

## Rixs Creek Community Consultative Committee – Annual Report

<b>CCC / Project Name:</b>	Rixs Creek North and Rixs Creek South CCC	<b>Reporting Period:</b>	July 2019 to May 2020
<b>Independent Chairperson:</b>	<b>Lisa Andrews</b>	<b>Proponent Contact:</b>	<b>Chris Knight</b>

### 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:

- Six 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. Topics of discussion during the reporting period included:

- The Rixs Creek Continuation of Mining Project (CMP) – approved 12/10/19
- Modification 10 – extension of existing consent (whilst awaiting CMP) – approved 12/6/19
- Monitoring and Environmental Performance (including, noise, blasting and air quality)
- Community Complaints and Responses
- Pest Management
- Weed Management
- Biodiversity Offsets
- Water Management
- Rehabilitation; and
- Mine Tours undertaken on site by school/community groups.

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 2019, October 2019, May 2020 and an extraordinary meeting was held in February 2020 to inform CCC members of the enactment of the conditions of consent for the new approval - Continuation of the Project (SSD 6300) as well as the proponent's intention to lodge a Modification for Rixs Creek North Mine Landform and Blasting Frequency.

The May 2020 CCC was held via video-conferencing due to the COVID-19 pandemic meeting restrictions.

- As a result of the Continuation of Mining approval, the Rix's Creek North and Rix's Creek South CCC has been combined and is now known as the Rix's Creek Mine CCC as per the new approval (SSD 6300, MP 08\_0102 and DA 49/94).
- In December 2019 the consultant's engaged to undertake the Independent Environmental Audit (GHD) made contact with the chair of the CCC to seek feedback from members for issues to be included in the audit process. Some members responded and this information was forwarded to the consultant.
- Community Newsletters (with modification application information) are provided to CCC members and distributed in the area, including neighbouring properties.
- Attendance at the meetings is high, with the occasional apology due to competing commitments of volunteers.
- There were no joint CCC's held.

### 3. Key issues

Trending topics of committee discussion can be summarised as:

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Actions Taken</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
<b>Rixs Creek Continuation of Mining</b>	Extraordinary meeting held on 12/2/20.	Application approved by DPIE.
<b>Environmental Monitoring</b>	The proponent provides detailed information of its environmental monitoring on site and its commitment to meeting legislative and regulatory compliance.	Ongoing presentations to CCC.
<b>Pest Management</b>	Control of kangaroos and wild dogs.	Culling and baiting undertaken in accordance with regulatory requirements.
<b>Review of Management Plans</b>	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.
<b>Modification 9 - for Rix's Creek North Mine Landform and Blasting Frequency</b>	The proponent has briefed the CCC of its plans to lodge a modification.	CCC members to be kept informed of the planning process/progress.

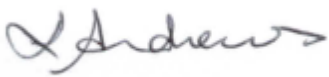
#### 4. Focus for next 12 months

The planned activities for 2020 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.
- Proposed site inspection.

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:	30 June 2020