

JUNE 2026 · EDITION 01

Lidsdale Community Newsletter

Progress, rehabilitation and community updates from the Lidsdale site.



Message from the CEO

Welcome to the first edition of the Lidsdale Community Newsletter. Keeping our community informed is an important part of how we work, and this newsletter is one of the ways we're strengthening transparency and engagement across the site. There has been steady progress at Lidsdale in recent months, and I'm pleased to share a high-level update on some of the work underway.

We've continued to make meaningful improvements across the site, from environmental upgrades to initiatives that support local community groups and events. You'll see some of these highlights in the following pages. These updates reflect our commitment to managing the site safely, responsibly and with long-term outcomes in mind.

We're starting important work in the Southern Paddock, where new stormwater basins and channels will help improve how water moves through the area and support the site's long-term rehabilitation.

Our engagement with the community also remains a key focus. The new Environmental Representative

Group and our ongoing Community Consultation Group meetings have provided valuable opportunities to share updates, answer questions and hear directly from those with an interest in the site. The feedback and participation we've received so far has been greatly appreciated, and we look forward to continuing these conversations as our work progresses.

We're committed to keeping you informed as we move through the next stages of planning and rehabilitation at Lidsdale, and we look forward to sharing more updates with you throughout the year.

There has been strong progress across the Lidsdale site recently, and we're pleased to share a snapshot of the work underway to support the local community, improve environmental outcomes and strengthen transparency around how the site is managed. Here are five key highlights.



01 Community sponsorships make a local impact

Applications are now open for our Lidsdale Community Grants Program — a great chance for local groups, clubs and community organisations to bring new ideas to life. If you're planning a project that supports the community, builds connection or delivers a local benefit, we want to hear from you.

GPM has been proud to support and help make a real difference for the Wallerawang junior soccer club, Lithgow High School's Special Education Unit, and the Lake Wallace fireworks display. From warm winter hoodies for young players to beloved community events, these initiatives delivered direct benefits for local families and helped strengthen community spirit.

We're now accepting applications until 31 July for projects up to \$2,000. If you have an idea that could make a positive impact, tell us about it at info@gpmco.com.au.

02 Dam safety exercise strengthens preparedness

A practical Dam Safety Emergency Exercise was recently carried out at Sawyers Swamp Creek Ash Dam, bringing together GPM staff, the SES and specialist dam engineers for a full day of hands-on training. The team worked through two realistic emergency scenarios, practising how they would make decisions, communicate under pressure and put response procedures into action.

Even though the chance of a dam safety incident is extremely low, these exercises are an important part of keeping the site safe and well-managed. They're required by regulators, but they also give everyone involved — from GPM to emergency services — the chance to stay sharp, stay aligned and stay ready.



03 Freshwater diversion dams completed

New diversion dams keep clean water flowing naturally into Sawyers Swamp Creek instead of entering the ash dam. This protects local waterways, improves water quality, and supports healthier ecosystems.

04 Sediment and erosion control improvements deliver results

Significant reshaping, drainage upgrades and revegetation work across the site is constantly improving stormwater quality and reducing erosion. These changes support long-term land stability and healthier surrounding environments.



05 Quarterly ERG meetings strengthen transparency

The new Environmental Representative Group (ERG) meetings brought regulators, council and government agencies together for open, on-site discussions about progress and future plans. These sessions — complete with site tours — help build trust, transparency and shared understanding of how the site is being managed.

REHABILITATION

Stormwater improvements starting soon

There's some positive progress happening on site this winter, with new stormwater basins and channels set to be built in the Southern Paddock from late June. The project will give the land a bit of extra help to slow down and clean up stormwater before it heads off-site.

The project will shape gentle channels, add a series of small basins and tidy up how water moves across the paddock. Once in place, these improvements will help reduce sediment, support healthier waterways and keep the site moving steadily toward long-term rehabilitation.

Work is expected to run through to September, using the same types of machinery the community already sees around the site. We'll share more photos and updates as the basins take shape.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Community Consultation Group

GPM is committed to engaging with our community, and one way we do this is through our Community Consultation Group (CCG). The quarterly meetings give members a chance to stay informed about current activities, upcoming works and long-term projects, while also providing a space to ask questions and speak directly with the people managing the site every day. The CCG also tours the site to see first-hand the progress being made.

If you're interested in joining the Lidsdale CCG or want to learn more about what's involved, we'd love to hear from you. It's a chance to share your perspective and be part of the conversations guiding the site's future.

● 02 4390 8994

● info@gpmco.com.au



Michael Greenwood

SITE SUPERVISOR · LIDSDALE

Mick has lived in Lithgow most of his life, so joining GPM in May 2025 felt like a natural step — an opportunity to help rehabilitate land shaped by decades of local industry. As Site Supervisor at Lidsdale, he oversees day-to-day works, making sure everything on site is carried out safely, efficiently and to a high standard. His role is hands-on and people-focused, bringing together contractors, safety requirements and practical problem-solving.

For Mick, the best part of working at GPM is the balance it gives him. With a young family, time at home matters, and he appreciates being part of a workplace that supports that. He’s also proud to see GPM creating local jobs and contributing to the future of a community he cares deeply about.

His advice for anyone starting out is grounded and honest: be reliable. Mick says he wasn’t the strongest academically, but by showing up every day and being someone others could depend on, his career naturally progressed into leadership.

When he’s not on site, Mick spends his time with his family — riding bikes, fishing or wake and kneeboarding. And while he likes to joke that he “has a farm,” he admits his agricultural achievements so far amount to two eggs and a handful of tomatoes.

DID YOU KNOW? — FUN FACTS ABOUT THE LIDSDALE SITE



Lidsdale sits on land with a surprising industrial history

The area known as Kerosene Vale got its name from shale oil production in the 1860s, when torbanite mined in the valley was processed into kerosene — complete with steam-powered retorts and 500-gallon stills.



The site includes a former open-cut mine big enough to reshape the landscape.

The Lidsdale Cut was a short-lived open-cut colliery in the 1950s, part of an early push to modernise coal mining with mechanised equipment. Today, it forms a major landform within the site’s rehabilitation footprint.



The Kerosene Vale Ash Repository sits on top of an even older ash dam.

The current dry ash repository was built in 2006 on top of the original ash dam from the 1950s, creating a layered industrial history beneath the surface.



Barn Cottage is one of the site’s most unexpected heritage features.

This small historic building — known locally as Barn Cottage — is a recognised heritage structure within the Lidsdale site, reflecting the area’s early rural settlement before mining and power generation reshaped the landscape.



The whole Lidsdale site spans roughly 540 hectares.

That’s about the size of 1,000 football fields, making it one of the largest industrial rehabilitation footprints in the region.



Kerosene Vale was once a popular picnic spot.

Before becoming an ash repository, the valley was known for its scenery and was a favourite picnic location well into the 1940s.

More Online

It is loaded with great documents — including our Year in Review, Voluntary Management Proposal updates, rehabilitation reports, news articles, and links to our environmental data portal.

gpmco.com.au/lidsdale

