AUSTAR MINE CLOSURE

Project Information

Austar Coal Mine has a long history of underground coal mining in the South Maitland Coalfields. Acquired in 2004 and renamed Austar, the operation incorporated several mining areas, including Pelton, Ellalong, Cessnock No. 1 (Kalingo) and Bellbird South. While mining has ceased, Yancoal remains committed to delivering a safe, responsible and well-planned closure process.

What is Mine Closure?

Mine closure is a structured and regulated process that occurs after mining operations cease. Closure involves planning, approvals, infrastructure removal, rehabilitation, environmental management and long-term monitoring.



Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge and pay our respects to the Indigenous and Traditional owners of the land where we operate around Australia. In the spirit of respect and reconciliation, we will continue to support initiatives that strengthen culture to preserve ongoing cultural legacy.



Our Mine Closure Objective

Austar's mine closure objective is to achieve a safe, stable and non-polluting outcome that meets regulatory requirements and is appropriate for the site's long-term future.

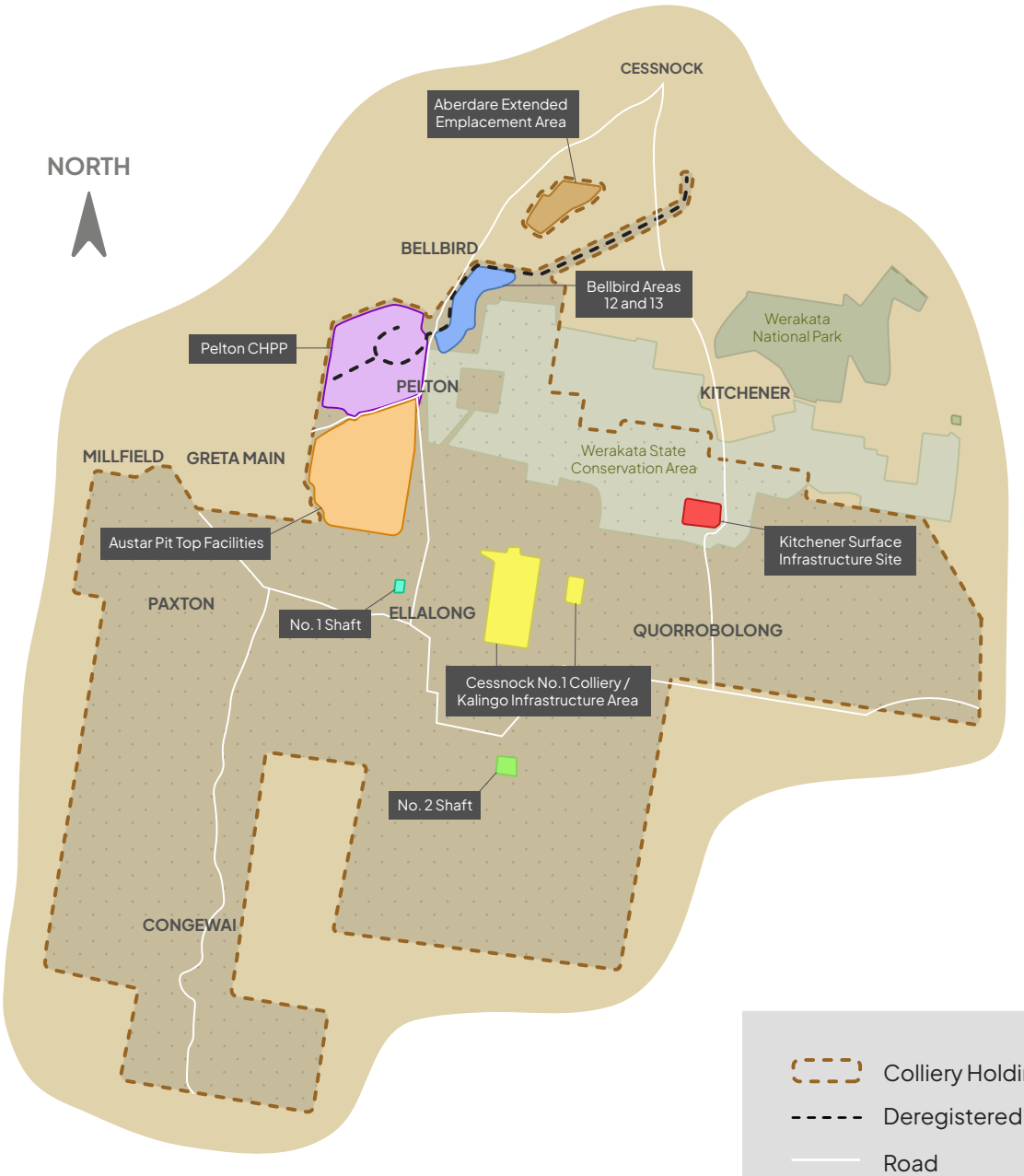
Our Approach

Austar's closure program is guided by Yancoal's values:

Safety People	Reflected through ongoing stakeholder engagement and a focus on achieving safe outcomes for workers, neighbours and future land users.
Innovation Excellence	Support the use of technical studies, risk assessments and ongoing site investigations to inform closure planning and rehabilitation outcomes.
Integrity	Underpins Austar's commitment to meeting regulatory requirements, regular communication and delivering our mine closure objective.

Overview Map of
Austar Closure Management Areas

This map provides an overview of Austar's Closure Management Areas (CMAs), which are locations requiring ongoing rehabilitation, management, monitoring and maintenance as part of mine closure planning. Each CMA, as labelled below, may include surface infrastructure sites, shafts, emplacement areas and other land associated with mining activities. The map is intended to show the general location of each CMA relative to local villages and surrounding land uses. Boundaries and features shown are indicative only and have been simplified for community information purposes.



Disclaimer: This map is indicative only. All information shown is approximate and subject to detailed design, survey and approvals.

Mine Closure Framework

Austar has developed a nine step framework to assist with the planning and implementation of mine closure activities.

Currently, stages 1 to 7 are ongoing while stages 8 and 9 are yet to commence.



	STAGE	DESCRIPTION
1	Establish a comprehensive knowledge base	Establishing and maintaining a detailed repository of environmental, social, regulatory, and other site data to inform decision making at every stage of closure planning and execution.
2	Confirm Closure Vision, Principles, and Objectives	Articulating a clear, long-term vision for the post-mining landscape. This includes environmental rehabilitation, social considerations, and alignment with community and regulatory expectations.
3	Assess Risks and Identify Opportunities	Undertaking risk assessments to identify potential closure risks and opportunities, enabling the implementation of measures to prevent or mitigate adverse impacts while maximising long-term benefits.
4	Design Closure Activities	Developing actions and plans required to deliver agreed closure outcomes, including infrastructure removal, landform reshaping and revegetation.
5	Determine Closure Costs and Financial Provisions	Estimating the expected costs associated with planning and carrying out mine closure activities so that all costs are understood and there are adequate resources allocated.
6	Define Completion Criteria	Setting clear, measurable completion criteria that define what constitutes successful closure.
7	Execute the Closure Plan	Implementing all planned activities in alignment with the established timeline and closure plan. Execution includes technical and on-ground works, stakeholder engagement, and reporting.
8	Monitor, Maintain, and Adapt	Conducting long-term management, monitoring and, where necessary, maintenance. Closure performance is evaluated against completion criteria to confirm rehabilitation outcomes are being achieved or are on track.
9	Relinquishment and Divestment	Once completion criteria are demonstrably met, the mining consents, leases and licences may be relinquished.

Key Priorities Over the Next Three Years

- Complete technical studies and closure planning.
- Progress approvals for the preferred closure strategy.
- Continue demolition and decommissioning activities.
- Undertake mine sealing and shaft filling works.
- Expand landform preparation and progress final rehabilitation.
- Continue engagement with regulators, Council, stakeholders and the community.

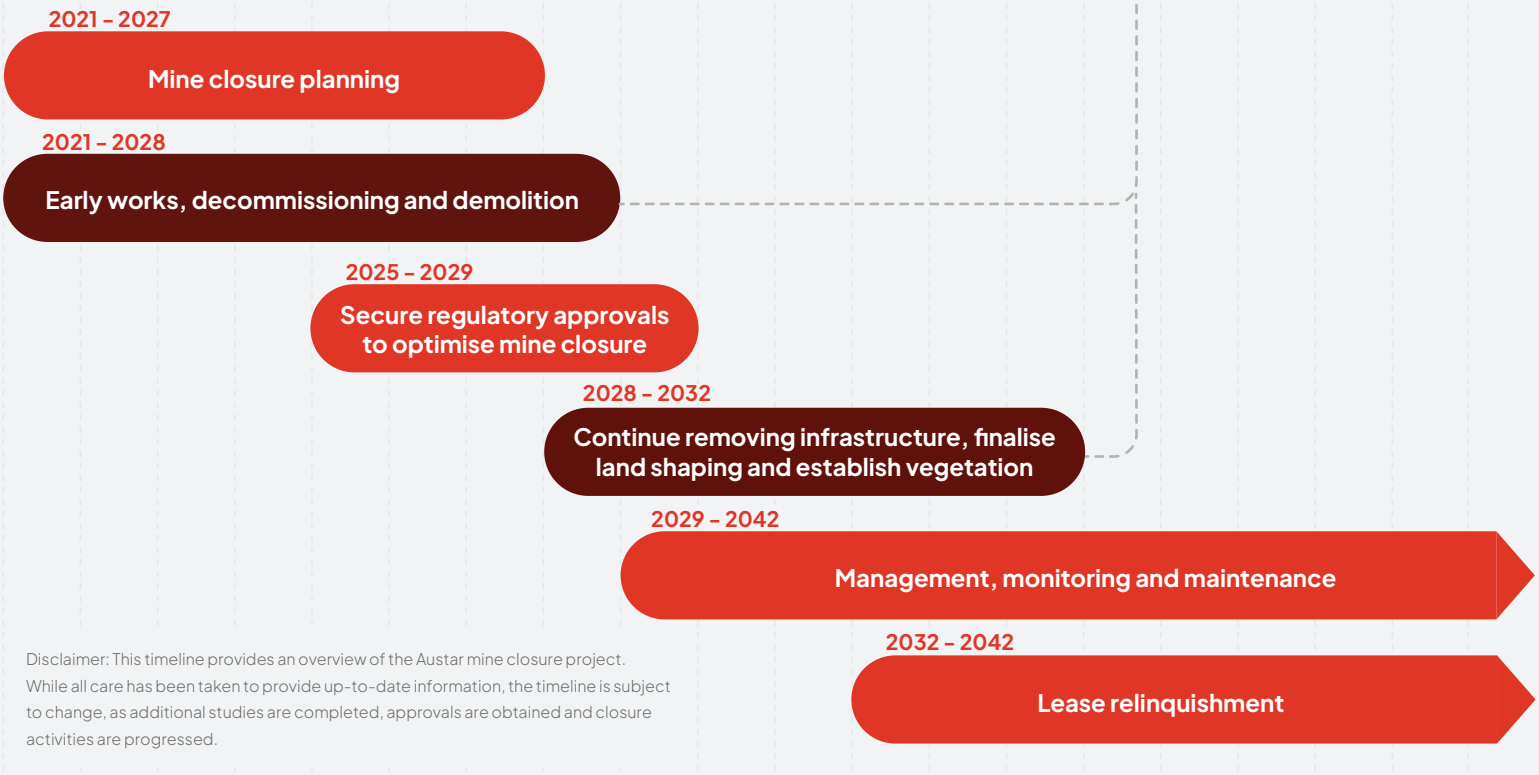
Keeping the Community Informed

Austar is committed to providing clear, timely and accessible information throughout the closure process. Local community members will continue to receive regular and relevant updates through their letterbox, newsletters (printed or emailed), the project website, the Community Consultative Committee, direct stakeholder engagement and other communication channels.

Closure Project Timeline

The Closure Project Timeline shows how Austar will transition from planning and approvals into the execution of closure works. Infrastructure removal, mine sealing, earthworks and rehabilitation activities are expected to commence from 2028 and continue progressively over several years.

These closure works may result in temporary increases in traffic, noise, dust and visual change. Austar will continue to communicate upcoming works and management measures to help the community stay informed and prepared.



Disclaimer: This timeline provides an overview of the Austar mine closure project. While all care has been taken to provide up-to-date information, the timeline is subject to change, as additional studies are completed, approvals are obtained and closure activities are progressed.

Looking Way Ahead

Austar welcomes community input on potential future opportunities for the site. If you have an idea, insight or are aware of an opportunity that may be relevant to the site's long-term future, please share it with us via email or phone. While not all suggestions will be suitable, feasible or consistent with future planning objectives, feedback will help inform Austar's understanding of community interest and local priorities as planning continues.

We welcome your feedback and questions.
Get in touch with us anytime.

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yancoal.com.au/our-sites/austar

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