

Post Mining Land Use



Strategic Objective

Transform former mining-related lands into vibrant, economically productive areas that deliver new and sustainable jobs, maximise land use potential, drive long-term economic growth and minimise environmental impacts.

A key priority for 2026 is planning for post mining land use, where the scale of change facing our region is significant:

- According to coal industry modelling shared with our Member Councils, 12,000 direct and indirect jobs are expected to be impacted by two coal mine closures by 2030.
- Expected global decline in coal demand will impact another 20 further coal mines with no mining approvals currently granted beyond 2048.
- Impacts across the Hunter will be close to 50,000 direct and indirect jobs in the Hunter region (FIJA Issues Paper, 2023).

We're calling for the Federal and NSW Governments to come together with Local Governments to collaborate on delivery, and provide a greater level of investment to support the Hunter region through this transformation and strategically plan for post mining land use opportunities.

Mining royalties account for more than \$3 billion in the NSW Government's 2025/26 budget, but no direct funding is available to mining impacted communities to plan for post mining land use.

We acknowledge and appreciate the NSW Government's full support for all recommendations arising from the "Inquiry into the Beneficial and Productive Post Mining Land Use". The need to implement the recommendations is urgent to accelerate the reuse and redevelopment of mining related lands to create new industry and jobs in the Hunter.

Challenge	Advocacy Ask
Complex Governance	One Minister accountable for multi-agency delivery and reporting of Inquiry recommendations.
Under-resourced Councils	Resourcing Councils to deliver planning and actions that directly support local communities transform their economies.
Urgency of Implementation	Urgent delivery of all recommendations from the Post Mining Land Use Inquiry. Accelerating action by the NSW Future Jobs and Investment Authority.
Need for Local Mine Closure and Reuse Plans	Investment in Council led pilots to develop Masterplans for reuse of priority mine sites and to prepare local and regional mine closure strategies.