

Bev Smiles
3483 Ringwood Rd
Wollar NSW 2850
bevsmiles85@gmail.com

Melissa Anderson
Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 31 Sydney NSW 2000

Monday 18 March 2019

Dear Ms Anderson,

I am writing to lodge an objection to Rix's Creek South Modification 10.

The document that appears on the Department website for comment provides no information about the current status of the mining operations at Rix's Creek South.

The proposal to extend the current approval and continue mining until March 2020 has not been accompanied by an assessment of air pollution impacts, greenhouse gas emissions or volume of coal planned to be produced during the additional 9 months.

I have lodged a strong objection to the proposed Rix's Creek Extension Project currently before the Independent Planning Commission. The reason for a delay in the assessment and approvals process for this project was the illegal mining of nearly 100 ha outside the mining lease area.

I consider that Bloomfield has demonstrated that they are not fit and proper to have a mining lease. The Department should not be rewarding this poor behavior by placing this modification application on public exhibition during the NSW Government caretaker mode.

Rix's Creek South mining operations, under the current approval, should have ceased with rehabilitation now being the main source of employment. A Mine Closure Plan is due on March 24 and the Department should be requiring this condition of approval to be met.

The cumulative impact of mining in this area of the Hunter Valley is not being adequately assessed or controlled by approval conditions. It is time for mines like Rix's Creek to reach the end of their life and start rebuilding the landscape for future use.

For the future of the Hunter Region and an orderly transition to a more diverse economy, Rix's Creek South Modification 10 must be rejected.

Yours sincerely



Bev Smiles