

Rixs Creek Community Consultative Committee – Annual Report 2022

CCC / Project Name:	Rixs Creek Mine CCC	Reporting Period:	March 2021 to May 2022
Independent Chairperson:	Lisa Andrews	Proponent Contact:	Chris Knight

1. Executive Summary

The Rixs Creek North and Rixs Creek South is located 5kms north of Singleton, 90 kms from the Port of Newcastle and has been owned and operated by Bloomfield in the Hunter Valley for more than 80 years. The mine produces both thermal coal and high quality, semi-soft coking coal, primarily for overseas customers, which is railed to the Port of Newcastle and loaded onto ships.

The site includes a rail loop and two coal handling and preparation plants.

A Community Consultative Committee (CCC) was established in 2014 and operates in accordance with the Department of Planning & Environment's Community Consultative Committee Guidelines for State Significant Development (January 2019). The committee membership consists of:

- Four local community representatives
- One Singleton Council delegate
- Three company representatives; and
- One Independent Chairperson.

The meetings are held bi-annually in May and October with attendees receiving a comprehensive presentation from the proponent. Meeting dates for this reporting period were: 26 May 2021, 20 October 2021 and 25 May 2022. Topics of discussion at these CCCs included:

- Progress of the project
- The Rixs Creek Continuation of Mining Project (CMP) post approval process
- Monitoring and Environmental Performance (including, noise, blasting and air quality)
- Surface water and ground water monitoring
- Community Complaints and Responses
- Pest Management
- Weed Management
- Biodiversity Offsets (Management and Monitoring)
- Water Management
- Rehabilitation
- Mine Tours undertaken on site by school/community groups
- Community Support Programs and donations
- The Independent Environmental Audit
- Exploration Update; and
- Proposed Modification (1) of the Rix's Creek South SSD 6300.

The CCC is an effective communication forum between the community, the Council and the company. It functions well and accordingly, fulfils its objectives under the Department's guidelines.

2. CCC activities over last 12 months

The committee met in May 2021, October 2021 and May 2022.

Progress of the Project:

- The Bloomfield Group continued mining operations in the Rix's Creek West Pit and Rix's Creek North Camberwell Pit operations.
- Rix's Creek SSD6300 commenced in February 2020. Pre-clearing work for SSD6300 was ongoing in South Continuation of Mining Project (SSD 6300) 2021.
- MP 08_0102 Modification 9 was approved in February 2021.
- SSD6300 Modification 1 was approved in July 2021.
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- Presentation on the Annual Review.
- Presentation on the Independent Environmental Audit.
- Community Newsletters (with modification application information) are provided to CCC members and distributed in the area, including neighbouring properties.
- Attendance at the meetings can be spasmodic, with the occasional apology due to competing commitments of volunteers.
- There were no joint CCC's held.

It is worth noting that Bloomfield's Environmental Team has been highly commended in the NSW Mining HSEC Awards, winning third place in the environment excellence awards category.

As an additional item, CCC members received a briefing by the proponent Mitsui on its proposed Bridgeman's Solar Farm located in the vicinity of the mine.

3. Key issues

Trending topics of committee discussion can be summarised as:

Issue	Actions Taken	Outcome
Rixs Creek South SSD 6300 Modification 1	Exploration Activities Management Plan was developed, combining both the exploration requirements for both South and North mining activities.	MOD 1 - Approved July 2021. Managements plans in with DPE for review.
Coalaceous Haulage Material Management Plan	Plan developed to cover transport of remnant coal material. Council & TfNSW provided comment.	Plan with DPE for review.
Environmental Monitoring	The proponent provides detailed information of its environmental monitoring on site and its commitment to meeting legislative and regulatory compliance.	Ongoing presentations to CCC.
Pest Management	Control of kangaroos and wild dogs.	Culling and baiting undertaken in accordance

		with regulatory requirements.
Review of Management Plans	The proponent offered members the opportunity to be involved in the review of its Management Plans.	Management Plans are forwarded to CCC members for review. Members provided with 2 weeks to give comments.
Biodiversity	Interest in Rix's Creek's Biodiversity land and management (ie, trust, credits, agreements, bonds, etc)	CCC will receive regular updates on the management of its biodiversity offsets.

4. Focus for next 12 months

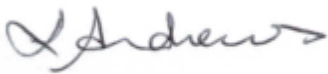
The planned activities for 2023 will be guided by the contributions of the CCC members. These activities are likely to include:

- Continued updates on environmental monitoring of the site.
- Continued updates provided on monitoring and environmental performance.
- Annual Review.
- Independent Environmental Audit.
- Proposed site inspection.

The proponent has advised that they have commenced exploration to further refine the geological model. Exploration is currently being undertaken north of the existing operations with other drill holes located at Rixs Creek South and west of Rixs Creek North. Bloomfield will keep CCC members informed about the outcomes of exploration and any future plans.

To the best of my knowledge, there are no outstanding or emerging issues that have not been addressed.

CCC minutes and presentations are available on the website.

Signature of Chair:	
Date:	31 May 2022