

Please don't fail the Rix's Creek workforce or community of Singleton.

My name is Shane Davey and I am a 10-year resident and business owner from Singleton.

Since settling in the town, I have come to know many from what is affectionately known as the 'Rix's Creek Family'. Rix's Creek really is unlike any other mine or mining company and most importantly so is its workforce. I personally know many workers from the operation and the people who started the mine and the standards that they hold themselves to are as good as it gets.

Conversations I've had with a number of 'the regular people' in the mining community and from the Rix's family are expressing genuine worry and concern about their immediate futures.

It doesn't matter if you are a supporter or detractor of mining, the fact is that Rix's Creek makes an enormous contribution at a personal, local, state, national and even international level. More importantly, it directly influences many individual lives and Singleton as a town as well. This will hopefully be the case for the foreseeable future.

I have never known a mining company that takes its obligations more seriously than this one. Be it potential adverse effects on near neighbours, Singleton or the environment, they work to do it to the highest possible standards 24 hours a day seven days a week. They have the same approach to the futures and welfare of all who work there too. They don't cut corners and 'just enough' is not good enough for this proud family owned company. Doing their absolute best has always been their goal.

Many community groups such as The Cancer Council to name just one couldn't do what they do without them. Many times over the last few years I have called on their support for different community projects and they have always stepped up to help.

On the current delays around the continuation of mining, I respectfully ask the IPC to grant what is a very reasonable extension while the necessary approvals are worked through for the broader plans for the continuation of the operation.

This particular project should not be caught up in any activist related chaos or 'red tape' delays. It is vitally important the workforce, operation and community of Singleton – not to mention local suppliers whose livelihoods also rely on Rix's Creek.

While I'm a strong supporter of new mines (and the economic activity and jobs that come with them) that are well planned being greenlighted and developed, I'm an even bigger supporter of sensibly planned existing operations extending their productive life and this is one. In what is a well-regulated and well-established mining region it should be streamlined for existing projects to continue operations and continue to provide stability for their workforces. It allows for less overall development and disturbance on already mining affected land.

Rix's Creek really are a mine of the highest standards and should be positively supported to continue the great work they do with their workforce, the Singleton community, and NSW mining in general. They genuinely are a showcase operator for the mining industry on best practice and integrity.

Kind regards,

Shane William Davey

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of Shane William Davey.