



Bloomfield Colliery Continuation Project

Community Newsletter – April 2025

Introduction

Bloomfield Collieries Pty Limited (The Bloomfield Group) owns and operates the Bloomfield Colliery (the Colliery) east of Maitland.

The Colliery currently operates in accordance with Project Approval 07_0087. Mining operations under the existing approval may take place until 31 December 2030.

We are seeking to continue mining at the site for a further five years until 31 December 2035.

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the modification is now on public display.

Who is The Bloomfield Group?

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

About Bloomfield Colliery

Mining has been carried out at the site since the late 1850s, with Bloomfield taking over the Mining Lease in 1937. Since then, Bloomfield has maintained continuous operations on the site. Underground mining operations on the site ceased in 1992. Open-cut mining operations began in 1964 and are ongoing. The Bloomfield Colliery has approval to operate 24 hours per day, seven days per week. It currently employs approximately 93 Full-Time Equivalent personnel over 15 standard shifts a week across its operations, including the mining, administration, group roles and maintenance areas.

A range of real-time and predictive environmental monitoring is undertaken at the Colliery to minimise impacts on local communities, with the results regularly reviewed and reported annually.

In line with the approved final land use, substantial cattle grazing occurs on rehabilitated sections of the site today.

What is the Bloomfield Colliery Continuation Project?

Approval of the project will allow the continuation of mining in and adjacent to the current area.

The continuation of mining does not involve an increase in production, additional equipment or additional infrastructure. In fact, the proposed approved annual production level will be reduced.

The natural topography to the west and north of the proposed operations will continue to mitigate noise and visual impacts, and mining will not occur any closer to residential areas than has previously occurred.

Benefits

Improved final landform: The proposed modification would result in beneficial changes to the currently approved post mining landform by reducing the size of the final void and reducing rehabilitated slope angles, which benefit the final land use (cattle grazing).

Opportunity to address legacy matters associated with the site: Mining has been carried out at the site since the late 1850s. This project provides the opportunity to mine an area of shallow historic underground workings, thereby removing the potential for subsidence and voids to occur at the surface and providing improved long term stability benefits for the final landform.

Employment and economic benefits for the local community, the State of NSW, and Australia: Continued mining will mean ongoing employment for our employees, contractors and supply companies. There will be additional taxation payable to both the State and Commonwealth Governments from the additional years of mining. Royalties will also be paid to the State on the additional resource that will be mined. These royalties contribute to funding NSW hospitals, schools, essential services, and infrastructure projects.

Community investments: Continued mining will mean ongoing investment in the many community organisations Bloomfield supports in the local area through The Bloomfield Group Foundation.

Results of key studies

As part of preparing the EIS, a series of specialist technical studies were completed, indicating that the continuation of operations can be undertaken and managed to meet the requirements for air quality, noise and blasting.

A biodiversity offset strategy will also address the ecological impacts associated with the disturbance of vegetation. Full survey results can be viewed within the EIS.

Planning Portal

The Environmental Impact Statement for the modification is on public display on the NSW Government Planning Portal until Tuesday, 20 May 2025. You can access the EIS and provide comment here:

<https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/modification-5-bloomfield-colliery-continuation-project>

In addition to the NSW Government approval required for the modification, the project also requires Commonwealth Government approval under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBC).

Further Information

If you have any questions about the project, please contact:

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