Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to voice my support for the Rix’s Creek South Continuation Project currently before you. I am directly impacted by this application as I am a resident of Singleton and my husband is an employee of the Bloomfield Group working at Rix’s Creek. The approval of this would allow us to continue to live and work in a town we love.

Bloomfield is a family owned local company and it shows in how they conduct themselves. They have a roster that allows my husband to be home every weekend. As far as I am aware, they are the only mine in the Valley that doesn’t use labour hire. Instead offering the majority of its workforce fulltime employment and its casual employees have a pathway that leads to fulltime employment. They regularly hold functions that include families and support a lot of local charities and causes. My husband loves working there and regularly jokes that he plans on staying with the company till retirement.

When looking at the benefits of continuing Rix’s Creeks, an area that can’t be ignored is the benefit to the local economy. I know Bloomfield uses a lot of local companies, but I want to speak about our own household spending. The vast majority of our money is spent locally within Singleton. From everyday items like groceries to fuel, to bigger things like cars and even the house we have just built with a local builder. The vast majority of my husband’s workmates live locally so I can only presume that they are too spending locally, contributing vast amounts to the local economy.

When we first moved to the area, we chose to live in Singleton because of what a great town it is. We couldn’t believe that a small town like this had so many great facilities. Facilities that wouldn’t exist if it wasn’t for mining. I find the negatives effects of mining very small in contrast to the benefits for the town. We have lived in other country towns where mining has left and it has been devastating to the local economy. People talk about diversifying the economies in mining towns, which I support. But unfortunately, we don’t have government policy that encourage businesses to leave the cities and until then we need companies like the Bloomfield Group in Singleton.

For all these reasons I believe that the continuation should be approved without question.

Yours Sincerely

Aleisha Wolfenden