

The original Rix's Creek Mine (now known as Rix's Creek South Mine) commenced operations in 1990 under the ongoing ownership of Bloomfield Collieries Pty Ltd. With a recently renewed consent, the mine continues its production and export of semi soft coking coal and high quality thermal coal to Asia.

In 2015, The Bloomfield Collieries Pty Ltd purchased the adjoining Integra Opencut Mine (now known as Rix's Creek North Mine). The combined operation is now known as Rix's Creek Mine. Mod 9 relates to an area called the Camberwell Pit in Rix's Creek North Mine.

Mod 9 is a minor modification that –

- improves operational efficiency and reduces adjoining landholder impacts – by allowing more blasts to occur at optimum times, impacts on adjoining landholders are reduced and production improvements are possible
- provides an enhanced final land form and land use outcomes - by removing the approved plateau, a landform that better sits with the surrounding landscape will be possible. The proposed landform will provide enhanced pasture and tree opportunities that will better support cattle grazing and ongoing land management.
- improves operational and approval process efficiency – by allowing for exploration activities to be undertaken in a more certain and timely manner.

The modification does not increase the area already approved for disturbance.

It is a sensible submission that will add value and benefit to the company, its adjoining landholders and neighbours and the broader State of NSW through more secure royalties and more efficient interaction with regulating authorities.

I am one of the more than 500 Hunter Valley based employees working for the Bloomfield Group. I strongly support this modification because it increases efficiencies, lowers impacts and provides more certainty that the Rix's Creek Mine will deliver its potential as a great project for all stakeholders.

Yours sincerely

Brett Lewis