

Groundwater at Cadia

MAY 2024



Cadia's Water Management

Newmont's Cadia mine uses water from a variety of sources, including surface water, groundwater, tailings reclamation and mine dewatering.

Cadia's Water Management Plan (WMP) demonstrates our responsible approach to water management, including onsite management and assessing any potential impacts on local water resources. Our plan covers surface water and groundwater resources in Cadiangullong Creek, Flyers Creek, Swallow Creek and Panuara Rivulet Catchments.

The WMP was developed in consultation with and is regularly reviewed by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure, the Environment Protection Authority and Water NSW.

Groundwater is the water held beneath the earth's surface in the spaces within soil, sand and rock formations.

Groundwater originates from precipitation that infiltrates the ground, seeping through layers of soil and rock until it accumulates underground.

At Cadia, groundwater plays a critical role in what we do, and we operate in strict accordance with our project approvals and NSW Government regulation parameters to ensure there are no adverse impacts on groundwater from our operations.

What groundwater does Cadia extract?

Cadia holds several entitlements for the extraction of water from local sources and must comply with relevant licences and conditions, the same as any other commercial water user in NSW. This includes groundwater.

Groundwater extraction relates to water that enters the Ridgeway underground mine, the Cadia East underground mine and the Cadia Hill Open Pit. The groundwater is referred to as 'inflow'.

This inflow must be fully accounted for, licenced and reported on to the regulating agencies, just like water that is extracted from a bore.

A small volume of groundwater is also drawn for potable purposes on-site.

26.8ML predicted inflow to Underground Mine Workings in July 2024-July 2025 from Orange Basalt Groundwater Source.

393.24ML predicted inflow to Underground Mine Workings in July 2024-July 2025 from Lachlan Fold Belt MBD Groundwater Source.

Cadia holds groundwater licence entitlements to account for incidental groundwater inflow to underground mining areas and for extraction from licensed production and potable water supply bores. Groundwater is extracted from the underground operations via mine access portals.

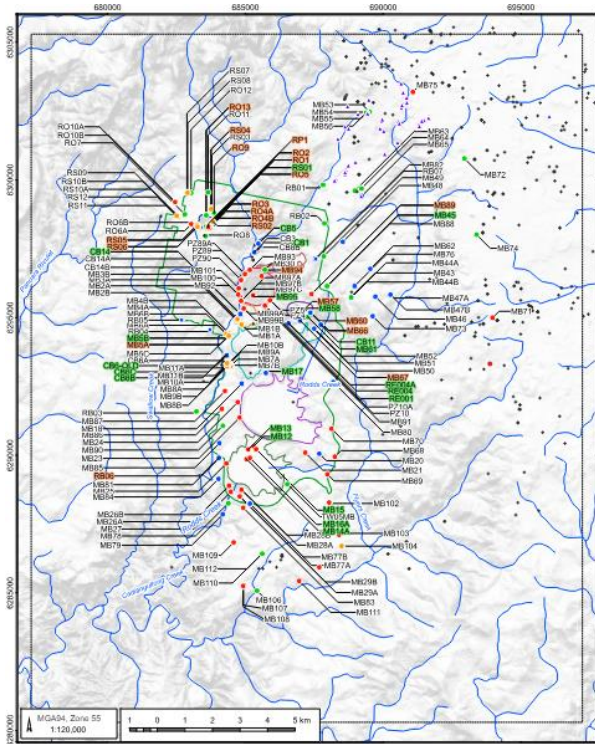


Fig.1 Map of Cadia's monitoring bore network

What is the groundwater Monitoring Network?

Cadia monitors groundwater through an extensive network featuring more than 100 monitoring bores (shown in Fig.1), both on site and across the Cadia district. This network was installed to detect any changes to groundwater levels or quality, with a focus on shallow groundwater interactions with local water resources.



How do we know Cadia's groundwater monitoring is accurate?

Our water monitoring is conducted in accordance with the site Water Management Plan (WMP) which is approved by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI). The WMP is regularly reviewed in consultation with government agencies, like DPHI, EPA and Water NSW.

Cadia manages and monitors groundwater in conjunction with independent specialists Australasian Groundwater and Environmental (AGE) Consultants who review and confirm the data from Cadia's monitoring network annually.

Cadia is also currently working with the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) as they review Cadia's Environment Protection Licence (EPL), which will include an analysis of our groundwater monitoring program.

How does Cadia's operations impact external groundwater users?

Our environmental stewardship obligations remain a priority here at Cadia, and we will continue to diligently monitor and manage our groundwater levels to ensure they remain within approved guidelines.

Measurement and modelling for seepage was undertaken as part of the design and construction of our Tailings Storage Facilities. Monitoring programs are in place to ensure these remain effective.

Where can I get more information?

Cadia publishes information on the Cadia website, including water extraction figures, annual reports, water management plans, permits, licences and approvals.

Click [here](#) for more information.

Does Cadia report on its groundwater monitoring?

Yes. We provide an annual summary of our site's environmental performance through the development of an Annual Review.

We also conduct independent compliance audits to evaluate our environmental compliance and performance.

Cadia also engages AGE Consultants to conduct an independent annual review into our groundwater operations. These reports are published online.

If you have more questions about Cadia's groundwater, please contact Melissa O'Brien, Social Performance Superintendent via cadia@newmont.com.