

July 2026

Planning the future of land at Mt Arthur

An update on our land-use plans



Since 2022 when we announced the decision to close Mt Arthur Coal, we've been working with government, industry and the community to explore future land use opportunities for when BHP finishes mining in 2030.

We know the future of the land at Mt Arthur Coal matters to Muswellbrook and the Upper Hunter. That's why we're planning now.

Over the past four years, work has been underway to look at how the land, services and infrastructure at Mt Arthur Coal could support future opportunities for the region. This includes looking at the site's existing roads, workshops, buildings, services and industrial areas, and asking how some of these assets could remain and continue to support jobs, investment and new industries in the future.

We know people want clear information about what comes next for the land.

When we asked the community what mattered most in 2024, the answers were consistent: future jobs that help families stay in the region, honest communication, visibility of rehabilitation plans and genuine involvement in decisions about the future. We've heard that feedback and we're getting on with the work to explore how we can repurpose the infrastructure and assets we have at Mt Arthur to drive future jobs in the region.

Mt Arthur Coal holds more than 4,000 hectares of mining land, and another 4,000 hectares of surrounding land. Given the different services and infrastructure in place, we know some areas may be suited to employment-led opportunities, such as industry, energy, skills and training. Other areas will be led by rehabilitation, ecology and landscape.

Rezoning is the first step

One of the first practical steps is the *Mine Land Reuse Pilot Project* we're working on with all levels of government, including Muswellbrook Shire Council, NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure, the Future Jobs and Investment Authority and Net Zero Economy Authority. The aim of this project is to understand the regulatory pathways needed to make future land use options possible. We're excited to be collaborating on this opportunity and sharing the project's progress along the way.

Exploring future energy opportunities

Another option being explored is pumped hydro energy storage.

Pumped hydro is a way of storing energy so it can be released when it is needed, often at night when other renewable energy is not available and demand increases.

At Mt Arthur Coal the foundations for a pumped hydro energy storage facility are positive. The final mine void, the sites changing elevation and existing high-capacity transmission infrastructure make this an option worth exploring. Work so far has shown a large-scale pumped hydro energy storage project at Mt Arthur Coal is technically feasible.

That doesn't mean it is locked in.

A project of this scale would need further studies, approvals, investment, the right market conditions, legislative reform and significant cooperation between government, industry and the community.

It is one possible future use being explored as part of a broader plan for the land. BHP will continue to share updates as this work progresses.



Visit the Powering what's next hub

To find out more on our land-use plans, visit bhp.com/poweringwhatsnext

The next round of community grants will open soon please follow the BHP NSW Facebook page for updates.



Dr Pete Whitbread-Abrutat

Expert insight on mine closure

Earlier this year BHP hosted Dr Pete Whitbread-Abrutat, co-author of the book '102 Things To Do With A Hole In The Ground'.

Dr Pete's book draws on stories from around the world to explore innovative ways to repurpose mine sites and regenerate communities, focusing on ecological integrity and community renewal.

During his weeklong visit, Dr Pete met with a cross section of our team and stakeholders to discuss our transition progress and provide advice drawn from his extensive research. His insights have made a valuable contribution to our ongoing transition work.

Watch this short video for Dr Pete's thoughts on Mt Arthur Coal's closure.



Knowledge exchange on sustainable transition

We were pleased to recently host a German Trade Delegation on site at Mt Arthur Coal. The delegation visited to share valuable insights from Germany's recent experience with mine closure and to exchange knowledge on best practices for sustainable transition.



The German Trade Delegation on site

Community plants 1,000 trees at Mt Arthur Coal

In March, we opened up the doors to Mt Arthur Coal, welcoming community onsite to learn more about our operations and join in our rehabilitation program.

Guests attending our annual Community Tree Planting Day:

- learnt about our approach to rehabilitation
- visited the pit to see our operations in action
- heard more about our closure plans
- found out about how we are managing Indigenous Cultural Heritage
- contributed to our rehabilitation story
- enjoyed a free BBQ lunch and refreshments.



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what's next.**

Hunter River Community Conversation



In March, BHP hosted the Hunter River Community Conversation to give Mt Arthur Coal, local industry, local landholders and community organisations the opportunity to share ideas, concerns and opportunities for improving the health of the Hunter River.

Mt Arthur Coal shared information about a Hunter River project in progress before opening the floor to a broader conversation about river health and resilience.

The conversation is planned to continue, aiming to establish a mechanism to enable future action and collaboration to achieve tangible improvements in the Hunter River ecological system.

Latest community grant recipients announced

Congratulations to the recipients of our latest round of community grants.

Benefiting My Community

Benefiting My Community recipients receive up to \$10,000 for projects, events equipment or infrastructure that support the Hunter region.

Recipients from the latest round were:

- Lions Club of Denman
- Scout Association of Australia, NSW Branch, 1st Scone
- Aussie Ark
- Dalswinton Rural Fire Brigade
- Denman Public School
- Muswellbrook Preschool Kindergarten
- Muswellbrook High School P&C Association

Grassroots Sponsorship Grants

The successful applicants of the Grassroots Sponsorship Grant each receive \$2,000. The winners of these grants are voted on by MAC teammates. The winners from the latest round were:

- Upper Hunter Where there's a Will
- Singleton Strikers Football Club
- Muswellbrook Junior Rugby Union
- Aberdeen Junior Rugby League Football Club
- Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council
- Muswellbrook Touch Football Association
- Denman Pony Club
- Singleton Preschool
- McCully's Gap Hall
- Glendon Brook Hall

The next round of community grants is opening soon. Follow the BHP NSW Facebook page for updates.



Follow the BHP
NSW Facebook page



New BHP Theatre opens at Hunter Wetlands Centre

Earlier this year, we officially opened the refurbished BHP Theatre at the Hunter Wetlands Centre.

Our support for the Hunter Wetlands Centre dates back to the mid-80s when BHP Newcastle Steelworks helped redevelop the site from a rugby field and swamp into a vibrant ecosystem that now homes over 200 bird species.

As a continuation of this historical partnership, last year BHP provided a grant to refurbish the Theatre which will enhance education opportunities of around 7,000 local school students who visit the Hunter Wetlands Centre each year.

Supporting the Hunter's most vulnerable

Throughout March, Mt Arthur Coal teammates collected linen, kitchen items and cleaning products to donate to Upper Hunter Homeless Support.

The team collected a large amount of vital items that will make a real difference to people in our local community experiencing housing difficulties.



Career guidance for Clontarf members

Mt Arthur Coal attended the recent Clontarf Foundation Employment Forum, which helps Clontarf academy members plan and prepare for their career goals once they finish school.

At the Forum, Clontarf academy members rotate through a series of short, focused conversations with business partners, employers and training providers.

This gives Clontarf academy members helpful information on career pathways available after leaving school and provides valuable experience engaging with potential employers in a professional setting.

These Forums are a valuable learning experience that helps build members' communication skills and confidence.



Thanks for visiting us at Tocal Field Days!

Thank you to everyone who visited us at Tocal Field Days on 1-3 May.

This was a great opportunity for us to connect with the broader community about our 2030 closure and answer any questions.

There was a lot of interest in our rehabilitation work, post-mining land use studies and how we are supporting our workforce in the lead up to closure.

To learn more about how we are approaching these activities, visit our Powering What's Next hub, accessible online or by scanning the QR code above:



Congratulations to Stephanie and Sylvia from Kurri Kurri who were the winners of our Weber BBQ giveaway.



Visit the Powering what's next hub



Singleton Junior Rugby Union sponsorship

Earlier this year we also signed a three-year sponsorship with the Singleton Bulls Junior Rugby Union Club.

This sponsorship will cover the cost of new jerseys for 13 teams from under 8s through to under 18s, including three dedicated girls' teams. Our sponsorship will also help subsidise the registration fees making participation more affordable for families.

We're proud to support a grassroots sporting club that makes a valuable contribution to our community's health, wellbeing and connection.



AFLW sponsorship inspires local players

BHP is proud to be a Platinum Sponsor of the Muswellbrook Cats ladies' team, supporting opportunities for local women to play AFL. Community sport has the power to bring people together and create positive change beyond the game.

Through BHP's national partnership with the AFLW, Greater Western Sydney (GWS) Giants' players, Alyce Parker and Zarlie Goldsworthy, were invited to run a training session at Weeraman Field in Muswellbrook, giving local players the opportunity to learn and train alongside some of AFLW's top athletes.

Players from across the Hunter Central Coast region joined the training session, engaging in drills and gaining insights from the AFLW stars on the game at the highest level.

The evening created a strong connection between local clubs and professional athletes, inspiring participants for the season ahead.



Mt Arthur Coal's General Manager Darryl Messenger went along to meet the players and express BHP's support for local sporting opportunities.

"Through initiatives like this, BHP continues to invest in grassroots development and promote participation in women's sport across the region," Darryl said.

"By bringing in elite players like Alyce and Zarlie, we aim to create a memorable experience that inspires local athletes and contributes to the growing profile of women's sport," he said.

**Stay connected with
Mt Arthur Coal**

Follow the BHP NSW Facebook page for the latest updates, news, and stories from Mt Arthur Coal. From community initiatives to site updates, it's the best way to stay informed and connected.



Workforce support creating new career opportunities

Through Mt Arthur Coal's Workforce Transition Support Policy, we're helping our people upgrade their skills with paid training through nationally recognised training programs.

One teammate taking up this opportunity is Lead Training Execution, Emily, who decided to explore an entirely new career path, enrolling in a Master of Speech and Language Pathology.

Emily was grateful for the opportunity to return to study.

"I feel incredibly fortunate to work for a company that supports women in mining and working parents trying to balance it all," Emily said.

Emily said her interest in allied health began when she experienced first-hand the challenges of accessing allied health professionals in the Upper Hunter.

"Our journey navigating the healthcare system sparked a passion in me to pursue a new career that will make a big difference to our community's wellbeing," Emily said.

Emily will complete her degree in 2026 and said she was feeling confident about the possibility of transitioning into a different industry if she chooses to take a new career direction.

"Knowing I have options gives me a sense of reassurance and satisfaction with the path I'm on," Emily said.

"After 2030, I hope Mt Arthur is remembered positively—for how our people were supported through the closure, the opportunities that were provided, and the meaningful contributions we made to the community," she said.

Our Workforce Transition Support Policy includes a range of initiatives including paid training, free career coaching and access to financial advice.



Exploring Mt Arthur Coal

Earlier this year as part of the Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue, we hosted Muswellbrook High School teachers for a pit-to-port overview of mining at Mt Arthur Coal.

The teachers were given a unique opportunity to deepen their knowledge of modern mining practices, rehabilitation efforts, operational safety and the broader supply chain.

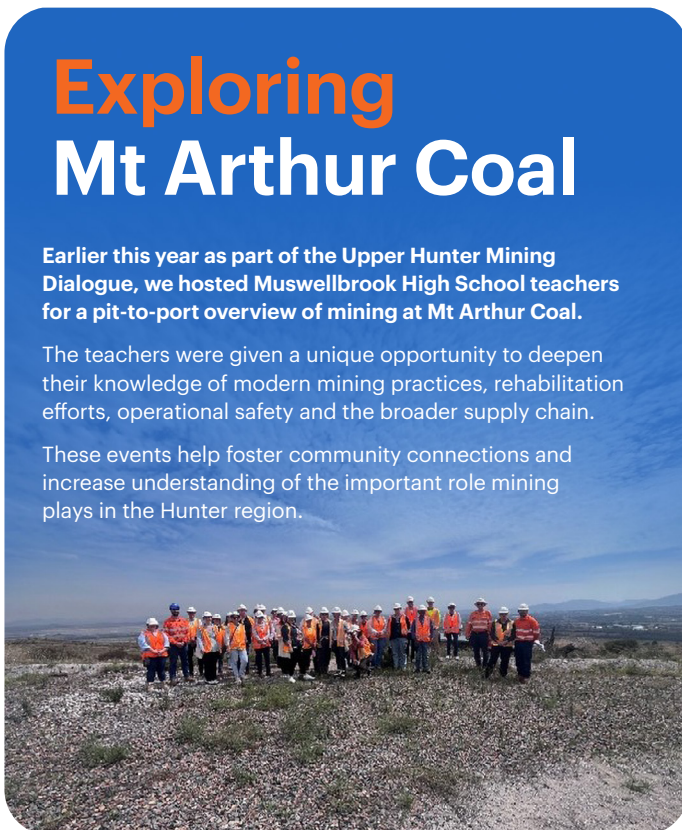
These events help foster community connections and increase understanding of the important role mining plays in the Hunter region.



Strengthening connections with our contracting partners

Early this year, Mt Arthur Coal held our bi-annual Contractor Forum, bringing together a cross section of more than 80 representatives from across our contracting partners.

This Forum is a valuable opportunity to connect with our contracting partners on safety improvements and closure preparations. Our contracting partners get to hear the latest, ask questions, and engage on the issues that matter most to their people, teams and businesses. The next forum is set for October. If you're interested in attending, please send us an email at NSW.community@bhp.com



More information

Mt Arthur Coal is closing in June 2030. For more information Visit the Powering what's next hub, or call our Community Response Line on 1800 882 044 or email nsweccommunity@bhp.com

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