



MARATHON TYRES

Marathon Tyres Pty Ltd
10 Friesian Close
Sandgate NSW 2304
Box 301, Hunter Region Mail Centre
NSW 2310
T: 02 4960 2144
F: 02 4968 2622
ABN 26 082 184 923

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My name is Shayne Mackie, I'm the Operations Manager for Marathon Tyres and have worked for the company for 34 years. I'm here today to give my support and the support of my employer to the continuation of mining for Rix's Creek South.

Marathon is a locally owned business that commenced trading in 1970 and has been proudly providing goods and services to the Bloomfield Group, including Rix's Creek Mine, since 1970. During this time, we have always found the Bloomfield Group and their employees to have the utmost integrity. Due to their local ownership they have demonstrated a very high level of social awareness.

Marathon Tyres employ 150 people of which 79 people are employed here in the Hunter Valley. The Marathon Tyres depot that has serviced the Rix's Creek Mine since 1990 is based at Mt Thorley, where we employ 48 staff. Of these 48 staff approximately 30 staff have regular interaction with Rix's Creek Coal Mine. Our local employees that are based in Mt Thorley have an average length of employment with Marathon Tyres of over 9 years with 23 people and their families living in the Singleton area. The remaining 25 people live in the Maitland and Lower Hunter region.

We also have another 10 staff at our Head Office in Newcastle that provide backup services to our Mt Thorley depot and to Rix's Creek Mine, these functions being payroll, training, safety/compliance, supply chain, etc.

Our employees that work in the Hunter Valley mining industry are lucky due to the fact that they can work in the local communities where they live. You cannot underestimate the benefits for families that can live and grow together on a daily basis. Unfortunately, this isn't the norm for the mining industry where the majority of workers work remotely from their local communities.

Local employment provides a great stimulus for the local communities and is vital for the future of any community. From the Marathon Tyres Mt Thorley depot, we engage 90 local suppliers, this together with a significant wages bill means that \$7,000,000 pa stays in the local community.

In summary, we ask that you give timely consideration and support for the Rix's Creek South Continuation of Mining Project. This project is vitally important to the local community, the employees, the sub-contractors and their families that work at and depend on the Rix's Creek Mine. Local jobs mean a strong local economy and a bright future for all!

Best Regards

Shayne Mackie
Operations Manager
Marathon Tyres

Greg Nesbitt
Managing Director
Marathon Tyres