

Austar Coal Mine Closure Planning and Execution

Current status

Following the cessation of coal mining operations in March 2020, Austar is undertaking mine closure planning and execution works to decommission and rehabilitate the site. The aim is to return the land to a safe, stable and non-polluting condition, to the satisfaction of the NSW Resources Regulator and other appropriate stakeholders.

For over 100 years, Austar has been a proud part of the Cessnock community, contributing to local jobs, economic growth and regional development. Our focus on responsible closure and rehabilitation reflects our commitment to ensuring a lasting legacy for our community.

What’s happening next?

- Continued demolition and removal of remaining surface structures.
- Over the coming months we’ll complete demolition at the CHPP and commence demolition at the Austar Pit Top.
- Our detailed Feasibility Study, which commenced in March 2024, is well underway. This study will define the “go forward” mine closure plan for site.
- Existing approvals will be modified to reflect contemporary closure outcomes and encompass all necessary closure activities.

What’s happening on site?

- Early closure works are underway including demolition of the Kalingo Infrastructure Area and the Coal Handling and Preparation Plant (CHPP), including dismantling the conveyor to the Austar Pit Top Facilities. Demolition is expected to take approximately one year, with works occurring Monday to Friday, from 7am to 6pm.
- Environmental management and monitoring of the site is ongoing.
- Site investigations continue to inform the detailed Feasibility Study and mine closure plan, including drilling and test pitting to assess geochemistry, geotechnical conditions, potential contamination, subsidence impacts, mine sealing requirements, and surface water and landform design.



Before



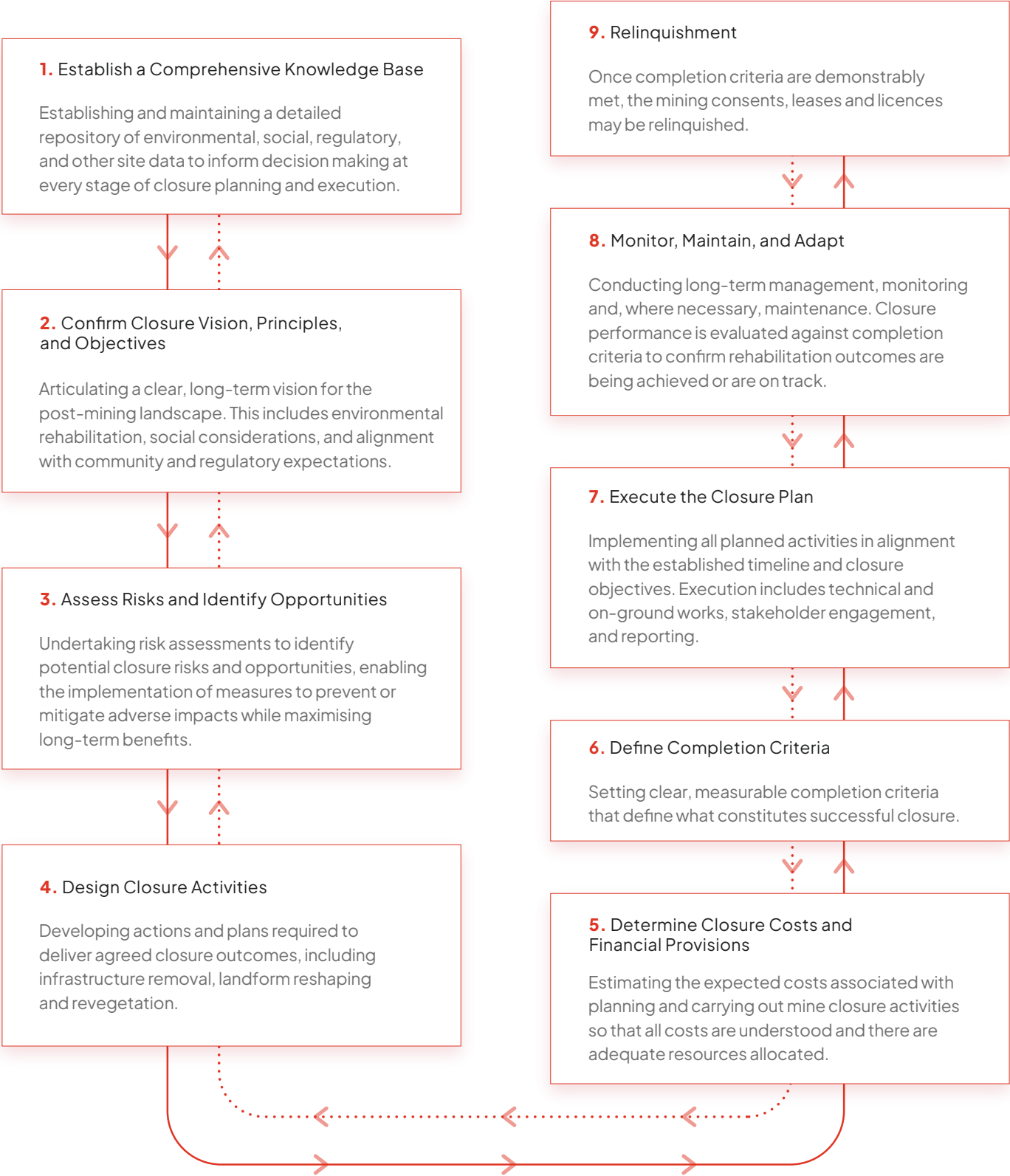
During

Austar Coal Mine Mine Closure Framework



A Strategic and Collaborative Approach to Mine Closure

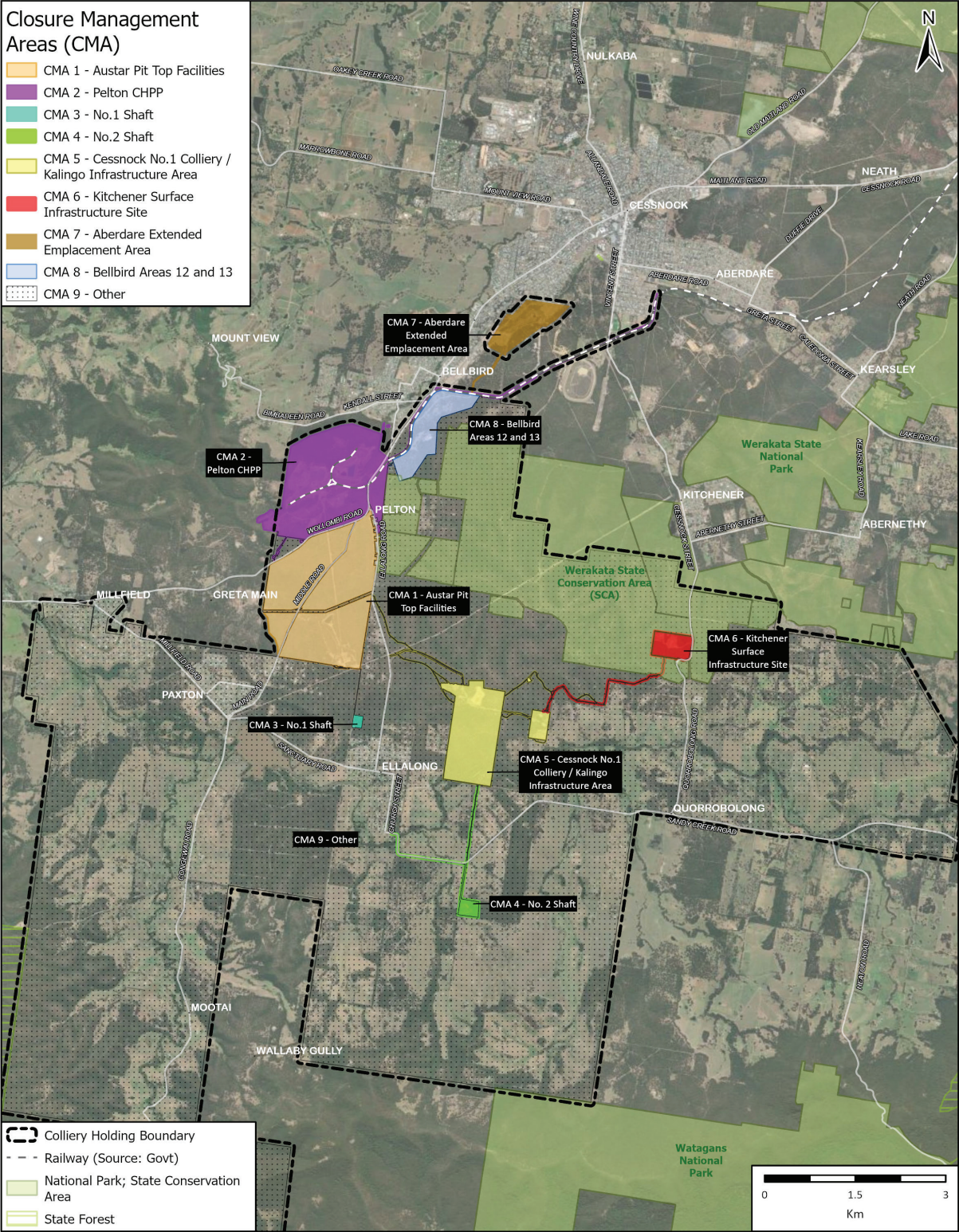
Engagement with the community, government, and other stakeholders occurs throughout the closure lifecycle – from vision setting to relinquishment. Open communication ensures transparency, alignment, and support.



Reference: ICMM Integrated Min Closure Good Practice Guide, 3rd Edition.



Austar Coal Mine Closure Management Areas (CMAs)



(Figure. 1)

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Community Support Program

Applications for Yancoal's 2026 Community Support Program will open on 18 August 2025.

Austar invites local not-for-profit groups, schools and community organisations to seek funding for projects, events and initiatives that deliver genuine benefits across health, community, environment, arts, culture, education or training.

Successful applicants will receive grants to help bring their ideas to life, whether it's upgrading community facilities, launching wellbeing workshops, restoring native habitats or staging cultural events. Austar is proud to support projects that strengthen our region and improve quality of life for all residents.

To apply, visit www.yancoal.com.au/our-sites/austar/ from 18 August 2025 and complete the online form. Applications close 26 September 2025.



How we're keeping you informed

We remain committed to transparent, timely communication. Updates are shared via the Yancoal website, regular e-newsletters and letterbox drops, while our online contact form and dedicated email (austar.feedback@yancoal.com.au) provide easy channels for questions and feedback.



If you'd like to stay informed about the progress of mine closure, rehabilitation efforts and the history of the site, we invite you to join our mailing list via scanning the QR code.

