

Cadia Continued Operations Project Update

FEBRUARY 2024

Cadia has been part of the community for the past 25 years and is seeking a new project approval to extend mining operations beyond 2031 so we can continue supporting regional investment, jobs and the energy transition.

This project is known as the Cadia Continued Operations Project, or CCOP.

What are we proposing?

- > **Continuation of existing operations beyond 2031**
For a period of approximately 25 years from the date of approval to 2048-2050.
- > **Continued underground mining at Cadia East and potential mining of Ridgeway underground mining areas**
- > **Construction of an extension to the current Southern Tailings Storage Facility (STSFX)**
More tailings storage capacity is required to secure the long-term future of Cadia, along with local jobs and community investment associated with the mine. Seven tailings storage locations were investigated with the STSFX chosen as the preferred location. Following the selection of the STSFX, Cadia worked to improve the design based on feedback from the community which has resulted in a significant reduction in the footprint.

Benefits of reduced STSFX footprint



Smaller modified footprint away from eastern and southern residents and cultural heritage sites



Noise impact minimised during construction and operation using cyclone sands



Potential for dust lift-off minimised with a smaller surface area



Land disturbance minimised



Impact on farmland minimised



Alternate road realignments considered



> **The use of hydrocyclone sands technology**

New tailings storage technology creates the opportunity for a more sustainable approach to tailings dam construction. Five options were investigated with hydrocyclone sands the preferred technology for the STSFX.





Hydrocyclones apply centrifugal forces to separate material into coarse sand and fine tailings. The coarse tailings are then used as the primary raw construction material in the new storage embankments. Hydrocyclone sands allow any water in the embankment to drain away easily, ensuring the structure is safe and stable. Water recovered from the embankment is diverted into nearby holding ponds and pumped to the processing facility for re-use. This reduces reliance on fresh water from other sources. The plan is also to design the embankment to allow temporary or progressive rehabilitation with local native vegetation as it is built up.

> **Realignment of Panuara and Cadia Roads to account for the CCOP features**

The construction of STSFX would require the realignment of an approximately 7 km section of Panuara Road. Cadia has identified a preferred realignment route which will also include a minor realignment to Cadia Road where it intersects with the current Panuara Road. Seven realignment options were investigated including an option to construct a public road from Cadia Road to Four Mile Creek Road through the Cadia mine site. This site was discounted for safety, operational and regulatory reasons.

Telecommunications and other infrastructure will require relocation and is planned to be located along the new alignment of Panuara Road.

Hydrocyclone sands technology

-  Uses less energy
-  Lowers noise levels
-  Has a reduced footprint
-  Reuses water
-  Allows for progressive rehabilitation



You can find a simple 4-minute hydrocyclone sands video at www.cadiabeyond2031.com.au

Cadia's current Project Approval allows for the realignment of Cadia and Woodville Roads to accommodate approved subsidence of Cadia East. While the realignment of Cadia and Woodville Roads to avoid approved subsidence of Cadia East hasn't been required to date, CCOP modelling shows subsidence will go beyond the current approval. This will require realignment of Cadia and Woodville Roads. Additional design work is ongoing and will be assessed in the CCOP Environmental Impact Statement or EIS.

> **An additional water storage within the Cadiangullong catchment to provide enhanced security of water supply to the mine – South Water Storage Dam**

The proposed South Water Storage Dam aims to enhance water security at Cadia. It will use the current water allocations more effectively by increasing storage capacity, capturing excess water during heavy rainfall while still maintaining required downstream flows in Cadiangullong Creek. Storing water during high-flow periods can potentially decrease the need for water releases from Carcoar Dam in times of drought.

Cadia will continue to review and refine the proposed route for Panuara Road realignment considering the final design of STSFX and South Water Storage Dam as well as the input of the local community, road users and road authorities.



The CCOP assessment

The CCOP is considered a State Significant Development (SSD) and will require development consent under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act). CCOP may also require approval under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act)..

A variation to Cadia's Environment Protection Licence (EPL) will be required as well as a new mining lease for the new CCOP areas, in addition to the current mining leases that cover the existing mining operations.

The approval applications will be accompanied by a detailed EIS, which will include comprehensive assessments identifying the potential environmental, social and economic impacts of CCOP and how best to manage these. These assessments, known as the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs), will be determined by the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (formerly the Department of Planning and Environment), with early works already underway on some predicted assessments.

Social Impact Assessment (SIA)

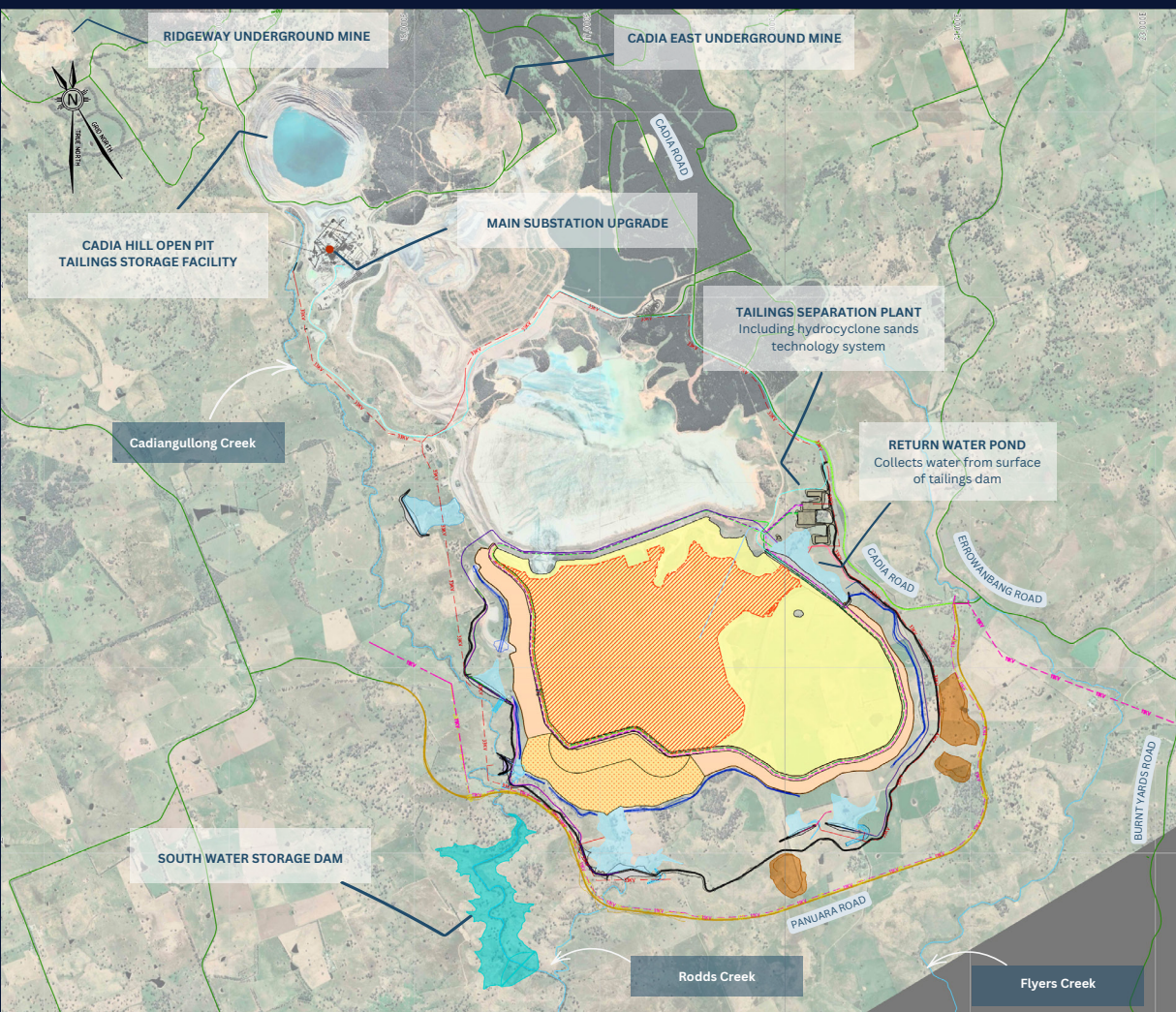
Community involvement and input underpin the Social Impact Assessment (SIA) process that is being undertaken as a part of the EIS by independent consultants Umwelt.

The SIA will identify, assess and propose effective management strategies for the social impacts that may be associated with the CCOP. Work on the SIA Scoping Report commenced during 2022, with Umwelt conducting more than 50 personal interviews with neighbouring landholders and community groups to date. These interviews have sought to understand views on likely social impacts of the CCOP which will be further explored during the SIA as part of the EIS.

Those interested in speaking with a member of the Umwelt Social Team or making a contribution to the SIA can contact social-team@umwelt.com.au. Participation is voluntary, and individuals may remain anonymous if they choose. All information provided is confidential and will remain so in analysis and reporting.

If you would like to learn more about the SIA process or provide input, please contact:

Umwelt
social-team@umwelt.com.au
1800 716 864



Map Legend

-  **Current NTSF**
Northern Tailings Storage Facility
-  **Current STSF**
Southern Tailings Storage Facility
-  **CCOP proposed STSFX**
Southern Tailings Storage Facility Extension
-  **CCOP proposed STSFX**
Excess sand stockpile indicative - for future re-use
-  **CCOP proposed STSFX**
Embankment wall
-  **CCOP proposed**
South water storage dam
-  **CCOP proposed**
Water reclaim ponds (Collect water on embankment)
-  **Topsoil stockpiles**
Stored for use in rehabilitation at the closure of the TSF
-  **Water pipeline**
Returns water from reclaim ponds to the plant for re-use
-  **Powerlines**
11 kV
-  **Powerlines**
33 kV
-  **Access road**



Community involvement every step of the way

Cadia strongly values its relationship with the local and regional community and thanks those who have contributed to discussions about the CCOP to date.

Cadia will be hosting a series of workshops to allow the community to meet with members of the CCOP team and discuss the CCOP in greater detail.

We recently held a series of information sessions across the Central West for the community to hear more about our plans and how to be involved in the process.

The first workshop will be held on

**Wednesday, 6 March 2024
from 5.30pm at the
Blayney Community Centre**

The workshop will incorporate breakout sessions, providing participants with the opportunity to offer valuable feedback and input on specific elements of the project. If you would like to attend the workshop and have not yet received an invitation please contact us on 1800 716 864. RSVP 4 March 2024.

Thursday 22 February	Friday 23 February	Saturday 24 February	Sunday 25 February	Monday 26 February
IGA Bank Street Molong 9.00am-1.00pm	Blayney Info. Centre 8.30am-1.00pm	Bernadi's IGA Blayney 8.30am-1.00pm	Orange Central Square 10.00am-1.00pm	Outside IGA Canowindra 9.00am-1.00pm
Orange Central Square 8.30am-12.30pm	Ashcrofts on Pym Millthorpe 7.30am-11.30am	Orange City Shopping Centre 9.00am-1.00pm	Rotary Market Orange Showground 8.00am-2.00pm	 <p>Stay updated</p> <p>Register for invitations to upcoming CCOP workshops and community information sessions.</p>
Orange City Shopping Centre 2.00pm-6.00pm	Orange City Shopping Centre 2.00pm-5.00pm	Orange Central Square 2.00pm-5.00pm		
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Benefits of the CCOP

- > Ongoing employment for our workforce of more than 1500 people, 85 per cent who live in or around Orange
- > A stronger region through continued significant economic and social contributions
- > Substantial tax, royalty and rate payments to state and local governments to fund schools, hospitals, roads and police
- > A more sustainable operation through improved water management and site rehabilitation

Key facts about the CCOP

- > If approved, Cadia's mining operations will continue to approximately 2048-2050 (from 2031)
- > This is not a new mine. Gold and copper have been mined at Cadia for more than 25 years
- > There will be little change to the scale or intensity of mining and no increase to approved annual production rates
- > We plan to extract more gold, copper and molybdenum from areas within or directly adjacent to our current Cadia East and Ridgeway operations
- > The continued operation of Cadia fits with the goal of the NSW Minerals Strategy which is: *'To significantly grow investment in mineral exploration and mining in NSW to position the state as a major global supplier of metals for the economies of today and the future.'*
- > Copper and molybdenum produced at Cadia are part of Australia's future as a reliable provider of critical minerals to the world

What happens next?



Find out more

If you would like more information or would like to schedule a meeting with the CCOP team, please contact:

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