use in any other. Hence the basis for valuing the resources used is the "opportunity cost" of committing resources; ie the value those resources would have in the most attractive alternative use ...

In certain cases, where a resource has a market price, that price may not reflect the marginal social cost of using the resource. Such cases are reasonably rare.³

Treasury goes on, specifically in relation to labour:

It can be argued that in times of unemployment the opportunity cost of labour employed on a project is less than the wage costs, and project costs and benefits should be adjusted accordingly. However, in practice such adjustments are not generally made and are not recommended.⁴

Estimating these values has not been standard practice in NSW mining assessment over many years. This has been emphasised even by consultants to the coal industry:

BCA involves the comparison of the 'with and without' project circumstances. The use of resources with and without the mine must therefore be considered. Without the mine, the resources to be allocated to the mining operation would be engaged in other uses in the economy. These are the opportunity costs of the proposed mine. Given that markets for these resources (land, machinery, labour etc.) in the Australian economy are relatively competitive and not highly distorted by subsidies and regulations, market prices reflect these resources opportunity costs.⁵

³ (NSW Treasury 2007) page 44–45

⁴ Op cit, page 48

⁵ (Bennett 2011) p2

The standard assumption of prices being equal to opportunity cost, including wages, should be applied here and KPMG's results should be corrected to omit this \$104.3 million claimed benefit.

EXTERNAL COSTS

KPMG attempts no quantification of external costs other than greenhouse gas emissions. While this may be necessary due to data limitations, KPMG do not consider any degree of uncertainty around any environmental impact.

For example, KPMG identify that threatened species will be impacted, but claim that impacts on ecology will be negligible due to contribution to an offset fund. They do not make it clear to readers that there is considerable debate in the ecology literature as to whether offset programs actually do compensate for such impacts.⁶ If they do not, then this cost will be borne by the community and the value of the project will be overstated.

Another example is noise. Although noting that noise levels will be similar to current levels, KPMG fail to compare this to the baseline scenario of no extension to the mine. Even if noise levels from the extension are similar to current levels, this is much higher than would be the case if the mine finishes production in 2018 and there is no mine noise for the following 20 years. This cost will be borne by the community and ignoring it serves to overstate the value of the project.

ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT

KPMG provide estimates of changes to value added and employment, based on a computable general equilibrium (CGE) model. No information is provided as to the data that was put into the model, nor the assumptions that the model is based on. There are various types of CGE model, but no discussion is provided as to which type has been used here.

One result that should be explained is the estimate that the project will increase mining employment in the wider NSW mining industry by a greater amount than in the local area. This is counterintuitive as the project will compete with other NSW mines for labour, other inputs and sales. Other CGE models of coal projects have shown a reduction in mining employment outside of the project.⁷

⁶ see for example (Bekessy et al. 2010)

⁷ see for example (Fahrer 2015)

Economic models are easily manipulated by their users and their results depend on the data and assumptions behind them. Decision makers should place little faith in modelling results that do not have transparent explanations of the model's inputs and assumptions.

CONCLUSION

There are serious flaws in KPMG's economic assessment of the Rix's Creek project. The lower coal price alone makes the financial and economic viability of the project questionable. If the project is financially marginal, management will have strong incentive to cut corners on safety and environmental standards, as well as reducing community contributions.

The confusion as to whether key results are in US dollars or Australian dollars makes the analysis difficult to verify. Furthermore, the analysts' approach to wages is unorthodox and serves to overstate the value of the project. The assumption that all external costs will be perfectly compensated for is unrealistic and also overstates the value of the project.

The project poses considerable potential external costs on the local community and should be rejected unless a strong case for economic net benefit to the NSW community can be demonstrated.

Bibliography

- Bekessy, S.A. et al., 2010. The biodiversity bank cannot be a lending bank. *Conservation Letters*, 3(3), pp.151–158. Available at: <http://doi.wiley.com/10.1111/j.1755-263X.2010.00110.x> [Accessed March 7, 2012].
- Bennett, J., 2011. Maules Creek Coal Project Economic Impact Assessment: A review. *Research Evaluation*. Available at: [https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/public/d70ab9717ed8449eafa6b1e7d8e4cea5/Appendix G Bennet Peer Review_lowres.pdf](https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/public/d70ab9717ed8449eafa6b1e7d8e4cea5/Appendix%20G%20Bennet%20Peer%20Review_lowres.pdf).
- Fahrer, J., 2015. *Carmichael coal and rail project: Economic Assessment. Expert Report by Jerome Fahrer*, Expert report to the Queensland Land Court in the matter Land Services Coast and Country & Anor ats Adani.
- NSW Treasury, 2007. *NSW Government Guidelines for Economic Appraisal*, Office of Financial Management: Policy & Guidelines Paper.

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Wendy Wales <wgwales@gmail.com>
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Subject: Submission Details for company DAMS HEG (org_object)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

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Govt. Agency: No
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Content:
I object to an additional 32 million tonnes of coal being extracted until 2038.

We need to limit CO2 emissions, cut our energy consumption and find ways to switch to renewables.

The local impacts of additional coal mining e.g. excessive water consumption and contamination, groundwater disruption, dust, noise and loss of habitat or arable land combined with the global impacts, particularly climate change are not on hold for this proposal.

Singleton and Camberwell already experience excess to NEPM standard PM10 readings. This mine is adjacent to Singleton Heights. It is in line with the prevailing winds for both Singleton and Camberwell. It has been observed that dust becomes a more significant problem on days over 28°C. Given we have had more moderate weather (more regular rainfall) locally since the breaking of the last drought (Pasha Bulka storm 2007) and mining has expanded exponentially in this time, I believe it is reasonable to expect an extreme dust impact from this mine with the next drought.

The extension of Rix's Creek Mine is a head-in-the-sand proposal, which hobbles Australia to a quarry mentality, sacrificing the planet and all that makes us unique along the way. If its too expensive to fix final voids, we can't control the diffuse leaks of saline and polluted water into the waterways and we have no fix for climate change, save change our ways then the most effective responses to these problems is don't make them worse.

This expansion should not be allowed to go ahead.

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Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
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Wendy Wales

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Submission on the Rix's Creek Continuation Project

December 2015



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Healthy planet, healthy people.

DEA Scientific Committee

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Prof Stephen Leeder AO
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Doctors for the Environment Australia is an independent, self-funded, nongovernment organisation of medical doctors in all Australian States and Territories. Our members work across all specialties in community, hospital and private practices. We work to prevent and address the diseases – local, national and global – caused by damage to our natural environment.

We are a public health voice in the sphere of environmental health with a primary focus on the health harms from pollution and climate change. Our submissions, including this one are prepared by highly qualified public health experts.

Doctors for the Environment Australia (DEA) opposes the approval of the Rix's Creek continuation on the grounds that the area, and in particular the inhabitants of Camberwell and Singleton already suffer high levels of particulate air pollution and the extension of mining will exacerbate the probability of respiratory harm in a region with many existing coal mines and poor air quality.

New health research on air quality

Since the NSW EPA adopted the $30\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ annual standard for annual average PM_{10} new research on the health effects of air pollution has been published which indicates this standard is inadequate.

Research on Children

The lung growth of children was studied in cohorts in California and published in March 2015.¹ It showed that improvements in air quality in Southern California were reflected by improved lung function in cohorts of children followed over time. Lung growth over 4 years as measured by FEV1 was 65.5ml better for each $8.7\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ decline in annual average PM_{10} exposure. $8.7\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ was chosen as this was the median decline in pollution over the study period.

This research included adjustment for tobacco smoke exposure, socioeconomic factors, asthma, and indoor exposures, so the observed differences are highly likely to be caused by the improved ambient air quality. The policy implications from this research are to strengthen the evidence base for the introduction of an annual criterion standard for PM_{10} , at a level of $20\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.

The recommended conditions do not provide adequate protection for the respiratory health of children living in Singleton North and in Camberwell.

Research on lung cancer

Cancer of the adenocarcinoma sub type is the only lung cancer to occur in a substantial number of non smokers. The incidence has been shown to be associated with the coarse fraction $PM_{2.5-10}$ more strongly than with $PM_{2.5}$ (Air pollution and lung cancer in 17 European cohorts: prospective analysis from the ESCAPE study²). The hazard ratio was a statistically significant 1.22 for each $10\mu g/m^3$ of PM_{10} while the association with $PM_{2.5}$ was not statistically significant.

These two pieces of recent research on children and on lung cancer illustrate a fundamental mistake in the air quality section of the EIS, which asserts that PM_{10} is only important as a surrogate for $PM_{2.5}$ when in fact PM_{10} has serious health impacts as an air pollutant.

Existing air quality

The standard for ambient air quality in residential areas is for daily PM_{10} to exceed $50\mu g/m^3$ on no more than 5 days a year. The EPA monitor at Camberwell has recorded 23, 36, and 12 exceedances over the years 2012 to 2014. At Singleton NW there have been 30, 28 and 6 exceedance days over the same years. There has not been a day with less than 5 exceedances since the record began.

The NSW EPA incorrectly calls Singleton NW a “diagnostic” station, alleging that the NEPM standards do not apply in that location. However as this station is located only 600m from a suburban residential area we do not accept this assertion. These results show that people, including children, in residential areas are already being exposed to harmful levels of PM_{10} . There are serious implications for both operators and governments if this health hazard is not removed. If this situation cannot be alleviated the implication is that there should be no new mines and furthermore mines adjacent to this area should be closed as soon as current approvals expire.

Blast plumes not addressed

Neither the assessment report nor the consent conditions address the problem of blast plumes. These toxic plumes result from incomplete reactions in Ammonium Nitrate and Fuel Oil (ANFO) blasts and can contain high levels of nitrogen dioxide which is acutely toxic, causing respiratory irritation, pulmonary oedema and even death within a few hours of exposure. Blast plumes sometimes travel rather than dispersing, and in recent years a number of workers at Mt Thorley

were hospitalised after a plume travelled 3km from the Warkworth mine. A similar blast plume asphyxiated miners in QLD after travelling 6km from the blast site. This problem remains a public safety hazard, and has not been addressed. The movement of blast plumes is unpredictable, and allowing ANFO blasting within 3Km of houses in Singleton and 4 Km of houses in Camberwell shows reckless disregard for public safety.

Conclusion

Approval of this mine expansion is inconsistent with the protection of the health of people living in Singleton and Camberwell due to increased exposure to particulates in the PM₁₀ class, and the risks from blast plumes.

References

¹ Gauderman, Association of improved air quality with lung development in children. New England Journal of Medicine, 2015; 372:905-13

² Raaschou-Neilsen, Air pollution and lung cancer in 17 European cohorts: prospective analysis from the ESCAPE study. Lancet Oncology, 2013;14:813-22

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of James Whelan
<James.Whelan@envirojustice.org.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 2 December 2015 10:30 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for company Environmental Justice Australia (org_object)
Attachments: Mt Thorley Warkworth Pollution Impacts Sept 2015 EJA.pdf

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: James Whelan
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Content:
Environmental Justice Australia recommends that the PAC reject this application on the grounds of air quality impacts.

We have made (and attach here) detailed submissions on other proposed coal mine extensions in this part of the Hunter Valley. EPA air pollution monitoring demonstrates a clear pattern of the national air pollution standard for PM10 (coarse particles) being exceeded in the Hunter Valley. More than 90% of PM10 emissions in the Hunter are caused by coal mining. The adverse health impacts are well established.

According to the National Pollutant Inventory, PM10 emissions from Australian coal mines have doubled in the last 5 years and trebled in the last decade. Licence conditions and various emission control strategies (e.g. DustStop) are clearly failing to protect community health.

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James Whelan

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The Mt-Thorley-Warkworth mine and Hunter Valley air pollution



The Mt Thorley mine operates within 6 kilometres of the Bulga village in the Hunter Valley. Rio Tinto seeks to expand its operations to within 2.6km of the village by mining Saddleback Ridge which serves as a barrier between the open cut mine and Bulga. This is contrary to Rio Tinto's 2003 agreement with the NSW Government to protect Bulga and the threatened Warkworth Sands woodland. The NSW Land and Environment Court rejected the proposed extension in April 2013.

Health impacts of coal dust

1. There is no threshold below which particle pollution does not contribute to cardiovascular and respiratory ailments. Short-term exposure to elevated concentrations of PM₁₀ trigger health responses that lead to hospital admissions. Every 10 µg/m³ increase in PM₁₀ concentrations, even at levels below the national standard, causes a 1% increase in hospital admissions for respiratory disease (CAHA p.20).
2. Recent modeling by the Climate and Health Alliance¹ estimates that exposure to particle pollution from coal mining imposes a burden of \$47 million on the town of Singleton each year and \$18.3 million each year on Muswellbrook: "The communities most affected by open cut coal mining and coal-fired power generation in the Upper Hunter region and most at risk from poor air quality are the larger regional towns of Singleton and Muswellbrook, and the smaller towns of Camberwell, Warkworth, Maison Dieu, Jerrys Plains and Wybong." (CAHA p.21).
3. Community groups have urged the NSW Government to conduct a comprehensive Health Impact Assessment study in the Hunter for more than a decade, but no study has been undertaken.
4. The Upper Hunter experiences some of Australia's highest particle pollution levels. Additional sources of particle pollution pose a significant health risk and should not be approved by the NSW Government.
5. According to the NSW EPA, 87.6% of the Hunter's coarse particle pollution (PM₁₀) is caused by coal mining.² Fine particle pollution (PM_{2.5}) is caused by combustion processes including diesel locomotives and the off-road diesel vehicles used in mines.

New air pollution standards and licencing

6. The NSW Government, along with other state and territory governments and the Commonwealth, is currently varying national air pollution standards to protect community health. A stricter standard for PM₁₀ pollution is proposed (shifting from 50 micrograms per cubic metre to 40 µg/m³) for 24 hour average concentrations, not to be exceeded more than 5 times per annum.
7. The NSW EPA and industry monitor air pollution extensively in the Hunter Valley. The EPA network was expanded in 2011, in response to community concerns, and there are now 14 monitoring stations within 20km of the Mt Thorley-Warkworth mine.³
8. Daily average PM₁₀ levels recorded by the EPA at Upper Hunter monitoring sites exceeded the current national standard of 50 µg/m³ on 49 occasions during 2014. Levels above the national standard were recorded at all of the Hunter Valley's 14 monitoring stations.
9. The recommended conditions of consent are based on an interim NSW guideline of 30 µg/m³ for annual PM₁₀ average concentrations (Appendix G, p.18). **There is not yet a national standard** for annual average PM₁₀ concentrations. Australia's environment ministers are currently considering⁴ three options: 12, 16 and 20 µg/m³. The least stringent of these three options is exceeded at most Hunter Valley monitoring sites most years. In 2014, the annual average PM₁₀ concentration at the three closest monitoring stations were 21.5 µg/m³ at Mt Thorley, 20.6 µg/m³ at Warkworth and 22.7 µg/m³ at Maison Dieu – all above the proposed standard.
10. Pollution alerts are issued when 24-hour average PM₁₀ concentrations exceed the national standard. The EPA issued 161 air pollution alerts in the Hunter Valley during 2014. To date, 50 alerts have been issued for the 14 Upper Hunter monitoring sites during 2015.
11. The Warkworth mine has breached their air pollution conditions of their Environmental Protection Licences (1976 & 1376) 14 times since 2000.

Controlling coal dust

12. Mt Thorley Warkworth Operations reported emissions of just under 9 million kilograms of PM₁₀ in 2013-14, making it the fifth most polluting mine in NSW and the 17th most polluting in Australia.⁵
13. In 2011, the NSW EPA commissioned Katestone Environmental Pty Ltd to produce the *NSW Coal Mining Benchmarking Study: International best practice measures to prevent and/or minimise emissions of particulate matter from coal mining*. The conditions of consent prepared by DPE make no reference to this Best Practice Guide and, instead, simply direct the proponent to “ensure that all reasonable and feasible avoidance and mitigation measures are employed so particulate matter emissions generated by the development do not cause exceedances...”
14. The NSW EPA have introduced several programs to reduce particle pollution from Hunter Valley coal mines, including the Dust Stop program which aims to reduce coal dust emissions by 80%. **These programs are failing.** Both short term (24-hour) and long-term PM₁₀ concentrations continue to exceed the relevant standards and are increasing rapidly.

Air pollution impacts from this proposed mine

15. Pollution impacts are down-played in the mine’s EIS which states that “maximum 24 hour PM₁₀ concentrations were *on occasion* above 50 µg/m³. In 2014, the highest 24-hour average PM₁₀ concentrations at the three closest EPA monitoring stations were 58 µg/m³ at Mt Thorley, 67.9 µg/m³ at Warkworth and 63.7 µg/m³ at Maison Dieu. By comparison, Sydney’s 15 monitoring sites recorded only 2 days with concentrations above 50 µg/m³. The highest 24-hour averages recorded at inner city suburbs Randwick and Rozelle were 46.1 µg/m³ and 43.8 µg/m³.

Air pollution levels in the Hunter Valley – and this part of the Valley especially – already exceed the current particle pollution standards. Pollution in the Hunter has a major impact on public health and the region’s economy. The proposed mine will adversely impact an already polluted airshed and should not be approved in its current form.

When the Planning Assessment Commission deliberated on this project on 30 June 2015, EJA urged commissioners to seek a briefing on the proposed new air pollution standards and their implications for the determination of this project. **Has this happened?**

Dr James Whelan
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¹ Climate and Health Alliance, 2015, Coal and Health in the Hunter, <http://caha.org.au/projects/hunter-coal/>

² Senate Inquiry into the Health Effects of Air Quality, May 2013 p.55

³ Upper Hunter Air Quality Monitoring Network <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/aqms/uhunteraqmap.htm>

⁴ In 2011, the World Health Organisation set a guideline for annual average PM₁₀ concentrations of less than 20 µg/m³. http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2011/air_pollution_20110926/en/

⁵ National Pollutant Inventory, <http://www.npi.gov.au>

24th November 2015

Letter of Support for Rix's Creek Mine Extension

Fourmile Engineering has been operating at East Maitland for over 40 years repairing and maintaining mining equipment for the Bloomfield group and Rix's Creek Mine.

Fourmile's major focus is maintaining equipment for Rix's Creek Mine and relies on the continuation of Rix's Creek Mine to ensure the ongoing employment for our 68 employees. Not only do these families depend on Rix's Creek Mine continuation but also the wider Maitland community, already under pressure from the mining industry downturn.

Fourmile Engineering supports the Rix's Creek Mine extension project and ask that you look favourably on approving the extension of the mining life to 2038.

Genuinely,



Paul Sawyer

Group Manager Maintenance Services

The Bloomfield Group - *Celebrating over 75 years in Business*

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Rixs Creek Mine Continuation of Mining Project

Submission December 2015

The Hunter Business Chamber is the largest regional business chamber in Australia and was established in 1886.

The Chamber represents around 2000 member businesses to all levels of government. It is the peak industry association in the Hunter that represents all sectors of business in the region.

The Chamber welcomes the opportunity to provide a brief submission to the Rixs Creek Mine – Continuation of Mining Project EIS.

Key Points

The Chamber strongly supports Bloomfield Group's application for the continuation of mining at Rixs Creek Mine and acknowledges the Environmental Impact Statement addresses a large number of key considerations including Air Quality, Noise Impact and Social/Economic outcomes.

The Chamber understands that the Rix Creek Coal Mine sits five kilometres to the West of Singleton and has been in continued operation since 1990, directly supporting 130 employees and some 370 Hunter Valley based staff employed by the Bloomfield Group.

Bloomfield's application to continue these operations for the next 21 years would see the mine move in a westward direction away from Singleton with annual ROM tonnes to move from 2.8million to 4.5million although it is noted that the average yearly production rate would remain unchanged. We note that a large portion of onsite operations will continue shifting away from Singleton with main pit operations to shift a further 1.5 kilometres away from the town.

The Chamber acknowledges the established relationships between the existing mine and the community of Singleton and the surrounding areas. We further acknowledge Bloomfield's commitment to support the community through the provision of funding to local community, environment and education groups. The current mine has long contributed to the ongoing economic health of the community and can continue to do so into the future. Extension for mining at Rix Creek will ensure future viability and sustainability of operations enabling continued contribution to the economic and social fabric of the surrounding communities.

We further acknowledge Bloomfield's commitment to ensure environmentally and socially responsible operations and support their initiatives to ensure all consent conditions are met and operations are focused on minimizing any impacts.

Conclusion

The Chamber is pleased to offer its support to the Bloomfield Group's Rixs Creek Mine Continuation of Mining Project.

We welcome the extensive Environmental Impact Statement and acknowledge the work that continues in ensuring strong environmental performance at the site.

The Chamber believes this is a crucial project in sustaining local employment, local and regional economic benefit and positive social partnerships with various sectors of the community.

Contact

For further information please contact:

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“Reclaiming our Valley”

Hunter Communities Network

PO Box 14 Singleton 2330

Hamish Aiken
Major Project Assessment
Department of Planning & Environment
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Submission of Objection Rix’s Creek Extension Project SSD 6300

The Hunter Communities Network (HCN) is an alliance of community based groups and individuals impacted by the current coal industry and concerned about the ongoing rapid expansion of coal and coal seam gas exploration and mining in the region.

HCN objects to the Rix’s Creek Extension Project (the extension) for the following reasons:

1. Poor assessment of environmental and social impacts
2. Poor air quality in the area already exceeds national standards
3. Cumulative noise impacts have significant health and social impacts
4. Proposed 243ha final void
5. No assessment of cumulative impacts on groundwater and surface water
6. Lack of biodiversity offset strategy
7. Poor community consultation
8. Poor justification for the extension

HCN considers that the current approval for open cut operations at the Rix’s Creek Mine until 2019 is an appropriate time to cease cumulative environmental impacts in this area of the Hunter. The economic justification that the extension is needed to absorb jobs from the depletion of the Bloomfield Ashtonfield Colliery is not appropriate in the long-term.

This timing should be used by the NSW Government to encourage jobs growth in diversified industries in the Hunter region.

The Rix’s Creek underground operations have approval to 2027. This will allow job continuity and ongoing production of coal royalties. Bloomfield has also recently purchased the open cut at Integra Mine directly to the north. This will also allow for a smoother transition for employees.

The expectation that all existing coal projects in the Hunter can continue to expand with no limits until all available coal measures are extracted is unsustainable and irresponsible in a world seeking to limit greenhouse gas emissions.

1. Poor assessment

The environment assessment report (EA) is very limited in the level of information provided particularly in relation to cumulative impact.

The Rix's Creek Mine is in an area of high intensive mining with 13 large opencut and underground operations within a 10km radius.

The EA attempts to present a minimal environmental impact by contending that other mines nearby are larger with a larger environmental footprint. The lack of cumulative impact assessment in the context of these large footprints particularly for loss of remnant vegetation, groundwater drawdown and final voids, surface water impacts and loss of Aboriginal cultural heritage is a key failing of the EA.

The ongoing social and health impacts through increased cumulative dust and noise generation and subsequent loss of community through voluntary property acquisition have not been adequately assessed.

This area of the Hunter has been continuously emptied out of rural residents and farming activity since the rapid expansion of large opencut mining operations. The expectation that Rix's Creek opencut would cease in 2019 gave some security to remaining rural communities in the area.

The health and social impact of the extension has not been adequately assessed. The noise and dust models do not appear to include properties in Camberwell village which is closer to the extension than some 'receptors' identified in figures in the EA. Various figures partially cover Camberwell village with a key eg figures 11-3, 11-5, 11-7, 11-9, 11-11, 11-13, 12-1, 12-3.

HCN considers this to be an attempt to disregard the residents of Camberwell village whether in private property or mine owned acquisitions. The cumulative impact of mining on Camberwell village has not been assessed.

Whether properties have acquisition rights from other mines is inconsequential in regard to cumulative health impacts from mine dust and noise. Resident may be coping with impacts from one mine but the expectation that further cumulative impact from neighbouring sources can be acceptable is not reasonable and socially unjust.

The NSW government has a responsibility to protect its citizens from the health impacts of intrusive dust and noise.

HCN does not accept the economic assessment that the benefits of the extension outweigh the environmental costs. Cumulative impact needs to be assessed in this analysis, particularly in relation to the proposed final void.

We do not accept the conclusion in the EA that *‘As the impact of individual factors of the project are minimal, no significant cumulative impact is anticipated’*¹ This is because cumulative impact has not been adequately assessed.

2. Poor Air Quality

The Upper Hunter Air Quality Monitoring Network has measured regular exceedances of the national standard for PM₁₀ at the regional monitors near the Rix’s Creek Mine. This has not been adequately addressed in the EA for the extension or within the model used to predict dust dispersion in the area.

The cumulative impact of dust generation in this area of the Hunter, with 13 large scale opencut mining complexes within a 10km radius, is significant and is not being addressed at any level of government.

A record of recent air quality alerts reporting PM₁₀ levels that exceed the national air quality standards is attached as Appendix 1. The response by government to this regular poor air quality measurement appears to be non-existent. The extension proposal will continue to exacerbate this serious health problem.

The very high strip ratio of 10:1 at the Rix’s Creek Mine causes excessive movement of overburden and associated dust generation. The management of overburden transport and dumping from this operation will continue to cause poor air quality in the region.

The recent Department of Planning & Environment assessment report for the proposed extension of the Mt Owen Mine has identified that further information is required to inform a full and proper assessment of the potential air quality impacts of the project on nearby residential receivers.

HCN maintains that the EA for the Rix’s Creek extension does not adequately address cumulative air quality impacts of these proposed mine expansions that move towards each other. Mt Owen proposes to expand to the south east while Rix’s Creek is proposing to expand to the north west.

This will have a significant cumulative impact on the village of Camberwell which currently suffers from regular air quality exceedances. Camberwell village appears not to be identified as ‘sensitive receptors’ or included in the dust assessment for the expansion. This is a major omission.

The ongoing exceedance of national air quality standards in the vicinity of Rix’s Creek Mine needs to be addressed. If mining ceases in 2019 under the current approval, it is likely that the regional levels of dust generation would fall. This scenario has not been assessed as a base case.

¹ EA Main Report Executive Summary pxiii

The assessment predicts that adverse blast fume impacts could occur beyond the site boundary. The Rix's Creek Mine operation has a poor record of blast management with particular problems over the past year.

The cumulative impact of blasting from surrounding opencut operations has not been adequately assessed. The health impacts from regular and consistent blasting activities in the Hunter coalfields have not been assessed and need to be considered.

The assessment of greenhouse gas emissions from the extension does not include consideration of the cumulative impact of increased emissions from the Hunter region. While the consultant maintains that '*Climate change issues are unlikely to be resolved by dealing with individual Projects*'² the cumulative impact of fugitive emissions, diesel consumption, blast emissions and power generation from the coal industry in the Hunter region is considerable and should be included in assessment of proposed expanded mining activities.

Any additional emission of greenhouse gases at a time when world governments are attempting to reduce impacts of climate change is irresponsible and cannot be justified.

3. Cumulative Noise

HCN is concerned that the result of the noise assessment for the extension is that the exceedance of Project Specific Noise Criteria is likely during adverse weather conditions for all Noise Assessment Groups.

If the proposed mitigation of these noise impacts is to cease operation then this needs to be considered in the economic assessment of the proposal.

The impacts of intrusive noise from the Rix's Creek Mine when combined with noise from nearby operations has been significant. The EA identifies noise sources from 6 nearby mines: Integra, Mt Thorley Warkworth, Hunter Valley Operations, Ravensworth, Ashton and Mt Owen.

Integra, being the closest, is identified as having the most potential for cumulative noise impact. This impact has lessened while Integra has been in care and maintenance for the past year.

However, the recent purchase of Integra opencut by Bloomfield indicates that the operation is likely to be restarted. HCN considers this should occur as a replacement for Rix's Creek production after 2019 thus alleviating cumulative intrusive noise production.

The noise assessment appears to not include residences in Camberwell village. While Noise Assessment Group N covers Camberwell (Fig 12 – 1 p 138) – no properties from the village are identified as sensitive receptors. There appears to be no explanation for this omission.

Camberwell village has experienced lower noise impacts since Integra has been in care and maintenance. The extension will move in a north westerly direction towards Camberwell village. HCN considers that the assessment of cumulative noise impacts on residences within the village must be carried out.

² EA Main Report p290

The assessment of Low Frequency Noise (LFN) for the extension has not used the requirements of the Industrial Noise Policy ie C-weighted minus A-weighted with a modifying factor of 5 dBA if the difference is 15dB or more.

HCN strongly objects to the use of a night time limit of LCeq 60dB and a day time and evening limit of 65dB. These criteria are unacceptable because they will cause significant health impacts. The assessment of LFN predictions for the extension needs to be redone. We consider that predicted noise impacts will be far greater if assessed properly.

The assessment of sleep disturbance will not be correct because of the criteria used to predict LFN.

HCN considers that the assessment of intrusive noise impacts and loss of amenity caused by the extension is very unsatisfactory and does not provide accurate information on which to fully assess the social impacts of the proposal.

We have submitted strong objections to the proposed changes to the Industrial Noise Policy and consider that the impacts on health from LFN and sleep disturbance in the Hunter Region have not been adequately assessed or monitored.

The current monitoring requirements for intrusive noise emissions from large opencut mining operations are inadequate and need to be changed to real time monitoring reporting, as proposed by the Planning Assessment Commission in the approval of the Warkworth Mine expansion.

HCN considers that noise emissions from this mine are a key issue that have not been adequately addressed in the EA.

4. Final Void

There has been no assessment of the cumulative impact on groundwater and surface water sources in the Hunter region caused by the retention of multiple final voids in the landscape. The long term drawdown of groundwater sources, increased volumes of highly saline water held in open pits and potential large scale contamination of land and water in the region has not been assessed.

This is a major failure of the NSW planning system.

HCN objects to the proposal to leave a 243 ha final void in the landscape on this site. The high overburden strip ratio for this mine should leave ample material to backfill all areas. There has been no valid justification provided for the retention of a final void.

The discussion of the final void in the EA Main Report is contradictory and confusing:

25.6.7 Final Void³ -

'Create a final void of relatively low safety risk as the depression grades can be climbed safely by foot ie no remaining highwall'

'The highwall would also be rehabilitated..... and revegetated with species that are appropriate for its steepness, aspect and water retention capabilities.'

'Appropriate measures would be used to limit access to steeper areas around the final void to restrict cattle, pedestrian and vehicle access.'

The proposed final landform for the Rix's Creek Mine site has been left for future consideration. This means that no adequate information has been supplied on which to develop appropriate conditions of approval for mine closure.

Therefore, this aspect of mine approval will be impossible to regulate.

HCN expects that climate change impacts by 2038 will probably inhibit the success of mine rehabilitation. The possibility of future productive land use on mine sites after this time is highly speculative and needs to be more closely considered now – not cost shifted onto future generations.

The final land form approved for mining completion in 2019 will have a much better chance of success. HCN considers this to be a very strong argument for not approving the extension.

5. Surface Water & Groundwater Impacts

The loss of 22% of Rix's Creek catchment area, while the mine progresses, is a significant impact. There is no assessment of the cumulative loss of catchment area to the Hunter River across the coalfield area.

The capture of runoff from the proposed new large overburden emplacement to prevent pollution of Unnamed Tributary to Hunter River (Dead Man Gully) needs to be quantified in relation to downstream water use. This gully provides water storage on downstream properties. The management of polluted mine water and loss of natural flows in this part of the catchment has not been adequately assessed.

The management of large storm events such as the 2007 'Pasha Bulka' storm and recent hail storms and heavy localised rain events is not clearly assessed.

HCN does not support the conclusion that the extension will have insignificant impact on Hunter River flows because there has been no cumulative impact data provided.

In regard to the groundwater assessment HCN does not accept that an independent peer review was conducted. Peter Dundon of Dundon Consulting conducts groundwater assessments for many mining companies in the Hunter Region. This consultant has a clear conflict of interest and cannot be considered to be independent.

³ EA Main Report p 307

This highlights the community's concern about the need for an independent group of water experts who do not work for the coal mining industry.

HCN does not support the conclusion that there are no Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems (GDEs) impacted by the extension. The presence of riparian vegetation such as Swamp Oak-Weeping Grass grassy riparian forest is an indication of GDEs in the area. There appears to be no consideration of GDEs in the ecological assessment. Riparian vegetation on intermittent streams is dependent on groundwater in dry times.

The mine would require additional groundwater licences during the life of the mine with a predicted peak inflow of 305 ML/year and a current total groundwater licence of 100ML/yr.

There appears to be no discussion about the availability of these additional licences and where they may be obtained.

The predicted level of drawdown over 100 year period includes residual alluvial drawdown outside the mine lease boundary. There appears to be no cumulative assessment of predicted longterm drawdown from the neighbouring mines including Integra and Ashton underground operations.

HCN does not accept that the groundwater impacts are minimal in the context of regional cumulative impact.

6. No Biodiversity Offset Strategy

The assessment of ecological impacts is very poor. HCN is concerned that figures appearing in the Main Report (Figs 13 – 1, 13 -2, 13- 3) have a hatched area labelled as investigation area. There appears to be no explanation about this area, what was investigated or how.

The Ecological Assessment Report (App I) (the report) does not include figures with the same investigation area outlined. If this is a significant area where biodiversity surveys were conducted then it is highly inadequate because it does not include the main forested remnant on the mine site.

HCN has serious concerns about the adequacy of the ecological assessment and the lack of biodiversity offset arrangements. No areas of land have been identified or assessed to provide offsets for the loss of threatened ecological communities or threatened species habitat.

It is interesting that the ecology consultant points out that '*there has been no comprehensive and thorough assessment of native fauna in the Hunter Valley*'⁴ This observation confirms the community's concerns about the integrity of the planning system and assessment process in NSW.

The report uses no baseline data (2.3.4), though there have been a number of assessments conducted on this site over a number of years. The report also claims to make no assumptions in

⁴ Bell, Stephen AJ October 2015 Ecology Report Appendix I p 12

relation to the proposed development and its impact on flora and fauna (2.3.6). However, assumptions are made in relation to assessments undertaken for the Upper Hunter Strategic Assessment (UHSA) process that are contradictory to previous vegetation assessments.⁵

HCN is concerned that flora surveys were impacted by cattle grazing on the site during the entire time of the ecological assessment. This has prevented a systematic targeted survey for threatened orchids across the whole site. The issue of the rating of derived native grasses using the UHSA determination is problematic in the failure to recognise regeneration capacity.⁶

The key failure of the ecology assessment is the reliance on information provided to the UHSA that does not appear in the EA. These are two separate processes. HCN does not support the use of a process that has not yet been finalised and is not appropriate at the single project scale.

While the Director Generals Requirements (DGRS) allow for the use of this approach, it is inconsistent with the approach taken for other mining projects in the Hunter. The UHSA has not been completed and should not be relied on the assessment of biodiversity impacts of individual projects.

The Biodiversity Certification Assessment Methodology (BCAM) has been used for this project when it is a regional process used for strategic assessments. The Bio Banking Assessment Methodology (BBAM) has a different set of rules to BCAM in regard to derived native grasses.

It is not appropriate for the report to conclude that 1400 credits have been calculated using BCAM.

The NSW Biodiversity Offset Policy for Major Development requires the BBAM to be used. This inconsistency demonstrates a key failure of the NSW planning system.

In regard to fauna surveys, only three targeted surveys were conducted, for the Squirrel Glider, Phascogale and Green-thighed Frog. HCN considers this survey effort to be inadequate

The Large-footed Myotis has suitable habitat on site with farm dams and riparian vegetation on suitable stream order. There are records of this species nearby the study area. HCN does not agree with the report that there is no riparian vegetation on the site.

There is also suitable Koala habitat in the Red Gum grassy open forest. Targetted surveys should have been conducted for both these species.

The report fails to adequately identify all endangered ecological communities (EECs). Spotted Gum Ironbark forest should be identified as 'Central Hunter Ironbark-Spotted Gum-Grey Box Forest in the New South Wales North Coast and Sydney Basin Bioregions' as listed under the

⁵ Ibid p18

⁶ Ibid

Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 (TSC Act). This community should have been subject to a 7 Part test and the usual considerations under the TSC Act.

The 7 Part Test for the Squirrel Glider needs a clearer assessment of connectivity. The loss of 17.6 ha of habitat should have been assessed against the extent of the habitat in the study area.

HCN is concerned that the loss of 5.8ha of Central Hunter Valley Eucalypt Forest and Woodland CEEC has not been adequately assessed in relation to loss in the local context and reduction of extent on a regional scale.

The cumulative loss of habitat values in this part of the Hunter is significant and has not been considered

The failure to identify or assessed any biodiversity offset areas in the report leaves the biodiversity impacts unmitigated. The calculation of 1400 biodiversity credits to be retired in the UHSA is unacceptable and inconsistent with the approach taken for the assessment of impacts at other mines.

HCN considers the cumulative impact on biodiversity values in the Hunter region from mining operations is significant and has not been adequately assessed for this project.

7. Poor community consultation

The broader community consultation for the extension was entirely inadequate. The DGRS identify that during the preparation of the EA the proponent must consult with community groups.

The proponent has relied solely on the website, contact with directly affected landholders and the Community Consultative Committee (CCC) for consultation during the development of the EA.

Regional community representative groups such as HCN were not consulted. This is inappropriate and a failure to meet the requirements of the DGRs

8. Poor justification

HCN considers that the justification for the extension based on the depletion of the Ashtonfield Mine and the supply of long term contracts to Japan and recently established long term contacts with Korea and Taiwan is not a valid reason.

These contracts are a business risk entered into by Bloomfield with no secure basis of supply. The recent purchase of Integra opencut and the ongoing production from the Rix's Creek underground should be able to meet these commitments.

The proposal to mine a further 32 tonnes of coal up until 2038 by causing further cumulative impact on air quality, noise and blasting emissions, leaving a 243 ha void with a groundwater drawdown for over 100 years and destroying critically endangered ecological communities with

no identified biodiversity strategy is a cost shifting exercise onto current and future generations of Hunter communities.

The cumulative increase of greenhouse gas emissions has not been adequately assessed and will leave a long term legacy that is far more costly than any perceived benefit from the mine.

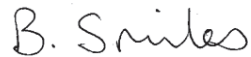
The costs benefits analysis for the extension does not adequately assess the social and environmental costs of the project. It cannot be justified as an ecologically sustainable development.

Conclusion

HCN strongly objects to the proposed Rix's Creek extension. The assessment of environmental impacts is very poor and does not provide adequate information on which to make a balanced decision.

HCN recommends that the extension be rejected on the grounds that it cannot be justified

Yours sincerely



Bev Smiles
Convenor

Appendix 1

Air Quality Alerts in late 2015 from regional monitors near Rix's Creek Mine

Air quality alert: Camberwell PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Wed 02/12/15 00:00

Air quality alert: Singleton NW PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Wed 02/12/15 02:00

Air quality alert: Maison Dieu PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Wed 02/12/15 01:00

Air quality alert: Camberwell PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Tue 01/12/15 21:00

Air quality alert: Singleton South PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Fri 27/11/15 00:00.

Air quality alert: Singleton NW PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Fri 27/11/15 00:00

Air quality alert: Mount Thorley PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Fri 27/11/15 00:00

Air quality alert: Maison Dieu PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Fri 27/11/15 00:00

Air quality alert: Singleton PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Fri 27/11/15 00:00

Air quality alert: Camberwell PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Thu 26/11/15 23:00

Air quality alert: Singleton PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Thu 26/11/15 20:00

Air quality alert: Singleton South PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Thu 26/11/15 18:00

Air quality alert: Mount Thorley PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Thu 26/11/15 12:00

Air quality alert: Singleton NW PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Thu 26/11/15 10:00

Air quality alert: Maison Dieu PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Thu 26/11/15 07:00

Air quality alert: Camberwell PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Wed 25/11/15 23:00

Air quality alert: Mount Thorley PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards
Sat 21/11/15 01:00

Air quality alert: Singleton NW PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Sat 21/11/15 00:00

Air quality alert: Camberwell PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Sat 21/11/15 00:00

Air quality alert: Mount Thorley PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Fri 20/11/15 22:00

Air quality alert: Singleton NW PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Fri 20/11/15 19:00

Air quality alert: Camberwell PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Fri 20/11/15 06:00

Air quality alert: Camberwell PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Thu 19/11/15 19:00



Hunter Environment Lobby Inc.

PO Box 188
East Maitland 2323

1st December 2015

Rix's Creek Extension Project Submission of Objection

Hunter Environment Lobby (HEL) is a regional community-based environmental organisation that has been active for well over twenty years on the issues of environmental degradation, species and habitat loss, and climate change.

HEL has particular interest in biodiversity and water management issues in the Hunter Region and has held positions on the Hunter River Management Committee and on the Hunter and Paterson Environmental Water Advisory Group. HEL also has a position on the Upper Hunter Air Quality Monitoring Network Advisory Committee.

HEL would like to make a number of points in opposing this expansion, they are concentrated on the issues of cumulative impacts on biodiversity, air quality, noise, ground and surface water.

The impacts on social amenity by the change in operations are important also, as well as the proposed impacts on Aboriginal cultural heritage.

The cumulative impacts are concentrated even further by realizing that there are eighteen coal mines within a ten kilometer radius, and the size of the final void adds to these impacts as a multiplier effect.

HEL also sees that there is no justification for this mine extension to provide jobs, royalties and product for contracts, as this company has recently acquired the nearby Integra open cut mine.

DGR's

In the DGR's, HEL sees that there is to be a progressive rehabilitation of the site. HEL sees that leaving a final void of the size proposed, that is 243 ha is not meeting these requirements, and we wish this issue to be highlighted in responses by both the Department of Planning and the proponent.

The DGRs also require a comprehensive biodiversity offset strategy. This has not been provided as outlined below.

An assessment of reasonable and feasible measures to mitigate greenhouse effects is also a DGR – we find this proposal to directly counter this requirement.

Cumulative Impacts

Biodiversity:

In the EIS Appendix 1 Ecology Report, states that, ‘the Singleton-Muswellbrook portion of the Hunter Valley currently supports approximately 18 active coal mines, all situated within a predominantly agricultural landscape. Current operations for Rix’s Creek lie adjacent to the north and south-east of the Project Area, while Camberwell and Mt Owen mines lie further to the north and north-west. Collectively, the cumulative impacts of all of these mines on biodiversity are substantial, involving the loss of habitat, breeding and feeding sites, and reduced options for the dispersal of offspring. Relative to the larger mines in the district, the extent of habitat loss for flora and fauna under the Project is minimal.¹

HEL maintains that this statement does not account for those very same cumulative impacts, and instead, downplays the very notion of cumulative impacts. Cumulative impacts means an exponential worsening by adding, not a misguided disregard.

The cumulative loss of various threatened ecological communities and threatened species habitat in this central area of the Hunter due to recent mining activity and expansion has not been quantified. The additional disturbance of 211ha of native vegetation is not a minimal impact in the context of the scale of recent clearing undertaken for mining projects, in addition to traditional clearing for agriculture.

Every area of remnant vegetation, scattered mature trees and derived native grasses is critical habitat providing linkages and stepping stones across a significantly degraded landscape.

There has been no identification of biodiversity offset arrangements for the proposed disturbance of native vegetation and habitat values. The proposal relies solely on the calculation of biodiversity credits as part of the Upper Hunter Strategic Assessment process undertaken by the Office of Environment and Heritage.

HEL has attended a number of consultations on this process and are very concerned that it will not provide adequate outcomes for biodiversity protection or mitigation of the ongoing loss of endangered ecological communities and species habitat in the Hunter.

¹ Ecology Report for Continuation of Rix’s Creek mine p36

The lack of any information in the environmental assessment report in regard to the required comprehensive biodiversity offset strategy is a key failing.

Air Quality:

The proposal assessment fails to identify that the Upper Hunter Air Quality Monitoring Network has reported frequent exceedances of the national standard for PM₁₀ in the vicinity of the Rix's Creek project.

The monitors at Camberwell, Maison Dieu, Singleton NW and Singleton have measured air quality exceedances particularly in dry windy weather conditions.

While the assessment contends that the impacts will be moving away from Singleton, it does not identify the closer proximity to the Camberwell and Maison Dieu communities.

The cumulative impact of opencut mining operations on ambient air quality in this area of the Hunter is already excessive. The health impacts on the nearby citizens is unacceptable.

Because this project has a 10:1 strip ratio, the movement of overburden is considerable and dust levels cannot be adequately managed. The proposed expansion of the Mt Owen Mine will cause considerably increased dust production to the north of Camberwell village.

The cumulative social and health impacts of these projects have not been adequately assessed and will be impossible to mitigate.

Noise:

There are a significant number of residents impacted by noise from the current operations. The cumulative intrusive noise impacts, loss of amenity and health problems caused by sleep disturbance have not been adequately assessed.

The cumulative impact of noise from this proposal and the Mt Owen extension project have not been assessed. The social impacts on this area of the Hunter are considerable and need to be taken into account.

Water:

With ground and surface water, the scale of the drawdown, loss of base flows to the Hunter River and accumulation of highly saline water bodies in the landscape has not been adequately assessed at any level of the opencut mine approvals process in the region.

The Federal Independent Expert Science Committee has recommended against final voids. HEL strongly advises again that the Planning Department undertake an independent cumulative impact study of final voids in the Upper Hunter.

Greenhouse Gas emissions:

Notwithstanding the scale of carbon export from the Hunter region the cumulative impact of diesel consumption for mining operations, road transport of employees and train movements plus the fugitive emissions from opencut

mining operations and power station emissions is a considerable volume of annual greenhouse gas emissions from the region.

This cumulative impact until the year 2038 is not adequately assessed in the context of the total greenhouse gas emissions of the coal industry in the Hunter.

Unviable Proposal

In addition, HEL does not support the approval of any final voids on this mine site. We contend that there is limited or no knowledge of the cumulative impacts of the existing final voids approved in the Upper Hunter.

HEL maintains that if this proposal, or any other, will not generate enough income to allow for the backfilling of all voids, then the project is unviable.

The ongoing loss of critically endangered habitat, irreversible damage to water sources and broadscale landscape legacies in the form of large toxic final voids is creating an enormous environmental debt for future generations.

This cumulative impact has not been adequately assessed or mitigated for this proposed Rix's Creek mine expansion. The principles of ecologically sustainable development and inter generational equity have not been met by this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jan Davis".

Jan Davis
President Hunter Environment Lobby Inc.

19th November 2015

Letter of Support for Rix's Creek Mine Extension

PWG King and Sons (Kings Engineering) has been operating in Maitland for over 90 years and works closely with the Hunter Valley Coal Industry and particularly Rix's Creek Mine.

Rix's Creek Mine is a significant contributor to our revenue in a time when the manufacturing industry is under heavy pressure to survive and maintain Australian jobs. Our workforce of fifty one requires mines like Rix's Creek to remain open providing work to ensure our business is viable now and into the future.

Without the ongoing support from Rix's Creek Mine Kings Engineering business would not be able to maintain the level of employment we currently have after reducing our employees from ninety three years ago.

Kings Engineering supports the Rix's Creek Mine extension project and ask that you look favourably on approving the extension of the mining life to 2038.

Genuinely



Paul Sawyer
General Manager

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Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of John L Hayes <jlhayes@bigpond.com>
Sent: Thursday, 3 December 2015 1:26 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for company Correct Planning & Consultation for mayfield Group (org_object)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: John L Hayes
Organisation: Correct Planning & Consultation for mayfield Group (convenor)
Govt. Agency: No
Email: jlhayes@bigpond.com

Address:
117 Ingall St

Mayfield East, NSW
2304

Content:
Correct Planning and Consultation for Mayfield Group

To NSW Planning.

http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au/page/development-categories/mining--petroleum---extractive-industries/mining/?action=view_job&job_id=6300

Re: Objection to Rix's Creek Mine Expansion

Correct Planning and Consultation for Mayfield Group (CPCFM) was established in 2010, and has about 500 members and supporters.

Our members have real concerns about Due Process with regard to Planning; Development Applications; and about Cumulative Impacts that relate to:

Climate and Environment;

Biodiversity;

Traffic Movement - Road, Rail and Ship;

Dust and Health and Pollution.

In relation to the proponent's submission for the proposed expansion of the Rix's Creek Mine we note:

1. The expansion will lead to Additional 3 million tonnes of coal per year down though the rail lines and exported through the Port of Newcastle, until 2038;

We already know that the Rail lines from all the coal mines in The Hunter, Liverpool Plains and Ulan etc to the Newcastle Port are extremely congested - so much so that the coal mines and ARTC are trying to force passenger trains off the lines. They object to new passenger services; and in some cases call for Railway Stations to be closed.

The Station at Lochinvar is a case in point. Coal trains (loaded and unloaded) go though Lochinvar every 8 minutes. There is a brand new subdivision "Huntlee" just being opened up very close to Lochinvar - with no public transport services. It is expected that within a few years Huntlee will have a brand new population of 20,000 to 30,000 people; so they will need a good Passenger Rail service, and a Railway Station nearby

3 million pa extra tonnes of coal from Rix's creek means an extra 25,000 coal wagons, made up into an extra 277 extra loaded trains, or an extra 555 loaded and unloaded train journeys pa.

This proposed expansion cannot be looked at in isolation.

2. There has been no recognition of the cumulative impact on air quality and health in the Hunter region;

3. There has been poor community consultation - no regional people have been informed of the project assessment;

4. There has been no commitment to cover coal wagons;

Or

to ensure better rail transport practices to achieve better Industrial Hygiene on the coal trains to prevent overloading, coal being carried

on the outside of the wagons, including on the Wings, The Platforms and the Bogies;

And

to ensure no carry back coal is carried on the unloaded wagons - going back to the mine;

5. The proposed Increase in coal production will come at the time when the world is trying to cut greenhouse gas emissions, in International meetings at Paris occurring now.

Refusing this application would be a good opportunity to wind back coal production in the Hunter, and move towards transitioning to renewables;

6. There is a very poor assessment of cumulative impacts on the Upper Hunter environment;

7. The proposed expansion will threaten the Squirrel Glider and other critically endangered ecological community in this area, and this impact has been poorly assessed;

8. No biodiversity offset areas have been identified, offered or assessed by the proponent;

9. The proposed expansion will have an increased impact on Rix's Creek, and there has been little or no assessment of this;

And a very poor assessment of surface and ground water impacts has been done.

10. The proposed expansion will leave a 243 ha final void in the landscape.

This is unacceptable cost shifting onto the environment and the community.

11. There must be provision in the final landscape design for:

Any void to be filled;

And

The full costs of such remediation must be covered in a Remediation bond.

A brief background for this proposal follows:

Background

Bloomfield is small Australian company with an underground mine at East Maitland and Rix's Creek open cut & underground close to Singleton

Rix's Creek Mine covers 1,818 ha - 5km NW Singleton

Current approval to June 2019, operating since 1990, plan to extend life of mine to 2038

Small operation producing 1.5mtpa thermal and coking coal; extension aims to increase production to 4.5mtpa

Open cut has high strip ratio 10:1, large area of land needed to dump overburden

Bloomfield has long term contracts with Japan, Korea and Taiwan

Main justification for the Rix's Creek expansion is that Bloomfield Mine at East Maitland will be depleted over next 10 yrs.

However it should be noted that Bloomfield recently purchased the adjacent Integra open cut that has been in care & maintenance (non operational) since last year.

So, probably the Main Justification offered by the Proponent is now in tatters

John L Hayes 3 rd December 2015

Convenor

Correct Planning and Consultation for Mayfield group (CPCFM)**

email: jlhayes@bigpond.com

Phn. 4967 3013 Mob 0400 171 602

117 INGALL ST

MAYFIELD EAST NSW 2304

** CPCFM was established in 2010, and has about 500 members and supporters.

IP Address: - 101.174.161.157

Submission: Online Submission from company Correct Planning & Consultation for mayfield Group (org_object)

https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133235

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project

https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine

https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

John L Hayes

E : jlhayes@bigpond.com



Nature Conservation Council

The voice for nature in NSW

Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001
Submitted via webform

3 December 2015

Submission: Rix's Creek Extension Project (SSD 6300)

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Nature Conservation Council of NSW (NCC) is the peak environment organisation for New South Wales, representing 150 member organisations across the state. Together we are committed to protecting and conserving the wildlife, landscapes and natural resources of NSW.

The NCC objects to the Rix's Creek Extension Project (SSD 6300) on the basis that there has been an inadequate assessment of the cumulative impacts on air, noise and groundwater quality and loss. Additionally, the project would destroy almost 70 hectares of native habitat including numerous endangered ecological communities such as the critically endangered Central Hunter Valley Eucalypt Forest & Woodland. Despite its impacts on biodiversity there are no offset sites identified to account for the damage of the mine extension. Furthermore we are concerned that the project would leave a 243 hectare void that will not be sufficiently rehabilitated.

Our main concerns are outlined below.

Biodiversity impacts:

The proponent has stated *"The Project proposes to remove 17.6 ha of native vegetation, together with 52.2 ha of derived native grassland. Of this, 0.8 ha of State-listed Hunter Lowlands Redgum Forest EEC, 1.62 ha of State-listed Central Hunter Grey Box-Ironbark Woodland EEC, and 5.8 ha of Commonwealth-listed Central Hunter Valley Eucalypt Forest & Woodland CEEC will be removed. Within the context of the Project Area, NSW endangered ecological communities comprise only 1.2%, and Commonwealth-listed endangered ecological communities only 2.8%, of the 211 ha planned for disturbance"*.

Although the proponent has provided that there are endangered and threatened species and critically endangered ecological communities within the Project area and there is a required 1400 offsets credits of the project, the proponent has not provided any specific details pertaining to a biodiversity offset plan or site to account for these offset credits. The proponent has stated that "The Bloomfield group intends to provide the required offsets in accordance with the Upper Hunter Biodiversity Plan including monetary contributions to the Upper Hunter Offset Fund as calculated

through OEH calculators.”¹ The Bloomfield group must be required to outline an appropriate biodiversity offset plan and to make it available to the public for comment before any recommendation for the project’s approval is made.

A section of the Central Hunter Valley Eucalypt Forest and Woodland Critically Endangered ecological community (CHVEFW CEEC) exists in the proposed mining area as indicated by the proponent. The Central Hunter Valley eucalypt forest and woodland is a critically endangered ecological community under EPBC Act 1999 as of the 7th of May 2015² and the current version of the proponents EIS is dated 26th of October 2015. The Australian Government Department of Environment provided advice on the Central Hunter Valley eucalypt forest and woodland (21st of November 2014)³, prior to the decision concerning the CEEC status of the Central Hunter Valley eucalypt forest and woodland and prior to the final revision of the proponents EIS. The proponent has not taken sufficient action or assessment for this eventuation in their EIS; therefore, a proper assessment and referral is required by the proponent and the Australian Government’s Department of Environment to account for the CHVEFW CEEC current status. The removal of this section of the CHVEFW CEEC will set a precedent for the steady and cumulative removal of an already critically endangered ecological community in the Upper Hunter and this is unacceptable.

Air quality:

The health impacts of air pollution from coal mining and associated infrastructure are well documented. Thus far in 2015, there have been 34 PM10 24-hour exceedances in the area including nine (9) at the Camberwell station and seven (7) at the Mount Thorley station⁴. There have also been 22 hourly air quality alerts over the last month from the regional air quality stations, five (5) hourly alerts on the 25th of November 2015 and six (6) on the 26th of November 2015⁵.

An expansion of this mine within an area that already has eighteen (18) open cut mines will add to the cumulative impacts on air pollution in the Upper Hunter area and will lead to more instances of air pollution exceedances. Members of the local community should not be expected to live with such poor air quality.

¹ AECOM, “Rix Creek Mine – Continuation of Mining Project, 2015, “Vol.1 – Main Report – Part 9”, accessed at https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/public/41b2a273bf8efdc3f7fdf54742e0eec2/16.%20Rix's%20Creek%20EIS_Main%20Report_Part%20F_%20P09.pdf, accessed on 1st of December 2015, p.177.

² Australian Government - Department of the Environment (2015). Central Hunter Valley eucalypt forest and

² Australian Government - Department of the Environment (2015). Central Hunter Valley eucalypt forest and woodland in Community and Species Profile and Threats Database, Department of the Environment, Canberra. Available from: <http://www.environment.gov.au/sprat>. Accessed 2015-12-02T11:54:55AEDT.

³ Tregurtha, J, 2014, Decision of Referral – Rix’s Creek Continuation of Coal Mining Project, Singleton, Hunter Valley, NSW (EPBC 2014/7348), Department of Environment, Canberra, https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/public/a18d1b9299081afd522975917ae53168/30.%20Rix's%20Creek%20EIS_App%20F_%20EPBC%20decision%20letter.pdf, accessed 2nd of December 2015.

⁴ NSW Government – Dept. Of Planning and Environment, “Upper Hunter air quality monitoring network”, accessed at <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/aqms/upperhunter.htm>, accessed on 1st of December 2015

⁵ See Appendix A.

Mine Site Void:

Although the proponent has stated that they will rehabilitate the mined area to restore it back 'to pastures' there will still be a final unrecoverable void of 243 hectares. In addition, there will be a 10.5:1 strip ratio of overburden to coal extraction. This will produce high overburden walls and hills attributing to the air quality problems. The company has failed to sufficiently outline how the final void will be rehabilitated and managed in the long term; this must be required prior to the mine proceeding.

Groundwater:

The proponent has not provided an adequate groundwater assessment with reference to the mine water usage and changes to the water table, nor considered the cumulative impacts of the surrounding mines on groundwater levels. The water inflow data provided by the proponent is inadequate and in some cases unusual. For instance, the Pit 1 predictions state that "the Pit 1 Portal range from 150 to 800 m³ /d (550 to 290 ML/a) over the duration of mining". This suggests there is an assumption that over the duration of mining, Pit 1 will have an intake of 289 ML/a to 550 ML/a, if so this needs to be taken into account for the cumulative total water inflow numbers, as the 550ML/a would exceed the predicted 350 ML/a stated in the EIS⁶. We request that more definitive water loss prediction be provided for the project, including an assessment of cumulative water losses from the surrounding mines to be included for this project prior to its assessment.

The Nature Conservation Council is of the view that if this project were extended it would significantly impact on the biodiversity of the upper hunter and the cumulative impacts on air, water and noise must be appropriately considered. If this project were to be approved the impacts on Federally listed critically endangered ecological communities and threatened species are simply too great and it is our view that this project should not go ahead.

Please do not hesitate to contact me on 02 9516 1488 or dbarham@nature.org.au if you would like any further information.

Yours sincerely,



Daisy Barham
Campaigns Director
Nature Conservation Council of NSW

⁶ RPSGroup, 2014, "Rix's Creek Consultation of Mining Project Groundwater Assessment", available at NEW Government – Department of Planning and Environment - Rix's Creek Extension Project, https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/public/a5939f3f0afc662998f4627a6ae43cf5/49.%20Rix's%20Creek%20EIS_App%20S_%20Groundwater%20Impact%20Assessment_Pt%201.pdf, pp.51-52

Appendix A:

Air Quality Alerts in late 2015 from regional monitors near Rix's Creek Mine, provided by the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage – upper Hunter Air quality Monitoring Network.

- Air quality alert: Camberwell PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Wed 02/12/15 00:00
- Air quality alert: Singleton NW PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Wed 02/12/15 02:00
- Air quality alert: Maison Dieu PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Wed 02/12/15 01:00
- Air quality alert: Camberwell PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Tue 01/12/15 21:00
- Air quality alert: Singleton South PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Fri 27/11/15 00:00.
- Air quality alert: Singleton NW PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Fri 27/11/15 00:00
- Air quality alert: Mount Thorley PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Fri 27/11/15 00:00
- Air quality alert: Maison Dieu PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Fri 27/11/15 00:00
- Air quality alert: Singleton PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Fri 27/11/15 00:00
- Air quality alert: Camberwell PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Thu 26/11/15 23:00
- Air quality alert: Singleton PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Thu 26/11/15 20:00
- Air quality alert: Singleton South PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Thu 26/11/15 18:00
- Air quality alert: Mount Thorley PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Thu 26/11/15 12:00
- Air quality alert: Singleton NW PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Thu 26/11/15 10:00
- Air quality alert: Maison Dieu PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Thu 26/11/15 07:00

- Air quality alert: Camberwell PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Wed 25/11/15 23:00
- Air quality alert: Mount Thorley PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Sat 21/11/15 01:00
- Air quality alert: Singleton NW PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Sat 21/11/15 00:00
- Air quality alert: Camberwell PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Sat 21/11/15 00:00
- Air quality alert: Mount Thorley PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Fri 20/11/15 22:00
- Air quality alert: Singleton NW PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Fri 20/11/15 19:00
- Air quality alert: Camberwell PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Fri 20/11/15 06:00
- Air quality alert: Camberwell PM10 levels exceeded national air quality standards Thu 19/11/15 19:00

Other alerts occurred at these monitoring sites on November 13 – 16, October 4 – 21, September 16 – 18, August 9 – 23

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Neville Jukes <neville@pjwelding.com.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 24 November 2015 9:32 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for company PJ Welding Pty Ltd (org_support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Neville Jukes
Organisation: PJ Welding Pty Ltd (Managing Director)
Govt. Agency: No
Email: neville@pjwelding.com.au

Address:
9 Enterprise Crescent

Singleton, NSW
2330

Content:

Our company, P J Welding Pty Limited, has been a contractor to Bloomfield Colliery for in excess of 40 Years. Over that time the Bloomfield Group has assisted in feeding my family as well the families of our many employees. Over the years, The Bloomfield Group have demanded that both their employees and contractors be extremely safety conscious and particularly mindful of the environment. The Bloomfield Group, like us, is a local family owned company and wonderful corporate citizen. Unlike the multinational mining companies the Bloomfield Group profits remain in Australia and the appropriate taxes are paid in Australia. The Bloomfield Group is extremely supportive of the local community and charities. For example: the group readily supports Singleton Hospital Maternity Unit, Maitland Steam Fest, Father Chris Riley's "Youth off the Streets", Hunter Medical Research Institute (HMRI) and The Red Cross among many others.

The proposed extension to the Rix's Creek Mine will offer continued and additional employment to the mine's employees. But more importantly it will create flow-on employment to existing contractors and the general community. Our company like many in the area are struggling in the current economic climate and the approval of this proposal will go a long way to helping us retain our workers into the future.

We unreservedly support the Rix's Creek Mine extension and urge the NSW Department of Planning to approve the project.

IP Address: - 1.129.96.105

Submission: Online Submission from company PJ Welding Pty Ltd (org_support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132287

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Neville Jukes

E : neville@pjwelding.com.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Cathy Merchant <rhffps@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 3 December 2015 3:31 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Cathy Merchant of Ryde Hunters Hill Flora and Fauna Preservation Society (object)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Cathy Merchant
Organisation: Ryde Hunters Hill Flora and Fauna Preservation Society (President)
Email: rhffps@gmail.com

Address:
PO Box 2127

Boronia Park , NSW
2111

Content:
Ryde Hunters Hill Flora and Fauna Preservation Society
PO Box 2127,
Boronia Park, 2111
3 December 2015.
RE: SSD 6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project.

Dear Sir/Madam,
We wish to object to the extension of Rix's Creek Coal mine.
We are a conservation group which has been active in our local area of Sydney for almost 50 years.
Some of our members have friends and family living in Newcastle who are already affected by Newcastle's increasingly poor air quality.
It is unfair that many tonnes more of coal will be passing through Newcastle for such a long period of time if the life of this mine is extended.
For some time the community and groups such as ours have expressed concern at the lack of cover on coal trucks which further exacerbates the situation.
It seems ludicrous to be extending a coal mine at a time when Australia should be moving towards a renewable energy industry which could provide more jobs in a far safer and healthier industry. The recent emergence of "black lung" is especially concerning. Drier weather conditions make it especially hard to achieve the "wet down" to reduce coal dust and extends the health impacts much further than direct employees. The health and support for affected families is a cost borne by the whole community as tax payers rather than the coal industry.
We have no confidence that the open cut mine will be re-mediated after its life as a coal mine and urge that this application to extend the mine be rejected.

Yours sincerely,
Cathy Merchant,
President.

IP Address: 203-87-51-206.static.tpgi.com.au - 203.87.51.206
Submission: Online Submission from Cathy Merchant of Ryde Hunters Hill Flora and Fauna Preservation Society (object)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133296

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine

https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Cathy Merchant

E : rhffps@gmail.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Neville Hodkinson <ssheg@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 2 December 2015 5:16 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for company Singleton Shire Healthy Environment Group (org_object)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Neville Hodkinson
Organisation: Singleton Shire Healthy Environment Group (Submissions)
Govt. Agency: No
Email: ssheg@hotmail.com

Address:
PO Box 626

Singleton, NSW
2330

Content:
SSHEG submission focuses on reducing the impact of Air and Noise Pollution from Mining on :Near Neighbours as Occupationally Exposed Persons".

Focus is "Minimisation NOT Averaging to Hide".

Specifically, the World Health Organisation classification with No Threshold of Air Pollution, Particulate Matter, Diesel Exhausts, and Noise as Human Disease Agents as they Impact Mining Operations is sought.

IP Address: - 1.42.121.177
Submission: Online Submission from company Singleton Shire Healthy Environment Group (org_object)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133142

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Neville Hodkinson

E : ssheg@hotmail.com

This email is missing attachments because they were too large to send. Please contact [Neville Hodkinson](#) to retrieve them, or reply to this email.

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Neville Hodkinson <ssheg@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 2 December 2015 6:29 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for company Singleton Shire Healthy Environment Group (org_object)
Attachments: Singleton Compliance Officers April 2014 B.pdf

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Neville Hodkinson
Organisation: Singleton Shire Healthy Environment Group (Submissions)
Govt. Agency: No
Email: ssheg@hotmail.com

Address:
PO Box 626

Singleton, NSW
2330

Content:
Correct as Attachment 2 was not sent

SSHEG Singleton Compliance letter Dept Planning April 2014

IP Address: - 1.42.121.177
Submission: Online Submission from company Singleton Shire Healthy Environment Group (org_object)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133150

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Neville Hodkinson

E : ssheg@hotmail.com

Singleton Shire Healthy Environment Group

“Elimination of Mine Blasting into the Air” “Residents as Occupationally Exposed”



15th April 2014

*A community-based group looking to address Environmental issues
affecting Singleton Shire residents*

P.O. Box 626

Singleton NSW 2330

ssheg@hotmail.com

Author: Dr Neville Hodkinson PhD

We seek identification as to what is making our Children and
Community Sick so they can be Mitigated by OH&S Compliance Orders.

SSHEG Focus on Health

SSHEG is Not Anti Mining or Anti Power Stations

Director General NSW Planning Dept.
c/o Singleton Compliance Officers, Scott Brooks
NSW Department of Planning
Locked Bag 961
SINGLETON NSW 2330

SUBJECT HUNTER VALLEY OPEN CUT COALMINE BLASTING

It is clear upon review that “Near Neighbours and Farming Families to Open Cut Mines” are “Occupationally Exposed Persons to Mining Operations” and are to have the same protections as Mine Workers.

How fair would this be in restoring the Balance?

We are alarmed at the frequency of Residents reporting “Gassing” by Open Cut Mining Blast Plumes that are drifting at ground level well outside the Mine Leases.

In recent times Residents have reported to us “Gassings” from Rixs Creek Mine that drifted onto at least two Residential Homes on Maison Dieu Road, followed by “Gassings” of Residents at Muswellbrook Industrial Estate from Mt Owen Mine Blasting.

This follows the reported “Gassing and Hospitalisation” of Bulga Mine Workers reported from Mt Thorley Walkworth (MTW) Mine Blasting that drifted at ground level outside the MTW Lease area.

We are also aware that one Bulga Resident has in the past reported “Gassings” in their backyard many Kilometres from MTW Mine Blasting Plumes NNW of Bulga Bridge and West of the Hunter River.

SSHEG contend that these Mine Blast Plumes also directly contribute to the Hunter Valley “Brown Smog” build up.

We now believe that the attempt to install a so called “Best Practice Open Cut Coal Mine Blasting Management Plan” has on the face of it “Licenced Mining Companies and Blasting Companies to emit large quantities of Hot gases, Toxic substances, unburnt Diesel based Explosives and Dust into the Atmosphere” in what would be called in any other Industry – “Unregulated Pollution Emissions”. The reliance of the use of subjective observations of Blast Plume Colour and Grey scale classification is a regression to the good old days of the “Ringleman Scales for Chimney Pollution. However it is clear these New Hunter Valley Blast Management Plans have simply produced documents that allow the continuation of past unacceptable practices.

SSHEG have previously reported that Open Cut Mine Blasting can be fully contained below the surface without Emissions into the Atmosphere; such an example is Blasting at Rixs Creek near the New England Highway. Further investigations identified the use of Plastic Stemming Plugs by Orica and others are specifically designed to prevent the release of the Blast to Atmosphere while significantly improving the Efficiency of the actual blast in fracturing the “Rock Strata”.

All things considered, the 2013 World Health Organisation announcements regarding the association between Air Pollution and Community Morbidity and Mortality points the way to the “Elimination of Mine Blasting into the Atmosphere” as the most significant Pollution Mitigation measure that has not been adequately considered.

From the Environmental Pollution and Community Disease Risk point of view the existence of “Blasting Technology” without Emissions into the Atmosphere represents the “Best Practice Blasting” ideally suited for the enclosed Hunter Valley where Open Cut Mining extends across the Valley floor all the way from Singleton to Muswellbrook, - so far.

Since late last year, “The Elimination of Blasting into the Atmosphere” as the SSHEG Priority Mitigation Plan has been presented to the Hunter Mining Dialogue, Mt Thorley Warkworth Community Consultative Committee (CCC), and the Hunter Valley Operations CCC where the issue of “Near Neighbours as Occupationally Exposed Persons to Mining” was also detailed and a debate initiated for its immediate implementation. (Attachment 1)

SSHEG is also considering a number of other issues, especially our third Priority of the Disease Risk from “Concentrated Corridors of Diesel Exhausts” that are likely to be

present in the Hunter Valley, bearing in mind that the EPA is reporting that around 600 Million Litres of Diesel Fuel was consumed by Mining in 2013 in the Hunter Valley.

In summary, while a leap forward occurred in October 2013 in the Air Pollution understanding of Human Diseases based on Yearly Average Pollution Exposures, supported by the seasonal variation of our Air Pollution Characterisation sources, we are concerned that the Air Pollution Mitigation actions are not keeping pace with this latest International Understanding.

Singleton Shire Residents still today perceive the Short Term Disease Threat from Open Cut Mining Air Pollution is the single most consistent Health Risk related Complaint by Residents.

We feel that for Open Cut Mining to continue Operating beside Residents in the absence of “Community Buffer Zones” in the Hunter Valley that it is essential that a way forward of Pollution Mitigation be added to existing Mitigation measures that not only reestablishes a better Balance but also is seen by the affected Residents and the Community as establishing that Balance.

The adoption of the two Pollution SSHEG Mitigation measures outlined in Attachment 1 should go a long way to restoring a better balance between Residents and Open Cut Coal Mining in the Hunter Valley.

We believe a better understanding of the “Gassing of Residents” would be unearthed by a review by the Director General of the last four years of Mine Blasting in the Hunter Valley in terms of the number of Blasts per day, quantity of Explosives per day, Plume Drifting Patterns per day, Plume Pollution Classification by Size and Orange Colour rating each day, number of Complaints and details recorded over the four years, and copies of the “Blast Video recordings and their mine reports etc” for those Blasts that are the subject of Community Reports of “Smell, pungent fumes, choking, etc by Residents, on Industrial Estates and sometimes other Mines.

In view of the ongoing Community concern we seek your support to implement Best Practice Blasting that “Eliminates Emissions into the Atmosphere”, followed by recognition of “Near Neighbours to Open Cut Mining” as “Occupationally Exposed Persons” as detailed in Attachment1.

Dr Neville Hodkinson PhD

For the Singleton Shire Healthy Environment Group

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of nicola young <admin@tolsafcranes.com.au>
Sent: Thursday, 19 November 2015 2:16 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for company Tolsaf Cranes (org_support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: nicola young
Organisation: Tolsaf Cranes (Director)
Govt. Agency: No
Email: admin@tolsafcranes.com.au

Address:
44 Bradmill Ave

Rutherford, NSW
2320

Content:

We are very pleased at the extension of Rix's Creek Mining and hope it injects some much needed positivity back into the mining sector.

IP Address: tolsaf.lnk.telstra.net - 120.151.248.53
Submission: Online Submission from company Tolsaf Cranes (org_support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=131951

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

nicola young

E : admin@tolsafcranes.com.au

3 December 2015

NSW Government Department of Planning & Environment
Major Projects Assessments

To whom it may concern,

RE: RIX'S CREEK EXTENSION PROJECT
APPLICATION NUMBER: SSD 6300

On behalf of WesTrac Pty Ltd I wish to register our support for the continuation of mining at Rix's Creek Mine until 2038 and an extension of open cut operations in Pit 3 (West Pit).

WesTrac is the licensed Caterpillar equipment dealer in NSW and a major supplier of mining equipment and support services to the Rix's Creek operation. Over the past 11 years we have built a strong working relationship with the Bloomfield Group supporting over 50 units of Cat equipment to the Rix's Creek project. We believe a decision to reject this application will have a direct impact on the long term job security of WesTrac employees in the local area as well as the 120+ employees on site at Rix's Creek.

WesTrac employs in excess 1000 people across NSW of which approximately 500 people are directly engaged in supporting the NSW mining industry. We have invested more than \$200m in the development of local operational capabilities to support the coal mining industry in the Hunter Valley and in 2012 we relocated our headquarters from Sydney to Tomago.

As a business we rely on the coal industry to support our employees and, in turn, our employees rely on us to provide long term job security for them and their families. Each year we contribute more than \$10m to the local economy by way of salaries and wages and we support individuals from the Singleton, Maitland and Cessnock local government areas with jobs and training.

WesTrac, together with our partners Caterpillar, has developed a sound attenuation packages specifically for the heavy mining equipment that is sold into the Hunter Valley market, including equipment that operates on the Rix's Creek Mine. We believe our investment in this technology is demonstrable of our commitment to this region – which although large by NSW standards, it is comparatively small when compared to the global markets to which Cat supplies its equipment.

NEWCASTLE
1 WesTrac Drive
Tomago 2322
New South Wales
(02) 4964 5000 tel
(02) 4964 9013 fax

BRANCH
Albury
Bathurst
Canberra
Cobar
Dubbo
EMP
Grafton
Griffith

TEL
(02) 6049 5300
(02) 6333 5600
(02) 6290 4500
(02) 6836 5400
(02) 6885 8000
(02) 4907 1701
(02) 6642 8211
(02) 6966 9100

FAX
(02) 6025 2897
(02) 6331 6619
(02) 6260 2814
(02) 6836 2547
(02) 6885 5974
(02) 4964 8234
(02) 6642 8887

BRANCH
Mt Thorley
Moree
Parramatta
Tamworth
Thornton Used Parts
Tweed Heads
Wagga Wagga
Wollongong

TEL
(02) 6575 1555
(02) 6752 4500
(02) 9840 4600
(02) 6701 7222
(02) 4028 5513

(07) 5523 8100
(02) 6923 7700 (02)
4222 1600

FAX
(02) 6575 1445
(02) 6752 4876
(02) 9840 4689
(02) 6762 6896
(02) 6574 0443

(07) 5513 1926
(02) 6971 7547
(02) 4271 7502



WesTrac Pty Ltd **Mailing Address:** Locked Bag 2006, Raymond Terrace NSW 2324 **Website:** www.westrac.com.au A.B.N. 63 009 342 572

THE FIRST CHOICE IN EQUIPMENT SOLUTIONS

Call 1300 881 064

Visit WesTrac.com.au

WesTrac supports Bloodfield Group in their bid to have the Extension Project approved and we believe a decision in the affirmative will not only benefit Rix's Creek, but WesTrac and our 1000+ employees as well as the region more generally.

Yours Sincerely,



Jason Hall
General Manager Mining
WesTrac Pty Ltd

NEWCASTLE
 1 WesTrac Drive
 Tomago 2322
 New South Wales
 (02) 4964 5000 tel
 (02) 4964 9013 fax

BRANCH
 Albury
 Bathurst
 Canberra
 Cobar
 Dubbo
 EMP
 Grafton
 Griffith

TEL
 (02) 6049 5300
 (02) 6333 5600
 (02) 6290 4500
 (02) 6836 5400
 (02) 6885 8000
 (02) 4907 1701
 (02) 6642 8211
 (02) 6966 9100

FAX
 (02) 6025 2897
 (02) 6331 6619
 (02) 6260 2814
 (02) 6836 2547
 (02) 6885 5974
 (02) 4964 8234
 (02) 6642 8887

BRANCH
 Mt Thorley
 Moree
 Parramatta
 Tamworth
 Thornton Used Parts
 Tweed Heads
 Wagga Wagga
 Wollongong

TEL
 (02) 6575 1555
 (02) 6752 4500
 (02) 9840 4600
 (02) 6701 7222
 (02) 4028 5513
 (07) 5523 8100
 (02) 6923 7700 (02)
 4222 1600

FAX
 (02) 6575 1445
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 (02) 6574 0443
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 (02) 6971 7547
 (02) 4271 7502



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THE FIRST CHOICE IN EQUIPMENT SOLUTIONS

Call 1300 881 064

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Appendix F-2 Community Submissions

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Alistair Bowman <asbowman@bigpond.com>
Sent: Thursday, 3 December 2015 3:06 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Alistair Bowman (comments)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Alistair Bowman
Email: asbowman@bigpond.com

Address:
24 Hickson Street

Merewether, NSW
2291

Content:
Reference: Rixs Creek Mine Continuation of Mining Project Environmental Impact Statement.

To whom it may concern,

I Alistair Bowman own the land immediately to the west of the Rixs Creek mine property and workings.

I have perused related documents and make the following comments.

My main area of concern is the potential for unsuitable surface water entering Deadmans Creek (referred to as the 'unnamed tributary' in section 15.3.1 of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)). This concern is not new and has been discussed with Bloomfield's Managing Director, John Richards, on many occasions over the last few years. He has been responsive to my issue.

Whilst I have reviewed the EIS statement and believe the procedures to be appropriate my experience has been that the current sediment dams that protects Deadmans Creek from surface water run-off from the existing out of pit dump has overflowed on at least three occasions in the last twelve months.

As such I am requesting a timetable for the proposed increase in size for the pre-existing sediment dams and requesting that Sediment Dams 16, 17 and 20 be constructed at their proposed full capacity prior to the dumping of overburden or commencement of mine activities in these areas.

Thank-you for considering these issues.

Kind regards
Alistair Bowman

IP Address: - 1.144.96.245
Submission: Online Submission from Alistair Bowman (comments)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133287

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine

https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Alistair Bowman

E : asbowman@bigpond.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Bruce Moxey <theamoxey@bigpond.com>
Sent: Thursday, 3 December 2015 9:09 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Bruce Moxey (comments)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Bruce Moxey
Email: theamoxey@bigpond.com

Address:
956 Maison Dieu Rd.

singeleton, NSW
2330

Content:

As a close neighbour of Rix's Creek Mine we have concerns of increased dust and noise levels with the extension. Our major concern is the runoff from the Mine that will enter Deadman's Creek that runs through a neighbouring property, then our property, before entering the Hunter River. We have seen the quality of the water in a runoff from the Mine that occurred in the past and we are concerned that the Mine might not be able to contain excess water runoff from not only entering our property but the Hunter River, also. Our cattle also have free access to Deadman's Creek and drink from it. Another concern is the occasional "yellow plumed blast" that seems to occur more frequently at Rix's Creek Mine than other surrounding mines. As a working cattle property we have had people caught in the "yellow drifts" while mustering cattle on horse back.

IP Address: - 1.129.97.124
Submission: Online Submission from Bruce Moxey (comments)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133190

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Bruce Moxey

E : theamoxey@bigpond.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 2 December 2015 7:43 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED]

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Adamstown Heights, NSW
2289

Content:

The commercial benefits are short term, but the environmental effects will be lasting. Coal is powering global warming. The impact on life on earth and the costs associated with climate change will far outweigh the benefits of extending coal mining permits!

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (object)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133154

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 24 November 2015 9:31 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (object)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address:
[REDACTED]

Bensville, NSW
2251

Content:

The Dept of Planning must take into consideration the requirement to limit the effects on the environment due to climate change of burning 1.7 million tonnes of additional coal per annum until the year 2038. Approval of this mine expansion proposal would be highly irresponsible.

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (object)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132285

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 3 December 2015 9:49 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (object)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address:
[REDACTED]

Newcastle, NSW
2300

Content:

I object to an additional 32 million tonnes of coal being extracted until 2038. The world is trying to limit CO2 emissions to manage environmental and economic impacts from climate change. The extension of Rix's Creek Mine cannot be justified

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (object)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133194

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 2 December 2015 5:53 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (object)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address:
[REDACTED]

Mayfield , NSW
2304

Content:
I object to an additional 32 million tonnes of coal being extracted until 2038.
The world is trying to limit CO2 emissions to manage environmental and economic impacts from climate change.
The extension of Rix's Creek Mine cannot be justified

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (object)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133146

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]
E : [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 30 November 2015 1:47 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (object)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

East Maitland, NSW
2323

Content:
I object to the Rix's Creek Extension Project for the following reasons:

The cumulative impact of dust and noise on the Camberwell Village will be unbearable',
the current air quality is already an issue and this can only add to the situation;;
no biodiversity offsets have been considered;
there are 18 coalmines in a 10km radius that impact on the small village of Camberwell and the exisiting residents have had enough;
the consultation process with the community has been poor and health issues not fully considered';
the overall demand for coal has diminished and this project will not provide jobs or royalties that will justify the amount of devastation
the community will endure.

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (object)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132915

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]
E : [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 30 November 2015 2:42 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (object)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address:
[REDACTED]

Wallingara, NSW
2420

Content:

I object to the Rix's creek extension project application on various grounds, some of which include-

- 1/ the negative health & wellbeing impacts on the community of Camberwell, with major reference to increased noise, dust & blasting
- 2/ social impacts of operating the coal mine 24/7
- 3/ the negative impact to the threatened squirrel glider among other native fauna.

I ask that this expansion does not proceed for the sake of the planet & all that lives on it. We should be custodians of this great land, not risking it for future generations.

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (object)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132923

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]
E : [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 23 November 2015 7:07 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (support)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address:
[REDACTED]

Cessnock, NSW
2325

Content:
Rix's Creek mine must go ahead as it will give its workforce and community of Singleton the security to be an asset to the future.
It is mindful of its environment and commitment to safe work practices and better for the future.

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132076

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 25 November 2015 7:07 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (support)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address:
[REDACTED]

Macquarie Hills, NSW
2285

Content:
The mining industry contributes massively to the economy and employment of people in the Hunter region. Given the difficulties that the industry is facing at the moment anything that can help keep people in jobs and keep the local economy ticking over is a good thing.

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132466

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 19 November 2015 1:22 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (support)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

East Maitland, NSW
2278

Content:

I believe there is a strong future for coal mining in the Hunter Valley and a strong future for coal demand globally for energy and steel production.

Though the current international coal markets are depressed I believe the approval of most coal projects and continuation of current projects (like the Rix's Creek Project) are necessary to make sure the Hunter and Newcastle region is well positioned to take the best advantage possible from predicted future growth in coal demand as the supply and demand balance evens out in the medium to long term.

Bloomfield is, and sets, an excellent standard as a good corporate citizen donating too many local charities and supporting many local businesses and families. This support is something which will no doubt continue into the future with the continuation of Rix's Creeks mining life. I believe Bloomfield also operates to highest possible standards in terms of minimising its environmental impact and where possible looks to extend these practises beyond the minimum expectations lifting the bar for other miners in the Hunter.

Several hundred company employees and many contractors and local businesses will also have their futures secured with the approval of the continuation project.

Thanks.

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=131941

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]
E : [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 23 November 2015 6:57 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (support)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address:
[REDACTED]

Muswellbrook, NSW
2333

Content:
I support the Rix's Creek proposal because of their integrity, community support and their environmental initiatives.

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132074

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 23 November 2015 7:43 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (support)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address:
[REDACTED]

Kotara, NSW
2289

Content:

I am in favour of the proposal as it will provide further employment for a lot of people for the next 20 years going forward. I believe all the environmental concerns are being addressed and will be contained within required levels.

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132082

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 10 November 2015 7:58 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (support)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address:
[REDACTED]

Singleton, NSW
2330

Content:

Mining Plays a vital role in the Hunter Valley, directly employing thousands of people with positive flow on effects throughout the wider communities.

The Bloomfield Group takes great pride in it's responsibilities as a Mining member of the Singleton community, and compliance with it's mining consent provisions is strongly adhered to, and re-enforced at all levels within the organisation.

The mine expansion is moving away from the town of Singleton, and all land required for mining has been purchased, via positive consultation with our neighbours.

Coal still has a major role to play in developing nations of the world. Electrical is a major determining factor in delivering 1st world living standards to 3rd world countries.

Australia has the cleanest coal in the Asia Pacific Region, and if Australian Government doesn't allow local Industry to supply it's customers, other country's will fill the supply void, with jobs and income leaving the country.

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=131204

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]

E: [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 3 December 2015 1:56 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (support)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address:
[REDACTED]

Kangaroo Point, QLD
4169

Content:
Mining Plays a vital role in the Hunter Valley, directly employing thousands of people with positive flow on effects throughout the wider communities.

The Bloomfield Group takes great pride in it's responsibilities as a Mining member of the Singleton community, and compliance with it's mining consent provisions is strongly adhered to, and re-enforced at all levels within the organisation.

The mine expansion is moving away from the town of Singleton, and all land required for mining has been acquired via positive consultation with its neighbours.

Coal still has a major role to play in developing nations of the world. Electricity is a major determining factor in delivering 1st world living standards to 3rd world countries.

Australia has the cleanest coal in the Asia Pacific Region, and if the Australian Government doesn't allow local Industry to supply it's customers, other country's, with not so clean coal, will fill the supply void, with jobs and income leaving the country."

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133253

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]
E : [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 3 December 2015 2:24 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (support)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address:
[REDACTED]

Singleton, NSW
2330

Content:

I am an employee of Rix's Creek. I totally support the Rix's Creek extension project.

Rix's Creek are a great employer to work for, they value and support their workers and community and always have environmental issues at the top of their list in all decision making. The extension of Rix's Creek is good for the community and environment.

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133259

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]

E: [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 3 December 2015 2:33 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (support)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address:
[REDACTED]

Singleton, NSW
2330

Content:

I fully support the Rixs Creek extension project. The longevity of Rix's Creek in the Singleton Area is vital. Secure employment is needed for residents in this area.

Rix's Creek is a very community orientated organisation and extending their involvement in the Singleton area can only be beneficial to all the community.

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133267

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]
E : [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 2 December 2015 1:30 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (support)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address:
[REDACTED]

Adamstown Heights, NSW
2289

Content:

I have been aware for a long time of Bloomfield Group's involvement in the local community as a local private company that employs many local people and also contributes generously to the local community and charities.

Bloomfield is well respected in the community and has previously operated this mine successfully

Their imminent purchase of the mine next door will lead to a further increase of it's workforce, bringing more employment to the local area during a time when mines are reducing numbers.

I am happy to support the continuation of Rix's Creek mine and the Extension project.

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133113

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 17 November 2015 7:17 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (support)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Bolwarra Heights, NSW
2320

Content:
History has shown Bloomfield and Rixs Creek to be a responsible member of the local community. As an Australian family owned local company Rixs Creek is sensitive to local business support and the environment.
The continuance of Rixs Creek is extremely important to the Singleton area and wider lower Hunter Valley and therefore I can only support the Rixs Creek application.

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=131744

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 20 November 2015 7:48 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (support)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address:
[REDACTED]

Cessnock, NSW
2325

Content:
Rix's Creek/ Bloomfield Group is a wholly Australian owned company and has a history of providing stable employment for it's workforce which will continue with the approval of the mine extension.

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132011

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]
E : [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 23 November 2015 6:51 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (support)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address:
[REDACTED]

Aberglasslyn, NSW
2320

Content:

I have worked both at Bloomfield and Rix's Creek for over 25 years. In that time, I have found the company very family orientated in the way they conduct their workers, and in their duty of care. In my opinion, No stone is untouched in their care of workers and the environment. As a long time worker at Rix's Creek, I feel proud of their commitment to all facets in Operations at both Rix's Creek and Bloomfield

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132072

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 2 December 2015 3:46 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (support)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address:
[REDACTED]

Islington, NSW
2296

Content:
I support the project as it will produce great jobs for the area.

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133134

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]
E : [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 3 December 2015 2:55 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (support)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address:
[REDACTED]

Bellbird, NSW
2325

Content:
Rix's Creek employs local people which I am. They are totally Australian owned. We do a lot of good things for the community and local charities.

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133279

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]
E : [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 30 November 2015 9:29 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (support)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address:
[REDACTED]

Broke, NSW
2330

Content:
I am all for the Rix's Creek Extension. The extension will secure multiple jobs for the long term benefit of the community and the supporting businesses. The Bloomfield Group are in my opinion one of the best operators in the industry and should be supported 100%

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132862

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 23 November 2015 7:39 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (support)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address:
[REDACTED]

Singleton, NSW
2330

Content:

I have worked at Rix's Creek for 7 years , I wish to keep working there. I have found the company to be a very good company to work for. I know they are very caring of the community and always meet their commitments. I personally am involved in the rehabilitation and I think we do a really good job.

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132080

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]
E : [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 3 December 2015 2:28 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (support)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address:
[REDACTED]

Singleton, NSW
2330

Content:
As a young man who has grown up in Singleton, extensions like the Rix's Creek extension vital to singleton surviving. I fully support the extension to be approved.

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133263

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 1 December 2015 6:40 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (support)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address:
[REDACTED]

Maison Dieu, NSW
2330

Content:
Having been a sole trading contractor with Rixs for the past 8 years I fully support the extension of the Rixs Creek Mine because :

they are a family owned and run Australian Mining company who employ people from Singleton and surrounding areas;

They care for their workers and contractors and ensure they have a secure and safe working environment;

They care for the environment and the processes of rehabilitating the mined areas on site. I believe Rixs would be one of the best examples of rehabilitation in the Hunter Region.

Rixs Creek/Bloomfield not only support their employees and contractors but also support, very generously, to the Singleton and surrounding areas which includes much needed medical equipment to Singleton Hospital, The Cancer Council and many other worth causes including local sporting clubs.

I believe the requested extension of Rixs Mine will ensure the continued employment of its current employees and additional jobs in the future. I fully support the extension and feel Rixs/Bloomfield will continue to be a good, caring and responsible corporate citizen.

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133005

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]
E : [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 11 November 2015 1:27 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (support)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address:
[REDACTED]

Bellbird Heights, NSW
2325

Content:

As a previous employee who was made redundant by the closure of this mine as Integra, this extension approval will be critical in re-employment of the area.

This extension will prove economically beneficial for the town.

With the closure of several other mines, this is crucial that growth of this nature is approved.

I am begging you to please, approve this extension so that many of the employees whom have been made redundant by the closure of Integra will regain employment, which will have a flow on affect to the town, surrounding towns, tourism & hospitality, and all businesses.

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=131244

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]
E : [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 17 November 2015 10:15 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (support)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Bolwarra Heights, NSW
2320

Content:
The project should provide stable employment with no extra impact on the community compared to the current operation

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=131666

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]
E : [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 23 November 2015 7:47 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (support)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address:
[REDACTED]

Seaham, NSW
2322

Content:
I support the Rix's Creek Mine extension because it is good for Singleton and the surrounding area. I have worked for The Bloomfield Group for over twenty years and worked at Rix's Creek for twenty of them. Even though I don't live in Singleton I have supported many of the business' over that period.

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132084

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, 28 November 2015 7:18 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (support)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address:
[REDACTED]

East Maitland, NSW
2323

Content:

Rix's Creek Mine has demonstrated in the past 20 years the ability to limit & control environmental issues with surrounding areas of its current operation.

I see this submission only as a positive that allows the operation to move further away from the township of Singleton.

My family has been in the Mining Industry in the Hunter Valley for over 40 years.

Rix's Creek Mine I believe would have to the most committed mining operation in regard to rehabilitation of the land
Australian Companies have a right to succeed in this country just like Australian Workers.

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132788

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]
E : [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 27 November 2015 9:15 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (support)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address:
[REDACTED]

Singleton, NSW
2300

Content:

Rix's Creek Mine has demonstrated in the past 20 years the ability to limit & control environmental issues with surrounding areas of its current operation.

I see this submission only as a positive that allows the operation to move further away from the township of Singleton.

My family has been in the Mining Industry in the Hunter Valley for over 50 years.

Rix's Creek Mine I believe would have to the most committed mining operation in regard to rehabilitation of the land
Australian Companies have a right to succeed in this country just like Australian Workers.

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132767

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]
E : [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, 28 November 2015 7:32 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (support)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address:
[REDACTED]

Bolwarra Heights, NSW
2320

Content:

I support the Rix's Creek Application and see this company as one of the best in the valley. They have a strong commitment to being a low impact mine with steady growth and employment stability not seen in the bigger companies. The Rix's Creek Mine has a great relationship with it's local community and immediate neighbours.

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132774

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]
E : [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 30 November 2015 6:46 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (support)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address:
[REDACTED]

rutherford, NSW
2320

Content:
this extension is vital for my family and many other families in the area.

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132958

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]
E : [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 17 November 2015 10:44 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (support)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address:
[REDACTED]

East Maitland, NSW
2323

Content:
Most of my family work or have worked in the mining industry or subsidiaries of it and need this industry to grow and support us. As I work for The Bloomfield Group my job security does rely on the success of this Rix's Creek project application. This will mean more mining jobs which in turn provides income and growth in our community. Something that our community has been struggling to do in the last few years.

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=131674

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]
E : [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 30 November 2015 8:07 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for [REDACTED] (support)

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Address:
[REDACTED]

Kotara, NSW
2289

Content:

I support the Rix's Creek extension project. The Bloomfield Group is Australian owned and family operated business that supports many Australian charitable foundations and sporting groups and businesses.

Cancer Council, Hunter Medical Research Institute, Royal flying doctors, Fred Hollows Foundation, Scouts Association, Youth off the streets - hunter program and John Hunter children's Hospital. This is just a few supported groups.

The Rix's Creek mine takes pride in its high environmental standards, and sensitive eco system awareness. Money spent by the Bloomfield Group helps the local economy and generates more employment.

[REDACTED]
Submission: Online Submission from [REDACTED] (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132842

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

[REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of charlotte mccabe
<charlottemccabe@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 2 December 2015 8:44 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for charlotte McCabe (object)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: charlotte McCabe
Email: charlottemccabe@hotmail.com

Address:
35 union st

tighes hill, NSW
2297

Content:
I object to an additional 32 million tonnes of coal being extracted until 2038.
The world is trying to limit CO2 emissions to manage environmental and economic impacts from climate change.
The extension of Rix's Creek Mine cannot be justified

IP Address: 91.44.70.115.static.exetel.com.au - 115.70.44.91
Submission: Online Submission from charlotte McCabe (object)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133160

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

charlotte mccabe

E : charlottemccabe@hotmail.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Anthony Lonergan <adlonergan@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 3 December 2015 11:57 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Anthony Lonergan (object)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Anthony Lonergan
Email: adlonergan@gmail.com

Address:
892 Dorset Rd

Muswellbrook, NSW
2333

Content:

I object to the Rix's Creek extension on a number of grounds

- 1 To limit global warming to less the 2 deg C most of the coal must remain in the ground. That includes Australian coal, so no new mines or extensions should be approved.
- 2 The Hunter has been devastated by mining and it needs to be limited. Long term cumulative impact on biodiversity, air quality and salt levels in the Hunter have not been adequately addressed
- 3 This will further add to the pollution and noise load on the people of Camberwell and the Valley in general
- 4 No biodiversity offset areas have been identified or assessed.
- 5 Impact on the endangered squirrel glider has not been identified

IP Address: cpe-58-168-52-247.lns8.clt.bigpond.net.au - 58.168.52.247

Submission: Online Submission from Anthony Lonergan (object)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133221

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Anthony Lonergan

E : adlonergan@gmail.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Charmian Eckersley
<charmian.eckersley@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 3 December 2015 12:21 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Charmian Eckersley (object)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Charmian Eckersley
Email: charmian.eckersley@gmail.com

Address:
18 Payten Street

Eraring, NSW
2264

Content:
NSW Planning Advisory Committee

SUBJECT: Rix's Creek submission

I strongly object to the extension of the Rix's Creek open cut coal mine. The approval ending in June 2019 should cease the operation of this mine. The additional 3 million tonnes of coal per year through Newcastle until 2038 should not be allowed. These huge coal trains destroy the tracks for the commuting trains and regularly trains are held up due to track work. The public purse must pay the bill and this is an unsupportable hidden cost to the community. The externalities of lost productive time of Hunter region workers as they wait queuing for 87 carriage trains must be considered before more coal trains are permitted to go through Newcastle. Furthermore I strongly object to the uncovered coal trucks travelling through the Hunter. Coal is a toxic product and all loads should be covered.

No recognition is given to the cumulative impact on air quality and health in the Hunter region. The air in the region from being clear and healthy in the early 90s, has deteriorated into a visible haze clouding the atmosphere. It is time to draw the line. The most dangerous particles to our health are less than 10 ppm and this air pollution content must be measured and considered before another new mine is opened or an existing lease extended.

The lack of community consultation for this mine extension is appalling. It will have a regional impact and thus there should be regional consultation.

It is time to wind back coal production in the Hunter and transition to renewable energy. While the Premier and the Prime Minister espouse the international concerns of climate change and our islander neighbours are facing obliteration. Therefore the Planning and Assessment Committee should not allow any new coal mines or extensions to existing coal mines to worsen the situation. Regardless of whether the coal will be burnt in Japan, Korea and Taiwan or Australia climate change is a world-wide phenomenon and the PAC must make a globally responsible decision. This is a fundamental reason for this mine to end production in 2019.

What are the biodiversity offset areas? Have they been assessed? This is a secondary and technical reason this mine should not be extended.

What is the assessed impact on critically endangered ecological communities? If they are critical no more damage should be wrought on them. What is the impact on the threatened squirrel glider? Please require that the impact is scientifically researched and documented. Ecological studies which do not undertake regular night observations over a full year are inadequate in the case of a threatened species.

I object strongly to the poor assessment of surface and ground water impacts for Rix's Creek. The 243 ha final void which is proposed is left in the landscape is totally unacceptable both environmentally and would not constitute land remediation. The surface land should be left in form exactly as it was found.

IP Address: - 101.174.11.150

Submission: Online Submission from Charmian Eckersley (object)

https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133179

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project

https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine

https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Charmian Eckersley

E : charmian.eckersley@gmail.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Daryl Morris <dazsm91-wilderness@yahoo.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 2 December 2015 2:53 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for daryl morris (object)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: daryl morris
Email: dazsm91-wilderness@yahoo.com.au

Address:
123 Woniora Rd

South Hurstville, NSW
2221

Content:
I object to an additional 32 million tonnes of coal being extracted until 2038.
The world is trying to limit CO2 emissions to manage environmental and economic impacts from climate change.
The extension of Rix's Creek Mine cannot be justified.

Most mining is completely destructive to natural environments and man-made communities physically socially and economically. Boom periods and the bust economies of these small communities both can have devastating effects.

Governments teach children in schools of the importance of environment, but they are very willing to destroy it. The confusion for the children contributes to depression, drug use and suicide rates no wonder many children do not like adults but, in particular, many hate governments.

Community elders use to make sacrifices to the rivers, oceans and forests now many elders are willing to sacrifice those very things once held in high regard. Even the Pope would be appalled at the idea of the further destruction of proposed expansion of this mine.

IP Address: eth474.nsw.adsl.internode.on.net - 150.101.204.217
Submission: Online Submission from daryl morris (object)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133126

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Daryl Morris

E : dazsm91-wilderness@yahoo.com.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Bev Smiles <bevsmiles@bigpond.com>
Sent: Thursday, 3 December 2015 12:45 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Bev Smiles (object)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Bev Smiles
Email: bevsmiles@bigpond.com

Address:
"Inana" Ringwood Rd

Wollar, NSW
2850

Content:
The Rix's Creek Extension Project is not an environmentally sustainable development.

The cumulative impact on air quality, noise, biodiversity, groundwater, surface water and Aboriginal cultural heritage has not been adequately assessed.

The cumulative emission of greenhouse gases from opencut coal mining operations in the Hunter Region is significant and has not been assessed.

A proposal to mine coal to 2038 is unsustainable and should not be approved.

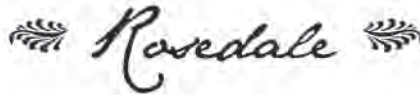
IP Address: cpe-124-187-128-95.lns15.ken.bigpond.net.au - 124.187.128.95
Submission: Online Submission from Bev Smiles (object)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133231

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Bev Smiles

E : bevsmiles@bigpond.com



PO Box 14
Singleton 2330
Ph/Fax: (02) 6576 1957

Mrs Wendy Bowman
Ashton Pastoral Co. at
"Rosedale"

3 December 2015

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Objection to Rix's Creek Mine Extension

I object to the extension of the Rix's Creek Mine for the following reasons:

My property and residence "Rosedale" is one of three properties closest to this mine proposal, that will be most impacted.

Dust

A number of blasts by this mine recently have impacted on properties and businesses in the Maison-Dieu area, Rosedale being one.

Dust and fumes from blasting, dumping, road haulage etc must be better controlled so that all pollution is kept below the ridge that divides the mine from Glennies Creek Valley.

Noise

Noise from this mine has penetrated as far as my home already.

Noise will now become greater as the mine progresses west and the dump ridge becomes higher.

Noise, day and night, must be carefully controlled and should be lower than at other mine sites due to the valley being exempt from other local noises.

Lights

Night lights will create another problem. Lights on all machinery eg draglines, must be lowered to light along the ground, or light ahead horizontally. This is essential as the dump site increases in height.

Water

The "Dead Man's Hill" (the ridge between the mine and Glennies Creek Valley) must be maintained to ensure that the gully and creek are protected from all water from mine workings, roads and spoil heaps.

The water collected from rainfall in this valley is the main source of water for the paddocks and dams and for stock water and the water goes all the way to Maison- Dieu and thence to the Hunter River.

A bund type of structure is necessary to take any mine contaminated water well away from this important water supply.

This water only runs after good rain and storms and can create a large body of water due to the size of the catchment.

Damage to Glennies Creek and the resultant consequences for the Hunter River and downstream water users of the Hunter.

The water from the affected valley flows into Glennies Creek. Glennies Creek water meets the Glenbawn Dam - Hunter River water at Maison Dieu (4 kms downstream of "Rosedale"). The Glennies Creek water then becomes Hunter River water from there down to the Maitland Tidal Pools. The Hunter River water that comes from Glenbawn Dam has been fully used by the time it reaches the confluence with Glennies Creek, due to the full allocation of licences.

The water users depending on the Glennies Creek water are all the farmers from Camberwell to Maitland Tidal Pools, including the whole Pokolbin irrigation district. Pipelines from the Hunter River supply the Pokolbin and Broke/Fordwich vineyards and tourism industry and the Singleton Abattoir (a very significant business for all cattle producers in the Hunter Valley). The Pokolbin tourism industry is a \$2 billion a year industry which would be decimated if there was an interruption to the water supply.

If this water supply becomes contaminated there is NO other water supply available.

Camberwell

Camberwell was first settled in the 1820s. It is one of the earliest Hunter Valley settlements.

The community of Camberwell has been decimated by coal mining and I am one of the few farmers left. The buffer zone is not sufficient given the cumulative impact of this mine extension on top of all the existing mines in the area.

Dust, noise and light will impact on Camberwell Village. Dust in particular will affect Camberwell when the strong south east winds blow up the valley from Newcastle.

Summary

I am extremely concerned about this proposal. I believe the impacts in terms of dust, noise and light pollution, are too great. For this reason the conditions imposed must ensure that Camberwell Village is not affected by any of the above concerns.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Wendy Bowman

Submission to Planning NSW: Rix's Creek Mine Expansion Proposal

Nick Higginbotham, PhD
Centre for Clinical Epidemiology & Biostatistics
School of Medicine & Public Health
The University of Newcastle
Newcastle, NSW

3 December, 2015

As a public health professional, I wish to register my objection to the application for an extension to Rix's Creek Mine.

Damaging health effects of air pollution

First and foremost is my concern that this open cut mine extension will add dangerously to already very poor air quality in the Camberwell and Singleton townships (close to Rix's Creek), putting local residents health at risk of acute and chronic respiratory and cardiovascular disease. Especially at risk are the vulnerable citizens of that those Hunter towns—children, elderly, pregnant women, and those with existing chronic illness.

A review of PM10 air quality data from two EPA monitoring sites from 2012 to 2014 shows that Camberwell had 23, 36 and 12 exceedences, respectively, of the NEPM 50ug/m³ daily standard. Similarly, Singleton NW had 30, 28 and 6 exceedences of the daily standard over three years. Extending and approving an increase in Rix's Creek's annual coal output will both increase the duration of harmful air quality days as well as their frequency. The Hunter New England Area Health Service Public Health Unit has written opposing further mine development near Camberwell because of poor air quality issues, and this new project will only exacerbate a bad situation.

Pollution along rail corridor

Coal rail transport is a source of significant diesel combustion and coarse fraction particulate emissions in an already polluted Hunter Valley air shed along the rail line. Transport of coal from Rix's Creek Mine will expose large suburban populations to harmful particulate matter as trains make their way along this rail corridor.

Loaded and unloaded coal trains moving along the coal corridor are a significant and poorly understood source of harmful emissions from: 1) diesel combustion; 2) wind erosion of loaded coal wagons and wind scouring of residual coal dust from empty wagons; 3) re-suspension of coal dust spilled along the corridor and other dust sources; and 4) entrainment of all of these particulates and their dispersion into the 'air shed' or air supply covering the rail corridor location.

The world literature estimates that from 0.001% to 1% of the coal load is lost during transport (e.g., Ferreira *et al.*, 2003; one estimate is 3%, BNSF, 2011). Ferreira *et al.* (2003 & 2004) found that uncovered wagons could emit up to 5 times more than semi-covered wagons, or 8.57g/km/wagon (Connell Hatch, 2008). Extensive load losses can even destabilize ballast, causing derailment (BNSF Railway) in the USA: <http://www.bnsf.com/customers/what-can-i-ship/coal/coal-dust.html>).

Entrainment of carcinogenic diesel combustion emissions plus fugitive coal dust has the potential to expose residents living near the rail line to particulate pollution depending on their distance from the track, weather, moisture, wind speed and direction, train speed and the number of train pass-bys (Connell Hatch, 2008; CTAG, August, 2013).

The majority of coal trains are configured with three diesel locomotives, and virtually none of them have any PM emission controls. Indeed there are no regulations to limit locomotive exhaust in Australia, although the NSW EPA note that locomotive emissions are a significant contributor to particle levels (EPA, 2014, p 6).

WHO classifies diesel engine exhaust (DEE) as a human carcinogen (IARC, 2013). DEE is a “complex mixture of substances characterised by polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) surrounding an elemental carbon core (Rushton, 2012, p1).”

Diesel exhaust can be detected 1-2km away if the air is clean, and 200-300m if not (B. Brunekreef, 2013).

Health & Social Costs of Carbon Pollution

Finally, public health professionals globally are alarmed by the growing evidence that climate change is the biggest threat to global public health in the 21st century, undermining the last half-century of gains in development and public health.

An impact evaluation of Rix’s Creek Extension proposal cannot ignore the damages caused by adding the 10.8 mt of CO₂e into the atmosphere when 4.5mt of its exported coal are burned.

Economic analysts from the US government and Sir Nicholas Stern estimate the health and social cost of CO₂ range from A\$44 to A\$190 per tonne, when considering damages to health and property, agriculture and ecosystem services and welfare.

Doing the sums, these damages range from \$475.2 million to \$2.05 billion dollars, and are borne by the public, rather than the coal mining industry.

Other governments and international agencies realize the cost of coal is unaffordable. Currently 152 world leaders have met in Paris to express deep concern that global warming caused by burning fossil fuels has gone too far and

Submission: SSD 6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project

The world is turning away from coal and the advancement of renewable energy capacity worldwide has been spectacular.
To take China (the acknowledged driver of the recent coal boom) as just one example;

CHINA the source of the Coal Boom

Figures from China's National Energy Administration in October of 2014, reveal that China's coal use dropped by 1.28% in 2014.

However, in March 2015 new data from the National Bureau of Statistics of China indicates that coal consumption dropped by 2.9%.

China's consumption of electricity from coal-fired power stations fell 10 per cent over the first three months of the year. These figures are "very bad news" for Australian coal exporters, as it signalled Chinese demand would continue to decline. China's coal imports fell 42 per cent over the first quarter of the year, compared with the same time last year, according to Customs Bureau figures released on April 13.

This is partly a function of Beijing's recently declared "war on pollution" but also overproduction across the Chinese coal sector.

While coal used in the power generation saw a sharp drop in the first quarter, the use of renewables rose sharply.

Further; the harmful effects of coal on health and climate change are now well-known and well-documented.

The prestigious medical journal "The Lancet" has published a two volume review involving more than 40 key researchers from all over the world;

***Lancet* and University College London Institute for Global Health Commission**

Managing the health effects of (493 references) climate change Two volumes

Achieving a decarbonised global economy and securing the public health benefits it offers is no longer primarily a technical or economic question—it is now a political one

The Lancet made the point that;

One important strategy to protect against the health burdens of local and national energy choices, is to ensure that health impact assessments are built in to the planning, costing, and approval phases of a new project. By developing the tools and capacity to enforce this, policy makers can better understand the broader consequences of their decisions.

Lancet

G7 nations are in agreement and even the Pope has pleaded for a re-assessment of world view.

In the Hunter Valley alone health costs related to coal are enormous (over \$600m per annum)

Coal and health in the Hunter: Lessons from one valley for the world (248 references)

Recommendations for Action

1. The prohibition of any new coal projects in the Hunter Valley

Table 1. The local health costs of coal in the Hunter Valley

Source of health damage	Value of health costs
Externalised health costs associated with pollution from five coal fired electricity generators in the Hunter Valley	\$600 million per annum
Health costs among people living in Singleton associated with fine particle pollution (PM2.5) from coal sources (coal mines and coal fired power stations) in Singleton	\$47 million per annum
Health costs among people living in Muswellbrook associated with fine particle pollution (PM2.5) from coal sources (coal mines and coal fired power stations) in Muswellbrook	\$18.3 million per annum
Health costs among people living in Newcastle associated with air pollution (PM10) from coal sources in Newcastle	\$13 million per annum

Table 2. Social costs of carbon associated with Hunter Valley coal

Estimates of the social costs of carbon (SCC)	Current production volume of Hunter Valley coal	Social cost of carbon associated with Hunter Valley coal
\$37-190/tonne CO2e	145 million tonnes per annum	\$16-66 billion per annum

The age of coal is rapidly ending. Coal is clearly shown not to be “Good for Humanity”

Kathleen Oldman
Denman NSW

3 December 2015

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Objection to Rix's Creek Mine Extension

I object to the proposal to extend the Rix's Creek Mine to allow an additional 32 million tonnes of coal to be extracted until 2038.

This extension would exacerbate the current unsustainable world levels of CO₂. We must limit any environmental effects which will increase climate change.

We must also protect the local community by refusing to add to the already too high cumulative dust, noise and light pollution in the area.

The extension of Rix's Creek Mine cannot be justified.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K Oldman', followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Kathleen Oldman

If Australia is not to be left floundering in the wake of more progressive nations we need to take action now and look forward to a renewables future and drop the addiction to coal.

Cristiana Figueres, UN climate change spokesperson, has expressed amazement that Australia “the sunniest, windiest country on earth” is so slow in renewables uptake.

As The Lancet stated “it is not a technical or economic consideration it is a political one”

The addiction of successive governments to the future of coal and the NSW DPE’s eagerness to push for coal developments is now being shown as folly; a folly that should not be projected into the future.

Price and demand for coal is falling and despite the optimistic predictions of the industry and the Minerals Council, this is not going to change for all of the reasons outlined above, there will **never** be a bounce back in coal price or demand.

Coal is, and will remain, in STRUCTURAL (not temporary) decline!

There is hope for Australia and The Hunter if we follow the lead of other nations and embrace renewables as a business opportunity. The Hunter hosts CSIRO’s Energy Centre with world-leading technologies in development. I enclose information from CSIRO as follows;

[**“Delivering solar breakthroughs through collaboration \(CSIRO ENERGY\)**](#)

We have been developing advanced solar storage to provide solar electricity at any time, day or night through a \$5.68 million research program supported by the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) and a broader collaboration with Abengoa Solar, the largest supplier of solar thermal electricity in the world.

The breakthrough was made at the CSIRO Energy Centre, Newcastle, home to Australia’s low emission and renewable energy research. The Centre includes two solar thermal test plants featuring more than 600 mirrors (heliostats) directed at two towers housing solar receivers and turbines.”

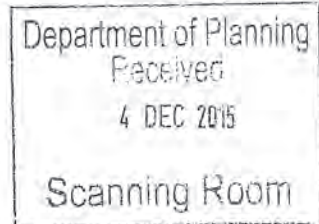
There are thousands of jobs in developing and manufacturing renewables as other nations have discovered.



Rixs Creek extension project

Application number: SSD 6300

To Department of Planning & Environment



We are placing an objection against the application of the extension to Rixs creek mine on these grounds.

1. There is no buffer zone for protection of villages and communities, or individual residence for the extraction of coal by open cut methods, which was identified by the PAC of lack of planning from our department. The buffer zone should be no less than 5km
2. The failure to protect the health and safety from industrial noise associated from 24hour operation, which has been identified by WHO as a major contributor to premature deaths in Europe.
3. There is lack of proper assessment of the place residence from impacts of noise, each residual home has different characteristics related to noise flow through the structure and depending if they meet Australian standard for noise levels in rural areas.
4. The health impact from particulate matter, where it is a well-known proven factor that there is no safe levels, and by increasing the levels towards Camberwell and Maison Dieu in knowing that the levels there are already high and sustains a large number of exceedances, this would be consider a crime against humanity by knowing the consequences of the harm it would cause to others.
5. The process of extraction uses blasting as essential component to break up the surface but by doing this process it has been a proven fact that the hazard is not contained on site at 100% of the time, therefore the hazard causes harm to others outside the lease area and the health and safety of these individuals has not been properly assessed for all the risks associated, also these individuals our now occupationally exposed by association and have no means for health assessment apart of the process. Their health assessment comes with a cost associated which is a financial burden of the citizen has to pay and yet they were exposed by a neighbour who did not control the hazard from leaving site.

6. The protection of the underground water system and what is the sustainable groundwater levels in the area and at the cumulative level in the hunter.
7. The protection of primary industries and there right to survive in a safe environment.
8. There is no proper assessment of acquisition related to associated impacts
9. There is no proper assessment on mitigation and costs associated on health
10. There is no proper cumulative impact assessment on the villages of Camberwell, Bulga, Broke, Maison Dieu, Jerrys Plains, Warkworth related health, safety, loss of communities and the failure to ensure they stay viable apart of the heritage of the area.
11. There is no proper impact assessment on other rural industries in the area as a whole in the hunter area at a cumulative scale
12. There is no proper impact assessment on cumulative impacts of final voids and the destruction of the land, the viable use and future planning to ensure the area is viable after the conclusion of mining
13. There is no proper cumulative impacts assessment² on the groundwater network and the sustainability, the impact on surface water, regulated system and finally the management of saline water in the future after the conclusion of mining.

M de Jong
J de Jong

44 Leithbridge St
Camberwell N.S.W 2330

In California (USA) alone, more than 60.000 jobs are in the renewable energy sector. That number of jobs is greater than the number of jobs in Google, Apple and Microsoft combined and far eclipses the numbers employed in mining.

This is what Australia needs for the future.

This is NOT a time to give “carte blanche” to a project that envisions more coal, more harmful emissions and more emphasis on the pockets of developers rather than the health and welfare of a nation.

It is also time to ask, “Why is it that every time a PAC puts forward sensible conditions for approval it is the DoPE that rushes to negate those conditions and acts as the proponent’s apologist?” This has happened time and again in recent proposals.

At best; it smacks of gross incompetence.

At worst; of collusion and corruption.

These issues deserve serious consideration.

The people of NSW look to The PAC to be the true and honest arbitrator in Planning.

The continued expansion of **any** mining is a health hazard and harmful to the **WORLD** environment

This Project; Rix’s Creek expansion is not in the public interest and should not be permitted to go ahead.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Julie".

339 The Inlet Road Bulga NSW 2330.

must be stopped now. It is time for NSW to make the same realization and put an end to approval of new coal mines and coal mine expansions.

Thank you for your consideration

Nick Higginbotham, PhD

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Oliver Coleman <oliver.coleman@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 2 December 2015 7:58 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Oliver Coleman (object)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Oliver Coleman
Email: oliver.coleman@gmail.com

Address:
103 Lewis St

Maryville, NSW
2293

Content:
I object to an additional 32 million tonnes of coal being extracted until 2038 for the following reasons:

There is no recognition of the cumulative impact on air quality and health in the Hunter region. There is no commitment to cover coal wagons.

Community consultation has been very poor. For example, regional people were not informed of the project assessment.

The approval of projects that increase thermal coal extraction at a time when the global scientific consensus is that a drastic reduction in green house gas emissions is required to avoid catastrophic environmental impacts is grossly irresponsible and reckless.

IP Address: ppp118-211-207-97.lns20.syd4.internode.on.net - 118.211.207.97

Submission: Online Submission from Oliver Coleman (object)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133158

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Oliver Coleman

E : oliver.coleman@gmail.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Paul Winn <paul.winn2012@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 2 December 2015 7:54 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Paul Winn (object)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Paul Winn
Email: paul.winn2012@gmail.com

Address:
17 Bulkara St

Adamstown, NSW
2289

Content:
I object to an additional 32 million tonnes of coal being extracted until 2038.

The world is trying to limit CO2 emissions to manage environmental and economic impacts from climate change.
The extension of Rix's Creek Mine cannot be justified

Additional 3 million tonnes of coal per year through Newcastle until 2038.

No recognition of cumulative impact on air quality and health in Hunter region.

Poor community consultation - no regional people informed of project assessment.

No commitment to cover coal wagons.

Increase in coal production at time when the world is trying to cut greenhouse gas emissions, good opportunity to wind back coal production in Hunter and transition to renewables.

Poor assessment of cumulative impacts on Upper Hunter environment.

Impact on threatened Squirrel Glider and critically endangered ecological community.

No biodiversity offset areas have been identified or assessed.

Increased impact on Rix's Creek, poor assessment of surface and ground water impacts.

Will leave a 243 ha final void in the landscape.

This is unacceptable cost shifting.

IP Address: pa49-195-173-71.pa.nsw.optusnet.com.au - 49.195.173.71
Submission: Online Submission from Paul Winn (object)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133156

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Julie Sheppard <jashep50@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 3 December 2015 12:31 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Julie Sheppard (object)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Julie Sheppard
Email: jashep50@gmail.com

Address:
55 Eagles Rd

Razorback, NSW
2571

Content:

I object to an additional 32 million tonnes of coal being extracted until 2038.
The world is trying to limit CO2 emissions to manage environmental and economic impacts from climate change.
The extension of Rix's Creek Mine cannot be justified

IP Address: - 120.17.69.36
Submission: Online Submission from Julie Sheppard (object)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133227

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Julie Sheppard

E : jashep50@gmail.com

Paul Winn

E : paul.winn2012@gmail.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Marg McLean <margymclean@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 3 December 2015 4:24 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Marg Mclean (object)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Marg Mclean
Email: margymclean@gmail.com

Address:
po box 462

singleton, NSW
2330

Content:

This application for extension of Rix's Creek Mine should be rejected. There is no legitimate case nor call for approval of a further 32 million tonnes of coal to be extracted from the ground.

On the contrary, if there is to be any chance of limiting global warming to two degrees then there can be no approvals of new coal mines nor extensions to existing mines.

The Paris Climate Conference will also document that this is the most cost effective trajectory for global economics as well.

This proposed mine extension is not justifiable.

IP Address: domain.not.configured - 175.45.146.98
Submission: Online Submission from Marg Mclean (object)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133316

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Marg McLean

E : margymclean@gmail.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Rick Banyard <cdcopy@hunterlink.com.au>
Sent: Thursday, 3 December 2015 3:08 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Rick Banyard (object)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Rick Banyard
Email: cdcopy@hunterlink.com.au

Address:
14 Bell St

Maryville, NSW
2293

Content:
To NSW Planning.

http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au/page/development-categories/mining--petroleum---extractive-industries/mining/?action=view_job&job_id=6300

Re: Objection to Rix's Creek Mine Expansion
I have been living in Newcastle and The Hunter for more than 30 years.

I am a member of many Community organizations and serve on many Community Panels.
I am concerned about the Cumulative impacts of ever increasing of mining and other industrial development.
I am very worried about Climate Change and the Environment, and Global Warming, and believe we should be moving away from Coal and towards Renewables urgently.

In relation to the proponent's submission for the proposed expansion of the Rix's Creek Mine I note:

1. The expansion will lead to Additional 3 million tonnes of coal per year down through the Rail lines and exported through the Port of Newcastle, until 2038;

I already know that the Rail lines from all the coal mines in The Hunter, Liverpool Plains and Ulan etc to the Newcastle Port are extremely congested - so much so that the coal mines and ARTC are trying to force passenger trains off the lines. They object to new passenger services; and in some cases call for Railway Stations to be closed.

The Station at Lochinvar is a case in point. Coal trains (loaded and unloaded) go through Lochinvar every 8 minutes. There is a brand new subdivision "Huntlee" just being opened up very close to Lochinvar - with no public transport services. It is expected that within a few years Huntlee will have a brand new population of 20,000 to 30,000 people; so they will need a good Passenger Rail service, and a Railway Station nearby

3 million pa extra tonnes of coal from Rix's creek means an extra 25,000 coal wagons, made up into an extra 277 extra loaded trains, or an extra 555 loaded and unloaded train journeys pa.

This proposed expansion cannot be looked at in isolation.

2. There has been no recognition of the cumulative impact on air quality and health in the Hunter region;
3. There has been poor community consultation - no regional people have been informed of the project assessment;
4. There has been no commitment to cover coal wagons;

Or

to ensure better rail transport practices to achieve better Industrial Hygiene on the coal trains to prevent overloading, coal being carried on the outside of the wagons, including on the Wings, The Platforms and the Bogies;

And

to ensure no carry back coal is carried on the unloaded wagons - going back to the mine;

5. The proposed Increase in coal production will come at the time when the world is trying to cut greenhouse gas emissions, in International meetings at Paris occurring now.

Refusing this application would be a good opportunity to wind back coal production in the Hunter, and move towards transitioning to renewables;

6. There is a very poor assessment of cumulative impacts on the Upper Hunter environment;

7. The proposed expansion will threaten the Squirrel Glider and other critically endangered ecological community in this area, and this impact has been poorly assessed;
8. No biodiversity offset areas have been identified, offered or assessed by the proponent;
9. The proposed expansion will have an increased impact on Rix's Creek, and there has been little or no assessment of this; And a very poor assessment of surface and ground water impacts has been done.
10. The proposed expansion will leave a 243 ha final void in the landscape. This is unacceptable cost shifting onto the environment and the community.
11. There must be provision in the final landscape design for:
Any void to be filled;
And
The full costs of such remediation must be covered in a Remediation bond.
A brief background for this proposal follows:

Background

Bloomfield is small Australian company with an underground mine at East Maitland and Rix's Creek open cut & underground close to Singleton

Rix's Creek Mine covers 1,818 ha - 5km NW Singleton

Current approval to June 2019, operating since 1990, plan to extend life of mine to 2038

Small operation producing 1.5mtpa thermal and coking coal; extension aims to increase production to 4.5mtpa

Open cut has high strip ratio 10:1, large area of land needed to dump overburden

Bloomfield has long term contracts with Japan, Korea and Taiwan

Main justification for the Rix's Creek expansion is that Bloomfield Mine at East Maitland will be depleted over next 10 yrs.

However it should be noted that Bloomfield recently purchased the adjacent Integra open cut that has been in care & maintenance (non operational) since last year.

So, probably the Main Justification offered by the Proponent is now in tatters

Rick Banyard 3 rd December 2015

email: cdcopy@hunterlink.com.au

Phn. 4965 4427 Mob 0419 993 867

14 BELL ST

MARYVILLE NSW 2293

IP Address: - 101.174.161.157

Submission: Online Submission from Rick Banyard (object)

https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133289

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project

https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine

https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Rick Banyard

E : cdcopy@hunterlink.com.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of John L Hayes <jlhayes@bigpond.com>
Sent: Thursday, 3 December 2015 2:46 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for John L Hayes (object)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: John L Hayes
Email: jlhayes@bigpond.com

Address:
117 Ingall St

Mayfield East, NSW
2304

Content:
To NSW Planning.

http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au/page/development-categories/mining--petroleum---extractive-industries/mining/?action=view_job&job_id=6300

Re: Objection to Rix's Creek Mine Expansion

I have been living in Newcastle since 2004 and have a deep engagement with many Community Groups, Climate & Environment Groups, Planning groups, and Social Justice Groups

I, and the groups that I belong to have real concerns about Due Process with regard to Planning; Development Applications; and about Cumulative Impacts that relate to:

Climate and Environment;

Biodiversity;

Traffic Movement - Road, Rail and Ship;

Dust and Health and Pollution.

In relation to the proponent's submission for the proposed expansion of the Rix's Creek Mine I note:

1. The expansion will lead to Additional 3 million tonnes of coal per year down though the Rail lines and exported through the Port of Newcastle, until 2038;

I already know that the Rail lines from all the coal mines in The Hunter, Liverpool Plains and Ulan etc to the Newcastle Port are extremely congested - so much so that the coal mines and ARTC are trying to force passenger trains off the lines. They object to new passenger services; and in some cases call for Railway Stations to be closed.

The Station at Lochinvar is a case in point. Coal trains (loaded and unloaded) go though Lochinvar every 8 minutes. There is a brand new subdivision "Huntlee" just being opened up very close to Lochinvar - with no public transport services. It is expected that within a few years Huntlee will have a brand new population of 20,000 to 30,000 people; so they will need a good Passenger Rail service, and a Railway Station nearby

3 million pa extra tonnes of coal from Rix's creek means an extra 25,000 coal wagons, made up into an extra 277 extra loaded trains, or an extra 555 loaded and unloaded train journeys pa.

This proposed expansion cannot be looked at in isolation.

2. There has been no recognition of the cumulative impact on air quality and health in the Hunter region;

3. There has been poor community consultation - no regional people have been informed of the project assessment;

4. There has been no commitment to cover coal wagons;

Or

to ensure better rail transport practices to achieve better Industrial Hygiene on the coal trains to prevent overloading, coal being carried on the outside of the wagons, including on the Wings, The Platforms and the Bogies;

And

to ensure no carry back coal is carried on the unloaded wagons - going back to the mine;

5. The proposed Increase in coal production will come at the time when the world is trying to cut greenhouse gas emissions, in International meetings at Paris occurring now.

Refusing this application would be a good opportunity to wind back coal production in the Hunter, and move towards transitioning to

renewables;

6. There is a very poor assessment of cumulative impacts on the Upper Hunter environment;

7. The proposed expansion will threaten the Squirrel Glider and other critically endangered ecological community in this area, and this impact has been poorly assessed;

8. No biodiversity offset areas have been identified, offered or assessed by the proponent;

9. The proposed expansion will have an increased impact on Rix's Creek, and there has been little or no assessment of this;

And a very poor assessment of surface and ground water impacts has been done.

10. The proposed expansion will leave a 243 ha final void in the landscape.

This is unacceptable cost shifting onto the environment and the community.

11. There must be provision in the final landscape design for:

Any void to be filled;

And

The full costs of such remediation must be covered in a Remediation bond.

A brief background for this proposal follows:

Background

Bloomfield is small Australian company with an underground mine at East Maitland and Rix's Creek open cut & underground close to Singleton

Rix's Creek Mine covers 1,818 ha - 5km NW Singleton

Current approval to June 2019, operating since 1990, plan to extend life of mine to 2038

Small operation producing 1.5mtpa thermal and coking coal; extension aims to increase production to 4.5mtpa

Open cut has high strip ratio 10:1, large area of land needed to dump overburden

Bloomfield has long term contracts with Japan, Korea and Taiwan

Main justification for the Rix's Creek expansion is that Bloomfield Mine at East Maitland will be depleted over next 10 yrs.

However it should be noted that Bloomfield recently purchased the adjacent Integra open cut that has been in care & maintenance (non operational) since last year.

So, probably the Main Justification offered by the Proponent is now in tatters

John L Hayes 3 rd December 2015

email: jlhayes@bigpond.com

Phn. 4967 3013 Mob 0400 171 602

117 INGALL ST

MAYFIELD EAST NSW 2304

IP Address: - 101.174.161.157

Submission: Online Submission from John L Hayes (object)

https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133271

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project

https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine

https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

John L Hayes

E : jlhayes@bigpond.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Murray Scott <mscott66@tpg.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 2 December 2015 6:43 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Murray Scott (object)
Attachments: signed Donationa Disclosure for Rix's Creek submission.pdf

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: yes

Name: Murray Scott
Email: mscott66@tpg.com.au

Address:
4 Electra Street

Heathcote, NSW
2233

Content:
I object to an additional 32 million tonnes of coal being extracted until 2038.

Having flown over the Rix's Creek and neighboring mines I am horrified by the land area devastated in the Hunter Valley by open-cut mines. Their abuse of good agricultural land, their noise, dust, traffic and water consumption and pollution impacts on adjoining residents, eg at Singleton, are unacceptable.

Employment in coal mining is forced on people by circumstance, valued for its pay and endured through loyalty, habit and lack of alternative opportunities. It is dirty, dangerous and damaging to health. It is wrong to recruit another generation to this work when cleaner alternatives are available in renewable energy and associated industries.

The world is trying to limit CO2 emissions to manage environmental and economic impacts from climate change. Most of the coal proposed to mine here is thermal coal, to be burned for electricity generation. Pollution from this source is the easiest to avoid with renewable wind or solar energy.

The extension of Rix's Creek Mine cannot be justified

IP Address: 27-32-49-40.tpgi.com.au - 27.32.49.40
Submission: Online Submission from Murray Scott (object)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133152

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Murray Scott

E : mscott66@tpg.com.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Katelijn Hullegie
<katelijn.hullegie@wilderness.org.au>
Sent: Thursday, 3 December 2015 9:22 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Katelijn Hullegie (object)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Katelijn Hullegie
Email: katelijn.hullegie@wilderness.org.au

Address:
82 Henry Street

Tighes Hill, NSW
2297

Content:
I object to an additional 32 million tonnes of coal being extracted until 2038.
The world is trying to limit CO2 emissions to manage environmental and economic impacts from climate change.
The extension of Rix's Creek Mine cannot be justified

IP Address: eth3880.nsw.adsl.internode.on.net - 150.101.126.39
Submission: Online Submission from Katelijn Hullegie (object)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133192

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Katelijn Hullegie

E : katelijn.hullegie@wilderness.org.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Kaye Monro <kemonro@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 3 December 2015 11:38 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Kaye Monro (object)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Kaye Monro
Email: kemonro@hotmail.com

Address:
130 Satur Rd

Scone, NSW
2337

Content:
The Secretary

The Department of Planning & Environment I oppose the Rixs Creek extension proposal. As a taxpayer I object to paying for the destructive coal mining industry.

Direct subsidies to coal mines by NSW tax payers:

- * coal (port) terminal leases
- * the provision of rail infrastructure to get coal to port or to power stations
- * tax rebates on diesel fuel
- * wholesale electricity costs
- * clean coal technology research
- * coal sector jobs packages
- * coal exploration

Tax payers are also paying the bills for:

- * environmental degradation caused by past and present mining, as well as the upkeep of toxic final voids.
- * the loss of prime agricultural land
- * water allocations given to mines meaning farms go without in times of drought
- * contamination of water ways
- * health costs due to mine emission pollution

* climate change: severe weather events, bushfires, floods, extended droughts, etc The proponent's EIS states that estimated GH emissions will only be 0.031% of NSW's total emissions. Will the proponent pay 0.031% of NSW taxpayer's insurance costs?, 0.031% of the cost of drought relief?, 0.031% for fixing the damage of severe weather events? 0.031% of the cost of extreme bush fires? Please reject this proposal.

IP Address: 124-168-13-74.dyn.iinet.net.au - 124.168.13.74

Submission: Online Submission from Kaye Monro (object)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133348

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Kaye Monro

E : kemonro@hotmail.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Joachim Roxin <roxin53@bigpond.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 2 December 2015 6:12 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Joachim Roxin (object)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Joachim Roxin
Email: roxin53@bigpond.com

Address:
14 Rachael Ave

Adamstown Heights, NSW
2289

Content:
The extension of Rix's Creek Mine cannot be justified

Increase in coal production at time when the world is trying to cut greenhouse gas emissions, good opportunity to wind back coal production in Hunter and transition to renewable energy.

I object to an additional 32 million tonnes of coal being extracted until 2038.

The world is trying to limit CO2 emissions to manage environmental and economic impacts from climate change.

IP Address: - 101.191.120.98
Submission: Online Submission from Joachim Roxin (object)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133148

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Joachim Roxin

E : roxin53@bigpond.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Sue Lewis <suejlewis@bigpond.com>
Sent: Thursday, 3 December 2015 3:24 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Sue Lewis (object)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Sue Lewis
Email: suejlewis@bigpond.com

Address:
44 Waterloo St

Rozelle, NSW
2039

Content:
I object to an additional 32 million tonnes of coal being extracted until 2038. Australia's contribution to to global emissions is already far above per capita average.
The world is trying to limit CO2 emissions to manage environmental and economic impacts from climate change.
The extension of Rix's Creek Mine cannot be justified.

IP Address: and1145916.lnk.telstra.net - 120.150.179.12
Submission: Online Submission from Sue Lewis (object)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133294

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Sue Lewis

E : suejlewis@bigpond.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Wendy White <wenwhite5@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 3 December 2015 4:24 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Wendy White (object)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Wendy White
Email: wenwhite5@gmail.com

Address:
200 High St

East Maitland, NSW
2323

Content:

I wish to object to the Rix's Creek Mine Expansion for numerous reasons. There has been no recognition by the proponent of the current poor air quality in the proximity of the proposal. There will be an increase in the cumulative impact of dust and noise on Camberwell Village and surrounding neighbours.

In addition there has been no attempt to assess/identify any biodiversity offsets and there will be an adverse impact on the threatened squirrel glider.

The impacts on Rix's Creek will also be adverse and there has been little attempt to adequately assess impacts on surface and ground water

There seems to be little justification for this mine extension bearing in mind that the company has recently purchased the adjacent Integra mine so the jobs argument falls apart. It must be pointed out that within a 10km radius there are already 18 coal mines and approval of yet another will exacerbate water and biodiversity problems.

IP Address: 124-171-49-104.dyn.iinet.net.au - 124.171.49.104
Submission: Online Submission from Wendy White (object)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133318

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Wendy White

E : wenwhite5@gmail.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Sharyn Munro <sharyn@sharynmunro.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 2 December 2015 4:21 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Sharyn Munro (object)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Sharyn Munro
Email: sharyn@sharynmunro.com

Address:
174 Koppin Yarratt Rd

Upper Lansdowne, NSW
2430

Content:

I do not believe this mine should be allowed, primarily as it will increase the cumulative impact of noise, dust and blasting on Camberwell village and surrounding neighbours.

This proposal cannot be considered in isolation; yet there is no recognition of the current poor air quality in its immediate proximity.

Nor have the social impacts of the change of operation to 24hr/day, 7 days/week been adequately assessed. In addition, community consultation has been extremely poor.

Environmentally, it will impact on the threatened Squirrel Glider and a critically endangered ecological community. Yet no biodiversity offset areas have been identified or assessed.

Waterwise, it will have an Increased impact on Rix's Creek, and the assessment of surface and ground water impacts is inadequate.

The poor Hunter will be left with yet another final void - 243 ha - in its landscape. Why permit such ongoing environmental issues and costs as these voids create?

With 18 coal mines within a 10km radius of the mine, it is appalling that no adequate assessment has been done of its additional cumulative impact on biodiversity, surface and groundwater and Aboriginal cultural heritage.

Despite the usual mantra, there is no justification for this mine extension to provide jobs, royalties and product for contracts because of the company's recent purchase of the adjacent Integra open cut mine.

IP Address: - 1.144.96.215
Submission: Online Submission from Sharyn Munro (object)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133138

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Sharyn Munro

E : sharyn@sharynmunro.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Susanne Skates <ar.smskates@skymesh.com.au>
Sent: Thursday, 3 December 2015 10:28 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Susanne Skates (object)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Susanne Skates
Email: ar.smskates@skymesh.com.au

Address:
116 Booral-Washpool Road,

Booral NSW , NSW
2425

Content:
I object to an additional 32 million tonnes of coal being extracted until 2038.
The world is trying to limit CO2 emissions to manage environmental and economic impacts from climate change.
The extension of Rix's Creek Mine cannot be justified

IP Address: - 114.129.183.234
Submission: Online Submission from Susanne Skates (object)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133204

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Susanne Skates

E : ar.smskates@skymesh.com.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Ron Fenwick <randjfenwick@bigpond.com>
Sent: Monday, 30 November 2015 4:25 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Ron Fenwick (object)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Ron Fenwick
Email: randjfenwick@bigpond.com

Address:
PO Box 62

Singleton, NSW
2330

Content:

Points for Rix's Creek submission of objection:

As with all the expansion/continuation applications that Planning NSW have promoted the mining company in question has already exhausted the approval period and expects to be granted approval without question for the standard reasons being offered, being benefit to the state and continuation of employment. From the directions being sought through the Minerals Council lobbying there is an ongoing reduction of the requirements to fulfil the rehabilitation assurances that were made previously.

The claimed beneficial use of voids is simply a means of reduction in commitment, reduction in costs and an excuse to leave the voids on departure. Rix's Creek has been operating since 1990. It has had 25 years of production and wishes to extend this. Like other open cut operations there will be a void left to "rehabilitate" or leave depending on the outcome of this application and the outcomes of the voids claims being offered. The intent to leave a 243ha void appears small but when you add to the numbers of voids being anticipated it leaves a huge area of the valley that will be hazardous.

With or without the void issue, the Department must make sense of the future needs as well as the commitments made by the companies and accept that there time has run the course intended.

The application needs to be denied and all commitments made need to be confirmed and followed through to appropriate rehabilitation.

Points to consider:

1. An ongoing and potential increase cumulative impact of noise, dust and blasting on Camberwell village and surrounding neighbours.
2. There is no recognition of current poor air quality in proximity of the proposal.
3. The change of operation to 24hr/day, 7 days/week have not been adequately assessed for social impacts.
4. The impact on threatened Squirrel Glider and critically endangered ecological community.
5. No biodiversity offset areas have been identified or assessed.
6. Increased impact on Rix's Creek, with poor assessment of surface and ground water impacts.
7. Leave 243 ha final void in the landscape.
8. There is no consideration for Cumulative impact - 18 coal mines within 10km radius. No adequate assessment of additional cumulative impact on biodiversity, surface and groundwater, Aboriginal cultural heritage.
9. There is no viable justification for mine extension to provide jobs, royalties and product for contracts because of recent purchase of adjacent Integra open cut mine.
10. Similarly the justification for expansion because the Bloomfield Mine at East Maitland will be depleted over next 10 yrs is simply another non-essential argument.

IP Address: cpe-110-147-143-67.nhl8.cht.bigpond.net.au - 110.147.143.67

Submission: Online Submission from Ron Fenwick (object)

https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132937

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project

https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine

https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Ron Fenwick

E : randjfenwick@bigpond.com



PO Box 28,
Singleton NSW 2330
T 0427 000 910
F 02 6573 3256
E sally@orbitplanning.com.au
ABN 46 484 735 708

3 December 2015

Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Attention: Hamish Aiken

Dear Hamish,

Rix's Creek Expansion Project - Application Reference: SSD 6300
Submission prepared on behalf of R & J Wilkinson (Inverlea Pty Ltd)
Lot 32 & 33 DP 634692, No. 349 Bridgman Road, Singleton.

1. Introduction

We act on behalf of Mr. & Mrs. Wilkinson, the owners of Lot 32 & 33 DP 634692, No. 349 Bridgman Road, Singleton. We have reviewed the documentation submitted in support of the Rix's Creek Expansion Project and appreciate this opportunity to lodge a submission on behalf of our client.

A Planning Proposal was lodged with Singleton Council in March 2012 seeking the rezoning of our client's land from RU1 Primary Production to a mix of R1 General Residential and E2 Environmental Conservation. The Planning Proposal received Gateway approval from Department of Planning and Environment on 11 June 2013. Our client has invested significant funds in the preparation of a number of detailed environmental and infrastructure servicing studies to meet the Gateway requirements (lodged December 2013), and the Planning Proposal is now in the final stages of the assessment process.

As you would be aware there is a long history to the Rix's Creek Mine approval, one that our client is familiar with as a long term land owner in the region. Our client is not opposed to mining development in principle, however, they seek assurance from the Department of Planning & Environment and the operators of Rix's Creek Mine that the proposed mine extension will not jeopardise the use of their land for residential purposes, as proposed in the current Planning Proposal, and that any dust, noise or vibration impacts will be within permitted levels for the residential zoned land.

2. Site Description

Our client's property has a 280 metre frontage to Bridgman Road, is irregular in shape and has a combined area of 48.4 hectares. The site is located immediately adjacent to the existing R1 General Residential zoned area of Singleton Heights and is within the 'North East' urban expansion area identified under the Council adopted and Department of Planning & Environment endorsed Singleton Land Use Strategy 2008. The site is ideally positioned to connect to existing water and sewer infrastructure services without the need for major upgrades or pumping stations, a key characteristic

that will enable the land to be developed without delay and differentiates it from other potential town expansion areas that require major infrastructure upgrades.

The location of our site is illustrated in **Figure 1**.

An aerial view of our site relative to Rix's Creek Coal Lease is provided in **Figure 2**.

The existing and proposed land use zones are illustrated in **Figure 3**.

3. Rix's Creek Coal Mine Approval History

We submit that the background to the previous and current mine approval are relevant considerations to this current proposal which seeks to expand the mine life by another 21 years. We summarise the history as follows:

3.1 Original Consent – Coal Lease 185

A development consent under Coal Lease 185 was granted to Rix's Creek Coal Mine in 1989. This original approval was granted following a Commission of Inquiry into the suitability of the mine having regard to its proximity to the Singleton township. The Commission of Inquiry (COI) report dated July 1989 clearly identified that the mine operation was designed and staged to progressively move away from the residential areas of Singleton towards the north and west throughout the 21 year mine life. The COI report further recommended that a buffer area be imposed, the position of which was determined by the modeled noise and dust impacts of the mine. It is noted that our client's land was located outside of this buffer area.

In considering impacts that exceeded the nominated buffer area the Commission of Inquiry report stated:

"Should unforeseen impacts occur particularly in relation to dust, we do not recommend for this mine an extension of the buffer area recommended in this report, by property acquisition, but rather modification of the mining operations at Rix's Creek" (Page ii Recommendation No. 2 of the COI report July 1989).

The belief that the mine could be operated without impacting on the Singleton urban area was further endorsed by the supporting Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) prepared by Croft & Associates, which identified the existing and future land uses within proximity of the proposed mine and in regard to Singleton Heights stated:

'Impacts due to noise, dust and visual pollution will be negligible in the existing area of Singleton Heights, and in the areas to the north and east of Singleton Heights which are proposed and planned for residential and various rural residential subdivision (our emphasis).

Any changes in the environment of Singleton Heights due to the Rix's Creek project will be of such low magnitude so as not to be detectable. Residents can expect greater changes due to increasing urban population and the additional local road, highway and rail traffic, which more people and expanded economic development in the Upper Hunter Valley will bring.

The implications of the project for land use relate mainly to the impact on the site and buffer area and to the fact that this land is close to Singleton township will be unavailable for other uses until mining is completed. Current and proposed uses for the land outside the site and a buffer zone should not be seen to be prevented by the project.' (Croft & Associates EIS page 8)



FIGURE 1 Locality Plan

NOT TO SCALE



FIGURE 2 Aerial View

NOT TO SCALE

Source: Google Maps,
Trade & Investment NSW
and Orbit Planning



Singleton Local Environmental Plan 2013

Land Zoning Map - Sheet LZN_014A

Zone

- B1 Neighbourhood Centre
- B2 Commercial Core
- B4 Mixed Use
- B5 Business Development
- B6 Enterprise Corridor
- E1 National Parks and Nature Reserves
- E2 Environmental Conservation
- E3 Environmental Management
- E4 Environmental Living
- IN3 Heavy Industrial
- R1 General Residential
- R2 Low Density Residential
- RE Large Lot Residential
- RE1 Public Recreation
- RE2 Private Recreation
- RU1 Primary Production
- RU2 Rural Landscape
- RU3 Forestry
- RU4 Primary Production Small Lots
- RU5 Village
- SP2 Infrastructure
- W2 Recreational Waterways
- DM Deferred Matter

Cadastral

Cadastral 08/03/2013
© Land and Property Information (LPI)

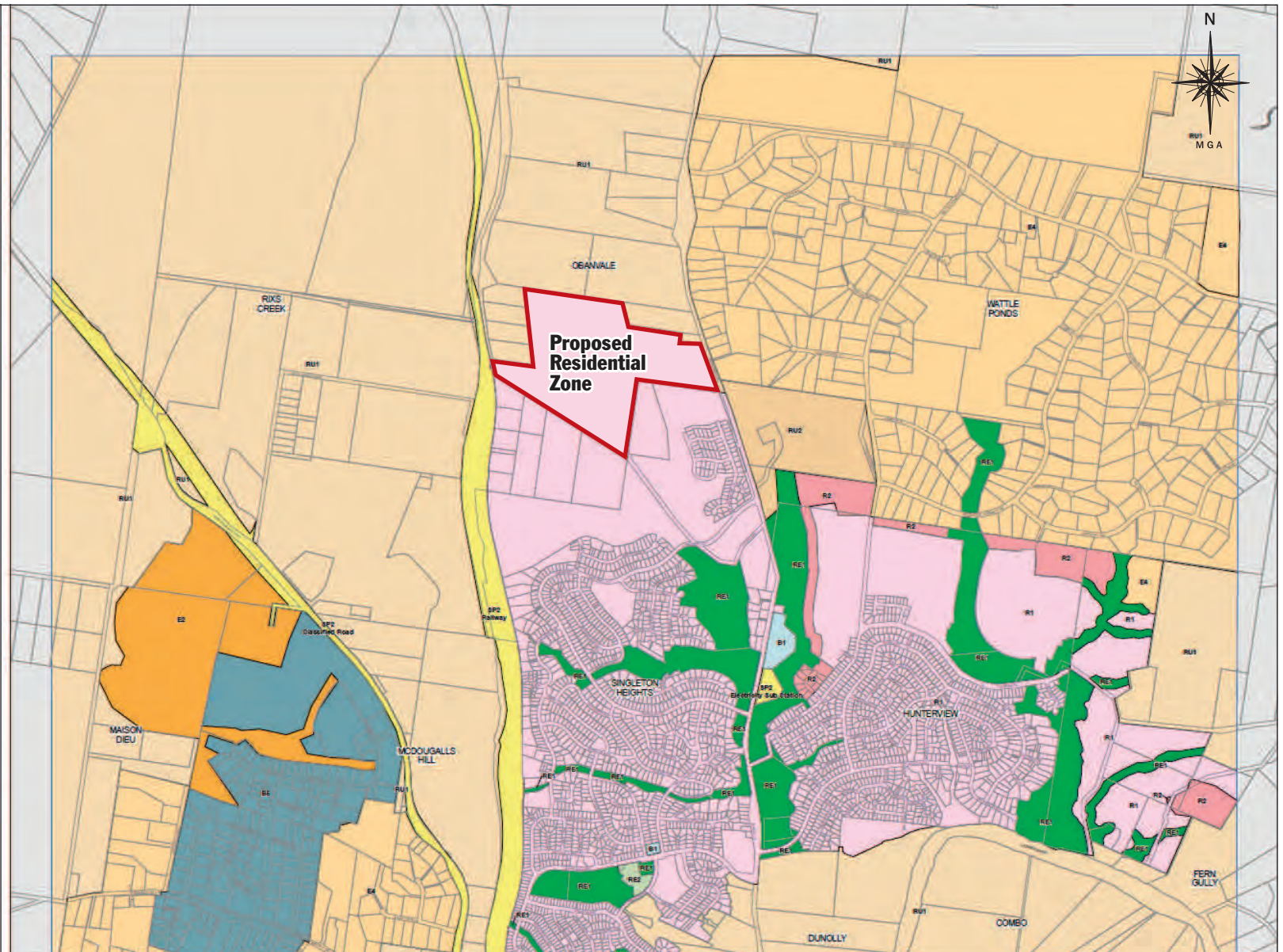
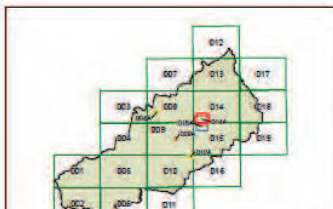


FIGURE 3 Existing and Proposed Land Use Zones

NOT TO SCALE

Source: Singleton Council
& Orbit Planning

It is evident from a review of the COI report that approval of the mine was recommended on the basis that the mine would progressively move away from the town and that it would not impact on the existing township and importantly it would not infringe on the future planned residential areas to the north of the town, which includes our client's land. This position is further supported by a submission to the COI by the then Department of Minerals and Energy which stated:

'The Department would submit that there is no time better than now to proceed with coal mining in the Rix's Creek area so that the aim to have coal mining progressively move away from the areas being developed for urban purposes can be realised' (Page 123 COI report July 1989).

3.2 Development Consent 49/94 – Coal Lease 352

An extension to the original 1989 approval was granted on 19 October 1995 via a second and dominant development application (DA49/94) for Coal Lease 352.

A review of the accompanying EIS prepared by Envirosiences Pty Limited identified that mining would take place in three pits:

- Pit 1 – north of the New England Highway,
- Pit 2 – south of the New England Highway and east of Rix's Creek,
- Pit 3 – south of the New England Highway and to the west of Rix's Creek,

The predicted maximum area of affectation (by noise and dust) was identified in Figure 12b of the Envirosiences Pty Limited EIS and it did not essentially encroach on our client's land. The impacts were predicted to move away from the Singleton residential area towards the west as the mine life progressed. This pattern is consistent with the justification forwarded by the proponent, and endorsed by the Department of Minerals and Energy and the Commission of Inquiry COI in the approval for the original mine application.

3.3 Modification Applications

There have been 6 modification applications to this consent for the Rix's Creek mine, which are summarised as follows:

- Modifications 1 (Approved February 1999) - Change to Condition 11(iv) – change to when independent noise monitoring can be requested and Condition 17(C) - typographical error.
- Modification 2 (Approved December 2003) - Permitted coal from Glennies Creek underground mine to be processed and railed from Rix's Creek (temporary / short term measure)
- Modification 3 (Approved June 2004) - Permitted Rix's Creek to receive, process and transport a 25,000 tonne bulk coal sample from the Bickham coal exploration project, near the town of Murrurundi. The approval permitted the coal to be received for a relatively short time, nominally over a 12 week period.
- Modification 4 (Approved August 2009) - Permitted the construction of a second vehicle crossing in the form of a cut and cover tunnel over the New England Highway.
- Modification 5* (Approved November 2013) – Permitted the construction and operation of a 5.6km rail loop and rail spur off the Main Northern Line for transport of coal to Newcastle.
- Modification 6 (Approved December 2014) – Permitted Rix's Creek to move a maximum of 16.1 million bank cubic metres of material a year in order to

extract 2.8Mt of ROM coal, and maintain the approved local production rate of 1.5Mt a year.

*Relevantly, the assessment for Modification 5 identified an objection by Singleton Council to the potential noise impacts of the proposed rail loop on the proposed residential land release area in Singleton, which includes our client's land. The response from Rix's Creek representative was that any noise impacts would be minor, provided the recommended management measure were put in place.

4. The Proposed Extension

The proposal seeks approval for the expansion of Pit 3 (located on the western side of New England Highway), an increase in production to a maximum of 4.5MT pa of ROM coal and 2.7MT pa of saleable coal, and an extension of the mine life by a further 21 years.

5. Objections

5.1 Clarification requested on adequacy of EIS to consider imminent future residential use of land.

A review of the EIS indicates that the air quality and acoustic assessments do not appear to have taken into consideration the future use of our client's land for residential purposes, which we argue is imminent and should therefore be identified as such for the purposes of this assessment. We note that the acoustic assessment has failed to include the western part of our client's land within any Noise Assessment Group (NAG) and we seek assurance that the whole of our clients site has been assessed for impacts. We also note that the air quality and acoustic assessment do not appear to have identified the future sensitive receivers on Singleton Council's vacant R1 General Residential zone land which immediately adjoins our client's property to the south and a large portion of this land is also excluded from any NAG.

Although we are not experts on dust and noise impacts, the close proximity of the existing residential land of Singleton Heights to our client's land would indicate potential for a similar level of impact from the proposed mine expansion and would suggest that these areas should be considered under the same NAG (which they currently are not). In this regard we note that our client's land has been included in NAG B and the adjoining vacant R1 General Residential land is in NAG D.

We seek assurance from the proponent and Department of Planning and Environment that the EIS assessment covers all of our client's land and that it has factored in the imminent change to a residential zone.

5.2 Potential Dust Impacts – Lot 32 & 33 DP 634692

We note that the proposed expansion of Pit 3 is located on the western side of the New England Highway, which is approximately 2.5 kilometres from our client's land. From our review of the documentation it would appear that the air quality assessment indicates that there would not be any adverse dust impacts on our client's land, however, we seek confirmation that this will continue to be the case when the future residential zone has been factored into the air quality modelling.

5.3 Potential Noise Impacts – Lot 32 & 33 DP 634692

Our client has engaged the services of an independent acoustic consultant to review the submitted acoustic report and provide preliminary advice on the mine's potential impact on their property. The advice from the independent consultant is that if the modelling provided by Global Acoustics in the EIS is correct then the potential for our client's land to be impacted by noise comes from the Coal Handling Preparation Plant (CHPP) and the Run of Mine (ROM) trucks. The acoustic modelling indicates that there is minimal impact on our client's land at the moment, and that the exceedances evident are due to the CHPP and the ROM trucks which are proposed to be treated to reduce emissions (side panels on the Coal Preparation Plant (CPP) and a transition to new attenuated vehicles). The assessment further indicates that the situation will be improved over time by the proposed noise treatments and the natural progress of the pit to the west.

We seek assurance that the modelling undertaken for the acoustic assessment has taken into consideration the future residential use of our client's land and that the proposed expansion of the mine and the continued operation for another 21 years will not result in unlawful noise impacts on any of our client's property (not just the existing dwelling).

5.4 Potential Impacts - General Comments

We take this opportunity to provide some additional general comments on the proposed mine expansion and summarise the key findings of the acoustic assessment as follows (these are expanded on briefly below):

- The existing mine has a history of noise complaints and there is a Pollution Reduction Program in place;
- The mine does not comply with the current conditions of consent in relation to noise limits;
- The proposed mine expansion does not comply with the intrusiveness criteria identified under the Industrial Noise Policy (INP) (being Rating Background Level (RBL) plus 5d(B)A) for all NAG's;
- The mine seeks approval for a Project Specific Noise Goal (PSNG) which exceeds both the current conditions of consent and the intrusiveness criteria under the INP;
- The mine seeks to rely on 'legacy noise' provisions in the INP to justify increasing permitted noise levels on nearby properties.

Condition 10 of the existing consent for the mine applies a consistent noise level design goal for the 'Singleton Heights' and 'The Retreat' suburban locations, being 42 dB(A) L10 during the day and 40 dB(A) L10 for nighttime. We understand that this approach has not been adopted in the latest assessment with different intrusive noise criteria being applied to these two areas. The independent acoustic review commissioned by our client highlighted that they could see no reason to amend the Project Specific Noise Goal (PSNG) from the existing level in the Consent other than to bring them into line with current measurement practice, which we are advised would be 39dB(A) Leq for daytime and 37 dB(A) Leq for nighttime.

The proposal seeks approval for PSNG applicable to all time periods (day and night) of:

- LAeq,15minute 40 dB for NAG D to O
- LAeq,15minute 42 dB for NAG A, B and C

The proposed PSNG does not comply with the Industrial Noise Policy and would exceed the equivalent current criteria of the current consent by 1-3dB(A) during the day and by 3- 5dB(A) at night. The independent acoustic reviewer further highlighted that in their opinion it would be unreasonable for approval to be given for an increase in the noise intrusive criteria under this application, given the existence of the proposed noise reduction program and the fact that mining is moving to the west, away from the existing and proposed urban areas. They advised, and we agree, that if anything the PSNG for the application should be reduced as the levels will be easier to achieve under the proposed expansion.

We also note that the consent under which the existing mine operates is time limited and expires in late 2016. The mine does not have approval to operate indefinitely and if this expansion is not approved the mine operation on the site will cease within 12 months, as would any impacts on the nearby urban land as was clearly envisaged when the mine was originally approved. In these circumstances we find it difficult to understand how the acoustic assessment can describe the mine operation as an existing development with legacy noise issues and seek a concession on compliance with current noise criteria on this basis. We submit that any new application to extend the operation of this mine for another 21 years should be held to the most stringent noise criteria, especially given the history of the previous approval and its close proximity to the existing township of Singleton.

Singleton's north-west land bank comprising Singleton Heights and The Retreat existed before the original approval of the Rix's Creek mine was issued and these uses are clearly the preferred and dominant use in the area. For 40 years these areas have been planned and progressively developed to accommodate urban expansion, a decision made to respond to the development constraints of the town centre to the south east being located on a floodplain and major coal resources to the north west. There are many other mine operations in the Local Government Area which are isolated from the town and these provide ample opportunity for expansion without impacting on residents. If the operator of the proposed mine is unwilling or financially unable to implement the necessary changes to the mine plan or apply mitigation measures to ensure the mine complies with applicable noise and dust criteria, and can co-exist with the existing and future urban areas of Singleton, then approval for operation for another 21 years should clearly not be granted.

6. Conclusion

The Rix's Creek mine is approaching the end of its 21 year approval and the mining operations have progressed to the north and west of the lease area, away from the Singleton township, as intended under the mine approval. We submit that it is unreasonable for the mine to seek a PSNG that does not comply with the Industrial Noise Policy and that is above that applied to the original consent. We further submit that the proposed mine expansion sought under this application, which includes a substantial increase in coal production and extension of the mine's life by 21 years, should only be supported if it can demonstrate that it will not adversely impact on the existing residential land comprising Singleton Heights and The Retreat and the proposed residential land within the 'North East' urban expansion area identified

under the Council adopted and Department of Planning & Environment endorsed Singleton Land Use Strategy 2008.

We request confirmation from the Department of Planning & Environment that the environmental studies prepared for the mine expansion have adequately taken into consideration the future use of our client's land for residential purposes. The proponent has been aware of the current Planning Proposal for a period of over 3 years and we submit that it is crucial for any expansion of the mine to take this imminent future use into consideration. We further submit that if the mine can not demonstrate through the adoption of a modified mine plan or appropriate mitigation measures that it can co-exist with the existing and proposed urban areas of Singleton then the expansion should be refused.

Should you wish to discuss this submission or require any further information please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned on 0427 000 910.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sally Flannery', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Sally Flannery MPIA CPP
Director

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Rosie Hayes <jlhayes@bigpond.com>
Sent: Thursday, 3 December 2015 2:55 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Rosie Hayes (object)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Rosie Hayes
Email: jlhayes@bigpond.com

Address:
117 Ingall St

Mayfield East, NSW
2304

Content:
To NSW Planning.

http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au/page/development-categories/mining--petroleum---extractive-industries/mining/?action=view_job&job_id=6300

Re: Objection to Rix's Creek Mine Expansion
I have been living in Newcastle since 2004< I am the mother of 5 married Children and the grand mother of 5.

I am very worried about Climate Change and the Environment, and Global Warming, and believe we should be moving away from Coal and towards Renewables urgently.

In relation to the proponent's submission for the proposed expansion of the Rix's Creek Mine I note:

1. The expansion will lead to Additional 3 million tonnes of coal per year down though the Rail lines and exported through the Port of Newcastle, until 2038;

I already know that the Rail lines from all the coal mines in The Hunter, Liverpool Plains and Ulan etc to the Newcastle Port are extremely congested - so much so that the coal mines and ARTC are trying to force passenger trains off the lines. They object to new passenger services; and in some cases call for Railway Stations to be closed.

The Station at Lochinvar is a case in point. Coal trains (loaded and unloaded) go though Lochinvar every 8 minutes. There is a brand new subdivision "Huntlee" just being opened up very close to Lochinvar - with no public transport services. It is expected that within a few years Huntlee will have a brand new population of 20,000 to 30,000 people; so they will need a good Passenger Rail service, and a Railway Station nearby

3 million pa extra tonnes of coal from Rix's creek means an extra 25,000 coal wagons, made up into an extra 277 extra loaded trains, or an extra 555 loaded and unloaded train journeys pa.

This proposed expansion cannot be looked at in isolation.

2. There has been no recognition of the cumulative impact on air quality and health in the Hunter region;

3. There has been poor community consultation - no regional people have been informed of the project assessment;

4. There has been no commitment to cover coal wagons;

Or

to ensure better rail transport practices to achieve better Industrial Hygiene on the coal trains to prevent overloading, coal being carried on the outside of the wagons, including on the Wings, The Platforms and the Bogies;

And

to ensure no carry back coal is carried on the unloaded wagons - going back to the mine;

5. The proposed Increase in coal production will come at the time when the world is trying to cut greenhouse gas emissions, in International meetings at Paris occurring now.

Refusing this application would be a good opportunity to wind back coal production in the Hunter, and move towards transitioning to renewables;

6. There is a very poor assessment of cumulative impacts on the Upper Hunter environment;

7. The proposed expansion will threaten the Squirrel Glider and other critically endangered ecological community in this area, and this impact has been poorly assessed;

8. No biodiversity offset areas have been identified, offered or assessed by the proponent;
 9. The proposed expansion will have an increased impact on Rix's Creek, and there has been little or no assessment of this; And a very poor assessment of surface and ground water impacts has been done.
 10. The proposed expansion will leave a 243 ha final void in the landscape. This is unacceptable cost shifting onto the environment and the community.
 11. There must be provision in the final landscape design for:
 - Any void to be filled;
 - And
 - The full costs of such remediation must be covered in a Remediation bond.
- A brief background for this proposal follows:

Background

Bloomfield is small Australian company with an underground mine at East Maitland and Rix's Creek open cut & underground close to Singleton

Rix's Creek Mine covers 1,818 ha - 5km NW Singleton

Current approval to June 2019, operating since 1990, plan to extend life of mine to 2038

Small operation producing 1.5mtpa thermal and coking coal; extension aims to increase production to 4.5mtpa

Open cut has high strip ratio 10:1, large area of land needed to dump overburden

Bloomfield has long term contracts with Japan, Korea and Taiwan

Main justification for the Rix's Creek expansion is that Bloomfield Mine at East Maitland will be depleted over next 10 yrs.

However it should be noted that Bloomfield recently purchased the adjacent Integra open cut that has been in care & maintenance (non operational) since last year.

So, probably the Main Justification offered by the Proponent is now in tatters

Rosemary E Hayes 3 rd December 2015

email: jlhayes@bigpond.com

Phn. 4967 3013 Mob 0400 171 602

117 INGALL ST

MAYFIELD EAST NSW 2304

IP Address: - 101.174.161.157

Submission: Online Submission from Rosie Hayes (object)

https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133277

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project

https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine

https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Rosie Hayes

E : jlhayes@bigpond.com

Rixs creek mine extension

Application: SSD 6300

To Department of Planning

We object to the application of Rixs creek to extend their mining area on these grounds.

1. The application will have severe impact on the village of Camberwell and surrounding area, also will impact on Maison Dieu community.
2. We went to Singleton to attend a presentation at the Singleton Town Square, there was no one there. The lack of community engagement seemed apparent.
3. The increase in the impacts of noise on communities which has been proven by WHO and EEA that at these levels causes health impacts. In which EEA has reported in 2011 of 10,000 deaths related to noise, which could be very well underestimated.
4. The dust production is excessive and there has not been a proper study on cumulative impacts on PM on exposure in the hunter valley. The fact of large number of exceedance's now in the area, and this has not been reduced, that the industry should be held accountable for deaths associated to poor air quality, there is no screening done on near neighbour related to exposure to high PM done by the industry as they occupational exposed by association. The employees of the industry are required under legislation to protect their health and safety but who protects the innocent from exposure by association, by placing a mine to close to communities.
5. Final voids, the department has stated that it looks at the assessment of individual mines but what are the cumulative impacts on the hunter valley and the water network system. What is the cost to fill these voids in; this is not disclosed in the report.
6. The impacts on gullies and waterway, with run off from the mine into the Hunter River and dams for stock.
7. The protection of other industries for future growth and sustainability, mining is not sustainable.
8. Double standards in relation to cut down trees, a farmer has to go through so much red tape to proceed, and if it was endangered it would be not be granted at all and yet a mining company gets an approval straight away to remove all our protected species, is if the vegetation is of no value at all, the only importance is the resource or the other double standard we grant them biodiversity offsets in another area or next our government will let them do it another country.
9. Don't worry about the fauna will just run they over, and remove their home, they don't need it to survive, tough luck here in this state, nothing matters but removing the resource.

10. This company has just recently purchased Integra coal, so there is continue employment for the employees for a number of years, enough time for these individuals to plan for their future and hopefully our council will look beyond mining and ensure a diverse area for employment, otherwise Singleton will not be viable in the future.

11. Planning process is deficient in making a proper strategic plan in relation to buffer zone which should be no less than 3.5km from any rural village or community or residential place or industry. Therefore this application would be within the buffer zone and the impact of causing harm to others is apparent.

12. There is no documentation which provided in the EIS on sustainable groundwater in the upper hunter at a cumulative area.

13. The dewatering of the area and the impact of the groundwater system

14. The future costs on maintenance and monitoring of final voids on a cumulative scale, lack of documentation and management plan, no documentation on how to rectify if the void changes to a flow through cell and the cost to the environment and the loss of the hunter river to salinity.

15. No structure in relation to management of tailings and the chemical, the forcible impact on the water network system if the chemicals break down and cause harm after been capped or placed in the void, is this toxic interaction in the future.

16. There is no plan in relation to the hunter river of controlling salinity and toxicity when voids change from sinks to flow through cell. When questioned the department on what type of final voids will remain in the hunter the answer was not supplied, so looking at individual applications is not sufficient.

17. When asking the office of water in relation to cumulative impacts, they stated they look at the individual application but to this day have not provided an answer related to cumulative impacts of groundwater sustainability, impacts on surface water loss, the amount of water is required from regulated system to cover the losses in the surface water loss and the underground loss, when the population growth is expected to accelerate in a number of years or the climatic conditions change and the importance of water for the survival of environment we live in.

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of David McDonald <dmc48510@bigpond.net.au>
Sent: Thursday, 3 December 2015 1:36 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for David McDonald (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: David McDonald
Email: dmc48510@bigpond.net.au

Address:
Catherine Street

Cessnock, NSW
2325

Content:

I am in favour of the Rix's Creek Extension. I am employed at Rix's Creek which employees 130 people from Singleton and surrounding area. The mine is part of the Bloomfield Group and is 100% Australian family owned company.

The company complies with all the mining conditions and it would be good for the town of Singleton to allow the project to go ahead and extend in a westward direction away from Singleton, as it would give job prospect to other people and be good for small business' in the hunter valley.

The company not only has a great reputation for accepting and training new apprentices which is good for our people, and also are very generous in investing money in the area through local charities such as cancer council, Westpac helicopter, singleton hospital etc.

IP Address: bloomf13.lnk.telstra.net - 165.228.66.52
Submission: Online Submission from David McDonald (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133241

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

David McDonald

E : dmc48510@bigpond.net.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Carol Cunningham <robert.cunningham59@outlook.com>
Sent: Thursday, 3 December 2015 11:09 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Carol Cunningham (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Carol Cunningham
Email: robert.cunningham59@outlook.com

Address:
Poplar Level Terrace

Branxton, NSW
2335

Content:

As a partner of a worker at Rix's Creek, I would like to see the extension project go ahead. The reasons are:

- provide continued employment to current workers
- provide employment for people in the wider community
- as a privately owned and operated business, the business should be supported and applauded at the 'feeling' in the mine.
- Community groups and charities are supported through donations and sponsorships
- Staff development is a number 1 initiative and ensures that workers know the machinery worked on.
- Traineeships and apprenticeships are offered for those lucky enough to gain employment in the business.
- Federal and state governments benefit through royalties and taxes.
- Bloomfield Group work together as a family.

IP Address: bloomf13.lnk.telstra.net - 165.228.66.52
Submission: Online Submission from Carol Cunningham (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133211

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Carol Cunningham

E : robert.cunningham59@outlook.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Chris Jordan <sim_lambert87@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, 28 November 2015 7:21 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Chris Jordan (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Chris Jordan
Email: sim_lambert87@hotmail.com

Address:
97 Morpeth Road

East Maitland, NSW
2323

Content:
Rix's Creek Mine has demonstrated in the past 20 years the ability to limit & control environmental issues with surrounding areas of its current operation.
I see this submission only as a positive that allows the operation to move further away from the township of Singleton.
My family has been in the Mining Industry in the Hunter Valley for over 40 years.
Rix's Creek Mine I believe would have to be the most committed mining operation in regard to rehabilitation of the land
Australian Companies have a right to succeed in this country just like Australian Workers.

IP Address: 124-149-167-169.dyn.iinet.net.au - 124.149.167.169
Submission: Online Submission from Chris Jordan (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132794

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Chris Jordan

E : sim_lambert87@hotmail.com

Grahame & Karen Kelly

42 Lachlan Avenue
Singleton Heights 2330

P: (02) 6573 3460

9 December 2015

Director Mining & Infrastructure Projects
NSW Planning and Environment
Resources Assessments
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Sir/Madame

Rix's Creek Continuation of Mining Project

We refer to the Rix's Creek mining project extension application submitted by Bloomfield Collieries Pty Ltd in accordance with the *Environment Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

We understand that the Applicant has developed and published for public consideration an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

We endorse and support the extension application.

We are long term residents of Singleton and have been for in excess of 40 years.

The Rix's Creek mining project has brought prosperity to Singleton. The mine employs around 130 workers from around the area, and provides economic support to the local community. Not to mention that the Bloomfield Group of companies are well regarded in the local community and the mining industry more broadly for their good corporate activities and environmental practises. We have no hesitation in supporting the application.

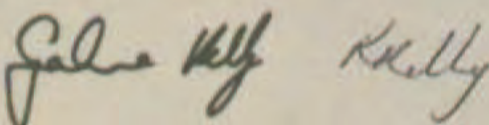
Rejecting the application, in our opinion would be detrimental to the township of Singleton and surrounding areas. As the expansion of the mine would see the mine gradually move away from Singleton, we anticipate that air quality and noise would be at lower than current levels.

The current impact of the mine on Singleton, other than economic prosperity, is negligible. We understand that the Applicant has previously made financial contributions to the community. Failing to accept the application may decrease the financial contributions made to local community groups by the Applicant.

We look forward to hearing that the application has being granted.

If you have any enquiries please feel free to contact Grahame on 0412 628 137.

Yours faithfully



Grahame Kelly & Karen Kelly

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Clive Andrews
<karencliveandrews@bigpond.com>
Sent: Monday, 30 November 2015 9:45 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Clive Andrews (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Clive Andrews
Email: karencliveandrews@bigpond.com

Address:
18 Hunter st

Singleton, NSW
2330

Content:
This submission will help protect a lot of jobs in the Singleton area.
Also the Bloomfield Group is a local company which puts a lot of money back into the area

IP Address: 38.224.233.220.static.exetel.com.au - 220.233.224.38
Submission: Online Submission from Clive Andrews (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132871

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Clive Andrews

E : karencliveandrews@bigpond.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Allan MacDonell <akaal@bloomcoll.com.au>
Sent: Thursday, 3 December 2015 1:42 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Allan MacDonell (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Allan MacDonell
Email: akaal@bloomcoll.com.au

Address:
Dight Avenue

Singleton, NSW
2330

Content:

I support the extension to Rix's Creek. I am employed at the mine as an operator. In my experience Rix's Creek take their environmental obligations seriously and operate in a that meets their conditions and is respectful of their Neighbours. I am very happy to be employed at Rix's Creek and wish for this to continue into the future under an extended approval. I am also proud of the contribution Rix's Creek and the workforce make in my local community. I urge the government and the PAC to approve the extension

IP Address: bloomf13.lnk.telstra.net - 165.228.66.52
Submission: Online Submission from Allan MacDonell (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133247

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Allan MacDonell

E : akaal@bloomcoll.com.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of darren williams
<scottsflatlucerne@bigpond.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 1 December 2015 7:50 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for darren williams of rixs creek mine (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: darren williams
Organisation: rixs creek mine (operator)
Email: scottsflatlucerne@bigpond.com

Address:
411 scotts flat rd scotts flat

singleton, NSW
2330

Content:

As an employee of the Rix's Creek Mine I strongly believe the extension should go ahead.

The company have always been committed to strive for high environmental standards in their mining practices. They are continually working with their neighbours and the local community to achieve this and form strong positive relationships with others.

The extension will see the mining process move further away from the township of Singleton therefore providing less impact on the community.

The family owned business has always been committed to have all the rehab area to follow the mining process as close as possible. This allows for less uncovered areas and will minimise the impact of the mining process. The proposed 'no void' to be left at the end of the mine shows me they are committed to leave the site in the best possible state.

This local employer provides many jobs on site, and has flow on benefits for the rest of the businesses in our struggling community.

From the reasons given I firmly believe the Rix's Creek extension should definitely go ahead.

IP Address: cpe-124-184-249-120.lns14.clt.bigpond.net.au - 124.184.249.120
Submission: Online Submission from darren williams of rixs creek mine (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133007

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

darren williams

E : scottsflatlucerne@bigpond.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Chris Moy <cmo78189@bigpond.net.au>
Sent: Monday, 30 November 2015 9:53 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Chris Moy (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Chris Moy
Email: cmo78189@bigpond.net.au

Address:
70 Dalwood Road

East Branxton, NSW
2335

Content:
I support the proposal for the Australian based company to continue mining and employing people at the site.

IP Address: 38.224.233.220.static.exetel.com.au - 220.233.224.38
Submission: Online Submission from Chris Moy (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132873

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Chris Moy

E : cmo78189@bigpond.net.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Daniel Murrell <tigermuzza@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, 30 November 2015 9:44 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Daniel Murrell (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Daniel Murrell
Email: tigermuzza@hotmail.com

Address:
4 Pearse Crescent

Bolwarra Heights, NSW
2320

Content:
I strongly support this proposal.

IP Address: 38.224.233.220.static.exetel.com.au - 220.233.224.38
Submission: Online Submission from Daniel Murrell (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132998

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Daniel Murrell

E : tigermuzza@hotmail.com

**Rix's Creek Mine Extension Project
Letter of Support
Submitted by Brett Lewis 12/11/15**

I wish to take up the opportunity to express my support for the Rix's Creek Mine Extension.

I am an employee of The Bloomfield Group and believe this puts me in an excellent position to make a submission.

For more than a quarter of a century, The Bloomfield Group's Rix's Creek mine has been –

- consistently producing coal for the export market
- paying a steady stream of royalties to the NSW government
- employing more than 100 people who reside locally or in the neighbouring regions
- as part of the broader Bloomfield Group, providing training opportunities for apprentices and university graduates
- successfully building relationships and positively working with immediate neighbours and the broader Singleton community
- at the forefront of environmental performance and innovation

I cannot think of any other activity that could be undertaken on this site that could bring better outcomes to the community as a whole.

For anyone who knows of The Bloomfield Group, the above points will not be a surprise. The performance and behaviours listed above are entirely consistent with how The Bloomfield Group has, for more than 75 years, conducted itself at its original mining operation at the Bloomfield Mine near Maitland....and it underpins why and how the Bloomfield Mine remains operating today.

The granting of the Rix's Creek Extension Project as proposed will enable the operation to respond and compete in an ever-more competitive market while at the same time retaining its necessary environmental and community performance.

In the future, as the mine progresses, the operations will be moving further away from immediate neighbours and the town of Singleton. So the potential for impacts on the community will naturally diminish. However by continuously reviewing its noise and dust mitigation strategies, made possible by emerging technologies, the Mine is committed to even further reduce potential for any impacts.

The majority of the site yet to be mined was cleared of its native vegetation more than a century ago by graziers and is currently used for low stock level beef cattle production. At its Maitland mining operation, The Bloomfield Group is currently rehabilitating mining areas to breed and raise beef cattle. This in-house experience will be available to Rix's Creek Mine so that the final land use can, as a base line and at the very least, be returned to the pre-mine use.

The Extension application seeks to enable the Company to continue its demonstrated and effective stewardship of the site until at least the open cut resource is fully respected and utilised.

When the Rix's Creek Mine is fully extracted and rehabilitation completed, The Bloomfield Group will have been successfully mining for more than 100 years.

I believe The Bloomfield Group has had a long and clear track record of leading performance in mining as well as environmental and community matters. The Rix's Creek site has no

apparent better alternative use and the continuation of the mine will maintain the tangible and significant benefits to the employees, company, local community and NSW Government. The submission to the Department of Planning is comprehensive and addresses issues through proposed mitigations or controls.

Given the above.....I unreservedly support the Rix's Creek Mine Extension application.

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of David Balcombe
<dbalcombe@bloomcoll.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 30 November 2015 7:52 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for David Balcombe (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: David Balcombe
Email: dbalcombe@bloomcoll.com.au

Address:
Blackhill Road

Blackhill, NSW
2322

Content:

I would like to see the Rix's Creek Extension project go ahead for several reasons:

1. It provides direct employment for over 140 people plus many more indirectly, of which I am one.
2. The Bloomfield Group is a privately owned Australian Company which should be applauded and supported.
3. There are many charities and community groups which receive support from the mine and company.
4. They provide training and support through both apprenticeships and traineeships for people wishing to enter the mining industry.
5. The mine always tries to operate at the highest standards. They 'Walk the Talk'.
6. The company contributes significantly to the state and federal governments through royalties and taxes.

IP Address: 38.224.233.220.static.exetel.com.au - 220.233.224.38
Submission: Online Submission from David Balcombe (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132840

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

David Balcombe

E : dbalcombe@bloomcoll.com.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Daisy Cullen <ralph911@exemail.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 30 November 2015 2:22 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Daisy Cullen (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Daisy Cullen
Email: ralph911@exemail.com.au

Address:
33-2 Ardersier Drive

Singleton, NSW
2330

Content:
I see no reason for this not to be approved.

IP Address: 38.224.233.220.static.exetel.com.au - 220.233.224.38
Submission: Online Submission from Daisy Cullen (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132917

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Daisy Cullen

E : ralph911@exemail.com.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Frank Osland <frankosland@yahoo.com.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 1 December 2015 8:11 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Frank Osland of Bloomfield (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Frank Osland
Organisation: Bloomfield (Electrical Engineer)
Email: frankosland@yahoo.com.au

Address:
27 Jellicoe Pde

New Lambton, NSW
2305

Content:

As a long term employee of the mine I support the submission. We have worked closely with the community to get the balance of employment & community expectations right & believe it is a benefit to all by getting approval

IP Address: 38.224.233.220.static.exetel.com.au - 220.233.224.38
Submission: Online Submission from Frank Osland of Bloomfield (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133009

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Frank Osland

E : frankosland@yahoo.com.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Ethan Ernst <akaal@bloomcoll.com.au>
Sent: Thursday, 3 December 2015 2:35 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Ethan Ernst (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Ethan Ernst
Email: akaal@bloomcoll.com.au

Address:
Queen Street

Singleton, NSW
2330

Content:
Singleton needs extensions like Rix's Creek extension to be approved and go ahead. This area needs employment and funds to be spent in this area, without these extensions Singleton has a very sad outlook.

IP Address: bloomf13.lnk.telstra.net - 165.228.66.52
Submission: Online Submission from Ethan Ernst (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133269

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Ethan Ernst

E : akaal@bloomcoll.com.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Klæe Ryan <kryan@fourmile.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 2 December 2015 7:38 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Klæe Ryan (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Klæe Ryan
Email: kryan@fourmile.com.au

Address:
21 Woodside Dr

Eleebana, NSW
2282

Content:

The expansion should be approved due to The Bloomfield Group being a fantastic corporate citizen in the Hunter valley. The group, especially Rixs creek make it a priority to support the local and surrounding communities, (with no hidden agenda) because the people who work in the company are passionate about the growth and support of the local area.

IP Address: 38.224.233.220.static.exetel.com.au - 220.233.224.38
Submission: Online Submission from Klæe Ryan (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133078

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Klæe Ryan

E : kryan@fourmile.com.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Lee West <lee.west@liebherr.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 17 November 2015 12:17 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Lee West of Liebherr Australia (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Lee West
Organisation: Liebherr Australia (Mining Manager NSW)
Email: lee.west@liebherr.com

Address:
6 Woodland Road

Singleton, NSW
2330

Content:

To whom it may concern,

Liebherr-Australia (Mt Thorley branch) would like to register their support of the Rix's Creek Coal Mine Extension Project.

As an OEM and partner to The Bloomfield Group, we have seen first-hand the positive impact this organisation has on local business. They play an integral part, directly and indirectly, in supporting many businesses within the Singleton LGA. (In our instance we employ approximately 90 people at our branch, our association with Bloomfield is responsible in some part for that.) We believe that the extension of the mine footprint and life expectancy would continue to provide benefits to the local area.

The Bloomfield Group is very pro-active in the community, holding fundraising events for charities, and actively participating in the local area. Without exception every Bloomfield employee that I have dealt with is proud of where they work, and feels a sense of satisfaction and pride in their association with their employer. Like Liebherr, The Bloomfield Group is a family owned business with core values and operational standards reflective of this.

It is without hesitation that we endorse the extension proposed by Bloomfield Group at their Rix's Creek. Thank you for the opportunity to express this view.

Regards
Lee West

IP Address: - 193.27.220.254
Submission: Online Submission from Lee West of Liebherr Australia (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=131686

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Lee West

E : lee.west@liebherr.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Lindsay Willis <lwillis@bloomcoll.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 30 November 2015 2:26 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Lindsay Willis of Bloomfield Pty Ltd (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Lindsay Willis
Organisation: Bloomfield Pty Ltd (Mechanical Engineer)
Email: lwillis@bloomcoll.com.au

Address:
20 The Ave

Lorn, NSW
2320

Content:
I would like to express my approval and enthusiasm for the Rixs Creek Extension Project.

IP Address: bloomf13.lnk.telstra.net - 165.228.66.52
Submission: Online Submission from Lindsay Willis of Bloomfield Pty Ltd (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132921

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Lindsay Willis

E : lwillis@bloomcoll.com.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Luke Treloar <c3089327@uon.edu.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 17 November 2015 9:43 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Luke Treloar (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Luke Treloar
Email: c3089327@uon.edu.au

Address:
8 Knoll Crescent

East Maitland, NSW
2323

Content:

I am in support of the Rix's Creek extension project. This extension and continuation will ensure the jobs of the existing and future workers at the mine and the on flow of benefits to other supporting businesses and the community.

IP Address: bloomf13.lnk.telstra.net - 165.228.66.52
Submission: Online Submission from Luke Treloar (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=131659

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Luke Treloar

E : c3089327@uon.edu.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Ian Lambert <imlambert@westnet.com.au>
Sent: Saturday, 28 November 2015 8:15 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Ian Lambert of Rix's Creek (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Ian Lambert
Organisation: Rix's Creek ()
Email: imlambert@westnet.com.au

Address:
97 Morpeth Road

EastMaitland, NSW
2323

Content:
Rix's Creek Mine has demonstrated in the past 20 years the ability to limit & control environmental issues with surrounding areas of its current operation.
I see this submission only as a positive that allows the operation to move further away from the township of Singleton.
My family has been in the Mining Industry in the Hunter Valley for over 40 years.
Rix's Creek Mine I believe would have to the most committed mining operation in regard to rehabilitation of the land
Australian Companies have a right to succeed in this country just like Australian Workers.

IP Address: 124-149-167-169.dyn.iinet.net.au - 124.149.167.169
Submission: Online Submission from Ian Lambert of Rix's Creek (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132776

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Ian Lambert

E : imlambert@westnet.com.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of gary hartnett <gands90@tpg.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 23 November 2015 7:54 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for gary hartnett of pwg kings (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: gary hartnett
Organisation: pwg kings (boilermaker)
Email: gands90@tpg.com.au

Address:
4 prospect close

raymond terrace, NSW
2324

Content:
I support the submission

IP Address: 110-175-219-109.static.tpgi.com.au - 110.175.219.109
Submission: Online Submission from gary hartnett of pwg kings (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132086

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

gary hartnett

E : gands90@tpg.com.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Luke Murray <lmurray@rixs.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 4 November 2015 11:05 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Luke Murray (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Luke Murray
Email: lmurray@rixs.com.au

Address:
20 Dickenson Road,

MELVILLE, NSW
2320

Content:
Hi,

I support the Rixs Creek Continuation Project.

Supporting local jobs will be beneficial to the local community including my family.

Regards,
Luke

IP Address: 38.224.233.220.static.exetel.com.au - 220.233.224.38
Submission: Online Submission from Luke Murray (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=130471

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Luke Murray

E : lmurray@rixs.com.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of John Cullen <jec-111@bigpond.com>
Sent: Monday, 30 November 2015 9:05 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for John Cullen (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: John Cullen
Email: jec-111@bigpond.com

Address:
17 Adam Ave

Rutherford, NSW
2320

Content:
Totally support Coal Mining in the Hunter Valley as its the backbone of this great country.
We need to export more & import less!

IP Address: 38.224.233.220.static.exetel.com.au - 220.233.224.38
Submission: Online Submission from John Cullen (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132986

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

John Cullen

E : jec-111@bigpond.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of John Whittaker <vz57ut@bigpond.com>
Sent: Monday, 30 November 2015 9:47 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for John Whittaker (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: John Whittaker
Email: vz57ut@bigpond.com

Address:
401 Fullerton Cove Road

Fullerton Cove, NSW
2318

Content:
I strongly support jobs for the locate area

IP Address: 38.224.233.220.static.exetel.com.au - 220.233.224.38
Submission: Online Submission from John Whittaker (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133000

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

John Whittaker

E : vz57ut@bigpond.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Luke Barry <chinda136@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, 30 November 2015 7:20 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Luke Barry (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Luke Barry
Email: chinda136@hotmail.com

Address:
40 Lowe Street

Clarence Town, NSW
2321

Content:
I'm currently a contractor on site & in previous years was heavily involved in rehabilitation program at Rix's Creek Mine.

I believe that Rix's Creek is the best in the Hunter Valley in regard to rehabilitation of the land.

IP Address: 38.224.233.220.static.exetel.com.au - 220.233.224.38
Submission: Online Submission from Luke Barry (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132966

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Luke Barry

E : chinda136@hotmail.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Gary Truscott <akaal@bloomcoll.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 30 November 2015 7:41 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Gary Truscott (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Gary Truscott
Email: akaal@bloomcoll.com.au

Address:
Stonehaven Drive

Metford, NSW
2323

Content:

I would like to see the Rix's Creek Extension go ahead for several reasons:

1. The Bloomfield Group is a privately own Australian company which should be applauded and supported.
2. There are many charities and community groups which receive support from the mine and company.
3. The mine always tries to operate at the highest standards
4. The company contributes significantly to the state and federal governments through royalties and taxes.
5. Rix's Creek provides training and support for both traineeships and apprenticeships for people wishing to enter the mining industry.
6. Rix's provides employment for over 140 people and many more indirectly of which I am one.

IP Address: 38.224.233.220.static.exetel.com.au - 220.233.224.38
Submission: Online Submission from Gary Truscott (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132838

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Gary Truscott

E : akaal@bloomcoll.com.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Jason Desmond <jdesmond@rixs.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 30 November 2015 1:06 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Jason Desmond of The Bloomfield Group - Rix' s Creek Mine (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Jason Desmond
Organisation: The Bloomfield Group - Rix's Creek Mine (Environmental Officer)
Email: jdesmond@rixs.com.au

Address:
31 Pacific Crescent

Ashtonfield, NSW
2323

Content:

I strongly support the 'Rix's Creek Continuation Project' and it's subsequent approval to continue mining at the site for the next 21 years. The Bloomfield Group is an 100% Australian-owned company that has worked within the Hunter Valley for over 75 years and has had strong ties with the local community during this time. The company supports many local charities / hospitals / sporting teams and contributes towards many events held within the Hunter Valley such as the Hunter Coal Festival, various Cancer Council events and the Maitland Aroma festival to name a few. The company always has (and still does today) deal with any community concerns on a personnel level. The company is not only a mining company within the Hunter Valley, but it is a key part of the Hunter Valley with plans beyond mining ensuring the Hunter Valley's sustainable future.

The Bloomfield Group strives for excellence and best practise through it's people and this can be shown by the site maintaining compliance with it's current consent conditions as well as going above and beyond with new techniques (such as a 3D predictive noise model) what is expected. This high level of adhering to compliance is seen through all levels of the company. The company also rehabilitates land to a very high standard knowing that one day the land rehabilitated will form part of the Hunter's landscape for future generations to enjoy.

The Bloomfield Group employs local people, employs local contractors, purchases from local suppliers, supports local companies, is a local company and is a vital part of the Hunter Valley. Mining and the Bloomfield Group play a crucial role in the future of the Hunter Valley and it's continued success will be verified through the approval of this project.

IP Address: 38.224.233.220.static.exetel.com.au - 220.233.224.38
Submission: Online Submission from Jason Desmond of The Bloomfield Group - Rix's Creek Mine (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132911

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Jason Desmond

E : jdesmond@rixs.com.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Neil Smith <karren.olive@bigpond.com>
Sent: Monday, 30 November 2015 9:20 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Neil Smith (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Neil Smith
Email: karren.olive@bigpond.com

Address:
702 Bridgman Rd

Bridgman, NSW
2330

Content:
I totally support this development.

IP Address: 38.224.233.220.static.exetel.com.au - 220.233.224.38
Submission: Online Submission from Neil Smith (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132992

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Neil Smith

E : karren.olive@bigpond.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Peter Charge <pcharge@rixs.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 30 November 2015 11:18 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Peter Charge (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Peter Charge
Email: pcharge@rixs.com.au

Address:
Leinster Circuit

Ashtonfield, NSW
2323

Content:

With the coal mining industry suffering so much negative media exposure lately, depressed price points and widespread redundancies across the industry, we should actively support any companies that have a positive attitude toward expanding their horizons.

Whilst I reside in the lower Hunter valley, I commute 5 days a week to Singleton, along the way you can see the impact the downturn has had on traffic load, businesses and general sentiment in the community.

Bloomfield Group, in particular Rix's Creek Mine, have shown initiative and resilience in these trying economic and socially difficult times. This is evident by the company's determination to continue and expand, despite the 'doom and gloom' associated with this extended low cyclic fluctuation.

Having been mindful of environmental and human impacts of open cut mining, the expansion proposal put forward does not contain major negatives, sometimes associated with other expansion applications. That is, the benefits far outweigh the perceived concerns. The symbiotic relationship this mine has with the Singleton district is one of a kind, a successful model, demonstrating co-existence of mining and local township.

When the rest of the industry is saying 'NO', Bloomfield Group should be applauded for showing that adversity is a challenge to be overcome, by saying 'YES' this is achievable. That we, as a company, can continue to supply long term and newly acquired customers with a quality product with secure future reserves and secure employment, in both good times and not so good.

The extension proposal for Rix's Creek can only be of benefit for the local and wider communities that look to the expanding opportunities currently offered by this unique Australian family owned company.

IP Address: 38.224.233.220.static.exetel.com.au - 220.233.224.38

Submission: Online Submission from Peter Charge (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132898

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Peter Charge

E : pcharge@rixs.com.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Michelle Lambert <imlambert@hotmail.com.au>
Sent: Saturday, 28 November 2015 7:19 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Michelle Lambert (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Michelle Lambert
Email: imlambert@hotmail.com.au

Address:
97 Morpeth Road

East Maitland, NSW
2323

Content:
Rix's Creek Mine has demonstrated in the past 20 years the ability to limit & control environmental issues with surrounding areas of its current operation.
I see this submission only as a positive that allows the operation to move further away from the township of Singleton.
My family has been in the Mining Industry in the Hunter Valley for over 40 years.
Rix's Creek Mine I believe would have to be the most committed mining operation in regard to rehabilitation of the land.
Australian Companies have a right to succeed in this country just like Australian Workers.

IP Address: 124-149-167-169.dyn.iinet.net.au - 124.149.167.169
Submission: Online Submission from Michelle Lambert (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132790

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Michelle Lambert

E : imlambert@hotmail.com.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Renata Roberts <rroberts@bloomcoll.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 30 November 2015 9:44 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Renata Roberts of Bloomfield Group (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Renata Roberts
Organisation: Bloomfield Group (Chief Corporate Services Officer)
Email: rroberts@bloomcoll.com.au

Address:
2 Caldwell Street

Merewether, NSW
2291

Content:
I support the submission from the Bloomfield Group for Rixs Creek as they are a Company that is committed to their corporate social responsibility and the extension will continue to provide a number of locals job opportunities.

IP Address: bloomf13.lnk.telstra.net - 165.228.66.52
Submission: Online Submission from Renata Roberts of Bloomfield Group (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132869

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Renata Roberts

E : rroberts@bloomcoll.com.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Philip Dunne <alyandphil@bigpond.com>
Sent: Thursday, 26 November 2015 8:03 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Philip Dunne (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Philip Dunne
Email: alyandphil@bigpond.com

Address:
9 West Cranston Avenue

Singleton, NSW
2330

Content:

Having visited the Rixs Creek Continuation shop front this afternoon and having a detailed discussion over my concerns and interests, I would like to voice my support for the approval of the continuation submission.

I have lived both in Singleton Heights and Singleton township for the last 23 years and have not experienced any direct negative impacts from the Rixs Creek operation.

The detailed forecast mapping and planning of noise, dust and environmental impacts appears thorough and to me, acceptable. The final land form at the completion of mining also shows a real commitment to rehabilitating the property to a state that is probably more productive and less erosive than the original grazing property. The fact that this is achieved whilst providing ongoing employment and financial benefits to the region should only be seen as a positive proposal.

IP Address: - 101.161.172.63

Submission: Online Submission from Philip Dunne (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132555

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Philip Dunne

E : alyandphil@bigpond.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of rodney hallam <rhallam@rixs.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 18 November 2015 3:10 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for rodney hallam of rix's creek (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: rodney hallam
Organisation: rix's creek (electrician)
Email: rhallam@rixs.com.au

Address:
24 the ridge road

east maitland, NSW
2323

Content:

I think the expansion of the mine will provide security of employment for many families in the hunter valley and also much needed support for the many local businesses and suppliers throughout the hunter region.

IP Address: 38.224.233.220.static.exetel.com.au - 220.233.224.38
Submission: Online Submission from rodney hallam of rix's creek (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=131852

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

rodney hallam

E : rhallam@rixs.com.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Paul Hedges <hedgeynjones4@bigpond.com>
Sent: Thursday, 3 December 2015 10:43 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Paul Hedges (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Paul Hedges
Email: hedgeynjones4@bigpond.com

Address:
Majestic Road

Largs, NSW
2320

Content:

I would like to see the Rix's Creek extension project go ahead for the following reasons:

1. It provides direct employment for over 140 people plus many more indirectly. (Eg. Takeaway food shops, tyre shop, Nut and Bolt suppliers) and many more.
2. The Bloomfield Group is a privately owned Australian Company.
3. There are many charities and community groups which receive support from the mine and company.
4. The company contributes to the state and federal governments through royalties and taxes.
5. The Mine always tries to operate at the highest standards not to disregard the neighbours and the Public.
6. The company provides training and support for people wishing to enter the mining industry (apprenticeships and trainees)

IP Address: bloomf13.lnk.telstra.net - 165.228.66.52
Submission: Online Submission from Paul Hedges (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133208

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Paul Hedges

E : hedgeynjones4@bigpond.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Robert Cunningham <robert.cunningham59@outlook.com>
Sent: Thursday, 3 December 2015 1:49 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Robert Cunningham (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Robert Cunningham
Email: robert.cunningham59@outlook.com

Address:
Poplar Level Terrace

Branxton , NSW
2335

Content:

As an employee of Rix's Creek, I would like to see the extension project go ahead. It will provide continued employment for current workers and it will employ more people in the region.

Bloomfield Group is a privately owned and operated business and should be supported.

Charities and community groups are all very well supported through donations and sponsorships.

Staff development is a number 1 initiative and ensures that the workers know their machinery they are operating. Traineeships and apprenticeships are given to many people who want to enter the mining industry to be trained to learn more about the industry, and especially see how closely Bloomfield people work together as a family. The federal and state governments are also benefitted through royalties and taxes.

IP Address: bloomf13.lnk.telstra.net - 165.228.66.52
Submission: Online Submission from Robert Cunningham (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133249

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Robert Cunningham

E : robert.cunningham59@outlook.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Mark Cowie <mcowie@bloomcoll.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 30 November 2015 1:43 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Mark Cowie of Rixs Creek open cut (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Mark Cowie
Organisation: Rixs Creek open cut (Electrician)
Email: mcowie@bloomcoll.com.au

Address:
13 Honeyoak drive

Aberglasslyn , NSW
2320

Content:
I work for the Bloomfield group at rixs creek and I am in favour of the extension to be approved to secure my future employment and also that of everybody that works there directly or indirectly.

IP Address: 38.224.233.220.static.exetel.com.au - 220.233.224.38
Submission: Online Submission from Mark Cowie of Rixs Creek open cut (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132834

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Mark Cowie

E : mcowie@bloomcoll.com.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Renee Lambert <sim_lambert87@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, 28 November 2015 7:20 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Renee Lambert (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Renee Lambert
Email: sim_lambert87@hotmail.com

Address:
97 Morpeth Road

East Maitland, NSW
2323

Content:
Rix's Creek Mine has demonstrated in the past 20 years the ability to limit & control environmental issues with surrounding areas of its current operation.
I see this submission only as a positive that allows the operation to move further away from the township of Singleton.
My family has been in the Mining Industry in the Hunter Valley for over 40 years.
Rix's Creek Mine I believe would have to be the most committed mining operation in regard to rehabilitation of the land
Australian Companies have a right to succeed in this country just like Australian Workers.

IP Address: 124-149-167-169.dyn.iinet.net.au - 124.149.167.169
Submission: Online Submission from Renee Lambert (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132792

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Renee Lambert

E : sim_lambert87@hotmail.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of MARK CHAPMAN
<mark.chapman@pwgking.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 30 November 2015 12:41 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for MARK CHAPMAN of KINGS ENGINEERING (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: MARK CHAPMAN
Organisation: KINGS ENGINEERING (MANAGER)
Email: mark.chapman@pwgking.com.au

Address:
33 Tea tree Avenue

Aberglasslyn, NSW
2320

Content:

I Mark Chapman - Wish to make a submission to approve the extension of Rix's Creek mine. I support the mining Industry. I also support the Rix's Creek Pty Ltd as a proud Australian Family owned company. We depend on Rix's with repairs we carry out on their equipment and without them Kings would not be able to keep employed local people to support our local region. With this we need this extension to be granted to support our local community with direct and indirect employment and engaging the wider community and surrounding areas with their support in many area's. Thanks for keeping our local area viable and alive with community spirit with granting Rix's this extension.

IP Address: bloomf5.lnk.telstra.net - 203.45.8.14

Submission: Online Submission from MARK CHAPMAN of KINGS ENGINEERING (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132909

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

MARK CHAPMAN

E : mark.chapman@pwgking.com.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Michael Hafey <akaal@bloomcoll.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 23 November 2015 7:34 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Michael Hafey (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Michael Hafey
Email: akaal@bloomcoll.com.au

Address:
Charles Street

East Maitland, NSW
2323

Content:

I have worked at Rix's Creek Mine for the past 23 years and fully support their extension project. The mine has always supported the Singleton township and I myself have always supported the town by buying at Singleton's shops and garages. I believe the Bloomfield company is a very responsible company and will continue to do so. Therefore, I fully support their extension submission.

IP Address: 38.224.233.220.static.exetel.com.au - 220.233.224.38
Submission: Online Submission from Michael Hafey (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132078

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Michael Hafey

E : akaal@bloomcoll.com.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Melissa Wellham <melwellham@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 26 November 2015 10:58 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Melissa Wellham (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Melissa Wellham
Email: melwellham@gmail.com

Address:
76 Waratah Ave

Charlestown, NSW
2290

Content:

My father and my brother both work for a contractor to Bloomfield and Rix's Creek mines and have done for many years. The Bloomfield Group is a wonderful, local, family owned company. The company is very loyal to their contractors and been very supportive of many families (including ours) over a long period. My father has told me how diligent the company is regarding the environment and how "community minded" the people are. I believe the extension to the Rix's Creek Mine will be a great asset to the community as a whole and particularly to local employment. I strongly support the Rix's Creek Mine extension.

IP Address: - 101.190.174.125
Submission: Online Submission from Melissa Wellham (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132510

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Melissa Wellham

E : melwellham@gmail.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Zac Mulder <zac.mulder@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, 30 November 2015 7:27 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Zac Mulder (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Zac Mulder
Email: zac.mulder@hotmail.com

Address:
51 Adele Crescent

Ashtonfield , NSW
2323

Content:
I'm currently employed at Rix's Creek as a contract fitter and I need to keep my job.
I like working at Rix's because its an Australian owned 100%
company so the profits stay in this country not like the multi-nationals.

IP Address: 38.224.233.220.static.exetel.com.au - 220.233.224.38
Submission: Online Submission from Zac Mulder (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132972

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Zac Mulder

E : zac.mulder@hotmail.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Scott Christian <akaal@bloomcoll.com.au>
Sent: Thursday, 3 December 2015 11:39 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Scott Christian (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Scott Christian
Email: akaal@bloomcoll.com.au

Address:
Arrowgrass Street

Aberglasslyn, NSW
2320

Content:
Rix's Creek in the past has proven their ability to control environmental issues.
My family has been in the mining industry for over 40 years.
I believe that the submission is only a positive one and will generate jobs and also keep the existing workforce we have going into the future.

IP Address: bloomf13.lnk.telstra.net - 165.228.66.52
Submission: Online Submission from Scott Christian (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=133217

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Scott Christian

E : akaal@bloomcoll.com.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Scott Foster <sfoster@maitlanddiesel.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 9 November 2015 2:56 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Scott Foster of Maitland Diesel Service (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Scott Foster
Organisation: Maitland Diesel Service (General Manager)
Email: sfoster@maitlanddiesel.com.au

Address:
339

Rutherford, NSW
2320

Content:
Maitland Diesel Service is a locally owned and operated company that has serviced The Bloomfield Group including the Rix's creek mine site for over 25years.
The percentage of work attributed to The Bloomfield Group primarily Rix's creek is over 90% of Maitland Diesel's total work.
The Approval of the Rix's Creek extension would continue to support over 40 jobs within Maitland Diesel.
Maitland Diesel Service supports the approval of the Rix's Creek extension without reserve.

IP Address: newc56port190.idl.net.au - 203.32.82.68
Submission: Online Submission from Scott Foster of Maitland Diesel Service (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=130954

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Scott Foster

E : sfoster@maitlanddiesel.com.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Scott Munro <smunro@bloomcoll.com.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 17 November 2015 9:58 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Scott Munro of Bloomfielkd Group (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Scott Munro
Organisation: Bloomfielkd Group (Senior WHS Advisor)
Email: smunro@bloomcoll.com.au

Address:
8 Amos st

Bonnells Bay, NSW
2264

Content:
The Bloomfield Group is a small family owned business with a great heart. The business has worked with the community, stakeholders and its employees to ensure the future for all has been carefully considered, consulted and planned to share in prosperity. The environment impact has been and will always be managed to a world class standard, a proud, honest and sincere Australian organisation.

IP Address: bloomf13.lnk.telstra.net - 165.228.66.52
Submission: Online Submission from Scott Munro of Bloomfielkd Group (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=131663

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Scott Munro

E : smunro@bloomcoll.com.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Troy Fisher <troy.fisher@pwgking.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 30 November 2015 8:49 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Troy Fisher of Kings Engineering (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Troy Fisher
Organisation: Kings Engineering (Project Manager)
Email: troy.fisher@pwgking.com.au

Address:
8 Richard Rd Rutherford

Rutherford, NSW
2320

Content:
I am an employee of the Bloomfield group and also a part of the local community.
The Rixs Creek Mining Extension is vital to our community in keeping local people employed.

I am writing in support of the Rixs Creek Mining Extension Project.

IP Address: bloomf5.lnk.telstra.net - 203.45.8.14
Submission: Online Submission from Troy Fisher of Kings Engineering (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132852

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Troy Fisher

E : troy.fisher@pwgking.com.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Singleton local <riley2row@yahoo.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 30 November 2015 10:42 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Singleton local (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Singleton local
Email: riley2row@yahoo.com.au

Address:
1a Gipp St

Singleton, NSW
2330

Content:

As a local from Singleton I support the Rixs Creek extension. This extension will help support the Singleton economy and maintain local jobs within the community. The Bloomfield Group is an Australian owned company which is always willing to help fund raise for different charities within the region. This extension will help maintain a strong relation within community fund raising. Rixs Creek rehabilitation looks the best in Hunter Valley (by a long shot) and I'm sure this will continue into the future. Rixs Creek has been operating for the last 25 years in my experience the company has always considered it locals in terms of employment opportunities and environmental impact. It would be sad to see the leaders of the pack be shutdown and denied this extension.

IP Address: 38.224.233.220.static.exetel.com.au - 220.233.224.38
Submission: Online Submission from Singleton local (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132891

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Singleton local

E : riley2row@yahoo.com.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Michael Sams <msams@pwgking.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 30 November 2015 8:40 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Michael Sams (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Michael Sams
Email: msams@pwgking.com.au

Address:
7 Woodhurst Street

Largs, NSW
2320

Content:
I support the extension of the Rixs Creek mine site. I am currently employed with a company that a majority of our work is for the mining industry. With the current down turn in the industry there is a large number of people who are currently unemployed. If the Rixs Creek extension is not approved this would see another mine be closed and more people join the unemployment list.

IP Address: bloomf5.lnk.telstra.net - 203.45.8.14
Submission: Online Submission from Michael Sams (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132848

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Michael Sams

E : msams@pwgking.com.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Larissa Nugent <larissa.nugent@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, 30 November 2015 8:41 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Larissa Nugent of Bloomfield Group (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Larissa Nugent
Organisation: Bloomfield Group (HR Superintendent)
Email: larissa.nugent@gmail.com

Address:
7 Kempster Road

Merewether, NSW
2291

Content:
I support the Rix's Creek Extension Project.

Rix's Creek, owned by the Bloomfield Group is a fantastic company that looks after its employees and supports the local community. The fact that the company is 100% family owned and has been around for over 75 years contributes to the positive way in which the company is run, how it engages with the community and its respect for the environment. The company supports many charitable organisations providing invaluable support to local community groups. In addition to this, employees within the company lend their own time, money and support to a range of different causes.

This project and the extension has been well planned and a lot of resources have gone into ensuring that the project is going to make a positive contribution to the community whilst securing employment for hundreds of people in a time of uncertainty within the industry. Without this project there would be a significant impact on both on the local Singleton community and beyond. Bloomfield sets itself apart from other mining companies through the company's true committed to the environment and its people.

I am proud to work for such a great company and support the Rix's Creek Extension project 100%. The project will be good for individuals working for the company, their families, local businesses, contracting companies and their employees and families, local charitable organisations and the economy.

IP Address: bloomf13.lnk.telstra.net - 165.228.66.52
Submission: Online Submission from Larissa Nugent of Bloomfield Group (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132850

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Larissa Nugent

E : larissa.nugent@gmail.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Jayde Sams <m.sams@bigpond.com>
Sent: Monday, 30 November 2015 8:34 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Jayde Sams (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Jayde Sams
Email: m.sams@bigpond.com

Address:
7 Woodhurst Street

Largs, NSW
2320

Content:

My husband works in the coal industry and Rixs Creek is one of there major customers. The coal industry in the Hunter Valley is a major industry and with the current down turn a number of people have lost their jobs. If this extension or other extensions are not approved there will be a large number of people without employment.

IP Address: bloomf5.lnk.telstra.net - 203.45.8.14
Submission: Online Submission from Jayde Sams (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132844

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Jayde Sams

E : m.sams@bigpond.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Tony O'Donnell <tony@scscomputers.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 30 November 2015 8:39 AM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Tony O'Donnell (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Tony O'Donnell
Email: tony@scscomputers.com.au

Address:
34 Kilkenny Circuit

Ashtonfield, NSW
2323

Content:
I support the application and fully endorse the extension of the mine.

IP Address: bloomf5.lnk.telstra.net - 203.45.8.14
Submission: Online Submission from Tony O'Donnell (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132846

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Tony O'Donnell

E : tony@scscomputers.com.au

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Dan Wong <dankristy@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, 27 November 2015 1:07 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Dan Wong (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Dan Wong
Email: dankristy@gmail.com

Address:
28 Albert St

Speers Point, NSW
2284

Content:

I believe that mining in the Hunter region is the lifeblood of the community. The region needs mining to ensure strong employment. This affects not only those employed within the mines but other various sectors such as health and retail etc. Rix's Creek and Bloomfield also both continue to give back to the community through charities such as Youth off the Streets, The Cancer Council, Smith Family Appeal and the Salvation Army. They also donate organisations such as the Singleton Hospital, HMRI and the John Hunter Hospital to name a few.

IP Address: bloomf13.lnk.telstra.net - 165.228.66.52
Submission: Online Submission from Dan Wong (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132660

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Dan Wong

E : dankristy@gmail.com

Hamish Aiken

From: system@affinitylive.com on behalf of Jennifer Walsh <jenniferwalsh@aapt.net.au>
Sent: Friday, 27 November 2015 1:05 PM
To: Hamish Aiken
Cc: Howard Reed
Subject: Submission Details for Jennifer Walsh of Kings Engineering (support)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Jennifer Walsh
Organisation: Kings Engineering (WHS Advisor)
Email: jenniferwalsh@aapt.net.au

Address:
19 Maybush Avenue

Thornton, NSW
2322

Content:

I fully and completely support the Rixs Creek Extension Project. The company I work for depends on mining work for its livelihood, and without the continuation of mining at this site, my position would be at risk. I am already the major breadwinner for my family due to the downturn in the mining industry, if I were to lose my job, everything we have worked and striven for would be at risk. Not only would I lose my job, which would also affect my husband and children, but my 41 co-workers would be at risk of losing their jobs as well. There are precious few vacant positions in the Hunter Region at the moment due to the mining downturn, I firmly believe that any opportunity to keep or create jobs should be encouraged and supported.

IP Address: 124-169-31-59.dyn.iinet.net.au - 124.169.31.59
Submission: Online Submission from Jennifer Walsh of Kings Engineering (support)
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=132658

Submission for Job: #6300 Rix's Creek Extension Project
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6300

Site: #2884 Rix's Creek Coal Mine
https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2884

Jennifer Walsh

E : jenniferwalsh@aapt.net.au