



Upper Hunter
Mining Dialogue

Community Perceptions Survey: Insights and Opportunities

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A story of mixed views about mining and the impact on the Upper Hunter

- Recognition of **opportunities** presented by mining offset by **concern** around the negative environmental and aesthetic impacts of mining in the area.
- **Environmental consideration** of **air** and **water** quality, **rehabilitation** and the **future** of mining emerge as key areas of engagement and concern by members, both currently and in the future.





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Collaboration needed for a successful future

- Most stakeholders agree that a **collaborative effort** is required to address the **future** of the Upper Hunter and the impact mining has had on the region.
- The **economic and environmental future** of the Upper Hunter region after mining ceases to operate is the key concern, and what the **pathway to transition** looks like.





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Future of the Upper Hunter - Transition and Strategic Plan

- **Climate change** discussions leading to uncertainty of mining
- Replacing **economic prosperity** effectively
- Develop **clear roadmap** and **strategic economic vision**
- **UHMD** can take **leadership position**





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Future of the Upper Hunter - Transition and Strategic Plan

OPPORTUNITIES

- Drive dialogue and strategic planning for the future beyond mining.
- Grave concerns from the community need to be addressed – bring all stakeholders to the table.
- Draw the connection between the ideas for rehabilitation and the future economy – ideas align.
- Can local Govt brought along at pace to address these concerns? Ideal scenario





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Environmental Considerations

- Big reason for **people joining and leaving UHMD**
- Support **progressive rehabilitation** by mining organisations
- **Air Quality** a major visible concern
- Drive **rehabilitation innovation** into an **economically sustainable future**





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Environmental Considerations – Air Quality OPPORTUNITIES

- Air quality improvements
 - Rehabilitation
- Monitoring air quality and mining activities
 - Regular reporting from trusted sources
 - Adherence by mining community to agreed standards
 - Adaptive procedures needed to accommodate weather changes





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Environmental Considerations – Water Quality

OPPORTUNITIES

- Distinction communicated between mining and other environmental impacts
- Independent monitoring needed





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Environmental Considerations – Rehabilitation OPPORTUNITIES

- Take the lead in strategic planning for rehabilitation
- Increase the rate of change to meet community expectations
- Independent monitoring needed
- Rehabilitation considerations to broaden creatively and needs to include infrastructure





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Community Engagement

- **Broaden community engagement** by including younger people
- **Broaden information sharing** beyond participants
- Needs a refresh – **injection of new thinkers and contributors**





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Community Engagement OPPORTUNITIES

- Attract younger people to UHMD to expand thought leaders
- Attract extreme views to broaden opinions (overly collaborative)
- Improve communication with participants

