

20 March 2019

NSW Department of Planning and Environment
320 Pitt Street
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Attn.: Melissa Anderson
Resource Assessments and Compliance.

Dear Melissa,

RE: Rix's Creek South Modification 10 - Extension of Time.

I write to you in support of the current Rix's Creek South Modification 10- Extension of time. The extension of time to the current Rix's Creek Mining Operations will allow for the continued assessment of the Rix's Creek Continuation of Mining Project (SSD 6300) which is nearing the final stages of assessment with the Department of Planning and Environment, (the Department), and the Independent Planning Commission of NSW (IPCN).

The Rix's Creek Continuation of Mining Project was submitted in March 2014.

There have been a number of changes in the requirements and processes since work commenced in gaining the Project Approval for the area, including changes to the approval process.

During the period of assessment the review process has also changed with the formation of the Independent Planning Commission of NSW. The aim of the IPCN is to instill trust in the assessment process, strengthen transparency and independence in decision making. In doing so the IPCN needs to give reasons for their decisions and address how community views were taken into account. We are all part of the community.

It is important that the current Rix's Creek Continuation of Mining Project assessment process is allowed to achieve its purpose and reach a sound decision.

The Rix's Creek South Modification 10 –

- is to provide extra time for the assessment should it extend beyond 24th June 2019. It is a contingency only and may not be required.
- seeks only a 9 month extension.
- will enable the continuation of the currently approved mining activities while any ongoing assessment of the Rix's Creek Continuation Project is undertaken.
- will ensure continuity of employment for the entirety of the existing workforce at Rix's Creek Mine during the assessment and determination period.

- Does not involve any changes to the approved extraction footprint, production rate or mining methods. Consequently, all environmental impacts will remain within the limits currently assessed and approved for Rix's Creek S to operate within.

I support this modification which in my strong opinion will be beneficial for both the NSW Government and the NSW Community. This extension of time will allow the current transparent process of assessment of the Continuation of Mining Project to be completed by the Department and the Independent Planning Commission while providing stability of jobs for the current 300 workers during the period of finalising the assessment of SSD 6300.

Yours sincerely

Christopher Knight.

MEnvMgt, BSc(Geol), MAIG, JP.