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I am currently the Rixs creek south CHPP superintendent and I would like to support the application of Rixs creek continuation of mining.

I have worked with this company for over 22 years and they were the ones that gave me a start in the industry back in 1997. I have always known them to be proactive in compliance in both the safety and environmental aspects. They have always been a more personal company where you are able to talk one on one with the owners with any concerns which is a great advantage compared to a big pit. I have always seen them care about the local people and any concerns they may have. I have personally been involved in ensuring we have minimal impact to local people in the way of light, noise and dust not only at the RCS site but also our other site near East Maitland. This has been in many areas like ensuring no lighting is directed towards local houses, stopping production when noise levels are predicted to go above limits, installing additional dust suppression at stockpiles and access ways to minimise dust.

Bloomfield has personally supported me in my career and life proving they care about their people. Examples:

* The company supported me to come from a first year fitter machinist through to CHPP superintendent and did hold the acting CHPP managers role at Bloomfield for 18 months during a major project.
* The company ensured I had suitable work for 2 months when I had a major injury outside of work instead of refusing me access to work and allowing me to return after complete recovery.
* My wife received flowers personally delivered to hospital the days my 2 boys were born.

I also support the coal mining industry in general as it is one of our last surviving major industries that ensure there is plenty of jobs for Australia. Most of us would have seen other industries in Australia be lost to overseas and the impact this can have to local jobs, for example the motor vehicle industry and steel manufacturing. We need to ensure we keep these industries that are profitable for Australians to make sure we keep unemployment rates low and our kids have work to go to in the future as it is not just the mines themselves that provide jobs but all the other hundreds companies that help support the industry that also provide many hundreds of job opportunities for our people. I myself have 2 young boys and like any good parent, want to make sure they have all the opportunity’s to succeed in life.

I believe we should be looking at the greater good of the mining industry instead of the minimal disadvantages of using this resource. I think if we had a direct and capable replacement for this, the transition would be easy, but to my knowledge we do not and people will be without power and steel manufacturing should this industry cease causing all sorts of major implications Australia and world wide.

I was at the last hearing and stayed to listen to all for and against comments to understand both points of view and I happen to notice that the large majority of the against did not offer this. Almost all of the against had their opportunity to talk and left the hearing directly after proving that they have no intention to listen to both sides even though they are demanding they be heard. I believe everyone should be able to have their say and be heard.

I see the approval of the Adani mine in Queensland sets precedence. If this was a major concern of our country, the biggest mine in Australia owned by external people would not have been approved.

Thank you for the opportunity to have my say.

Adam Sanderson