To whom it may concern,

I wish to express my submission to support the approval of the Rix`s Creek South Continuation of Mining Project SSD 6300.

I am a fourth generation local resident of Singleton have been born and raised in Singleton, I currently live at Mount Olive situated 7kms from the Rix`s Creek North entry along Bridgman Rd with my Wife and 2 children who attend the local Primary school.

Rix`s Creek is a very important Australian owned Business in the Singleton district that not only provides jobs to local hunter valley residents but also support various other local business` and charities both large and small. These include just to name a few, numerous mining support companies, local car dealerships and repairers, sign manufacturers to even small shops like the local takeaway shops that provide lunches for meetings and crews.

I believe if Rix`s Creek was unable to continue operation there would be a substantial income lost for a number of business too numerous to mention. Also too the close to 300 families that are direct employees of Rix`s Creek that rely on the income generated by working at Rix`s Creek.

I am fortunate enough to be an employee of Rix`s Creek and My family is one that relies on my income.

The workplace environment at Rix`s Creek is a very enjoyable, positive one and you get the feeling of a Family owned business. Having worked at a number of other coal mines the attitude at Rix`s Creek is very unique and Employees take pride in their roles and look out for opportunities for best practice techniques.

Employees are also well aware of the constraints involving the mining operation and are provided with timely feedback from a very proactive management team.

I feel very grateful to Rix`s Creek for my employment as I was previously made redundant from Integra in the down turn, there for I am lucky that throughout the coal industry down turn that Rix`s Creek where a viable business to be employing people.

There for I wish to support the Rix`s Creek South Continuation of Mining Project SSD 6300.

Regards,

Andrew Thomas.