



**NSW
MINING**

HEALTH, SAFETY
ENVIRONMENT, & COMMUNITY

AWARDS 2026

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YANCOAL
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THE AWARDS

NSW is home to some of the world's leading mining operations and some of the most dedicated professionals working to advance health and safety, environmental performance, and community engagement across our sector.

Each year, the NSW Mining HSEC Awards recognise the people and projects driving excellence, innovation and continuous improvement in these critical areas.

We are proud to announce the finalists for the 2026 Awards, chosen from a strong field of entries across four categories:

- Health Excellence
- Safety Excellence
- Environmental Excellence
- Community Excellence

Finalists will be celebrated and winners announced at the 2026 NSW Mining HSEC Awards Dinner, where more than 400 industry representatives will come together to recognise outstanding contributions across our sector.

We encourage you to support and celebrate our finalists by sharing their stories. Follow us on Instagram @miningnsw and use the hashtag #nswmining to spread the word and share your support with colleagues, friends and family.

NSW MINERALS COUNCIL CEO MESSAGE

Welcome to the 2026 NSW Mining HSEC Awards.

Tonight we recognise the people, teams and initiatives that are helping shape a safer, stronger and more sustainable mining industry.

Across health, safety, environment and community, this year's finalists represent the commitment, innovation and leadership that continue to drive meaningful progress across our sector. Their achievements demonstrate what is possible when challenges are met with collaboration, determination and a focus on continuous improvement.

On behalf of the NSW Minerals Council, I congratulate all finalists. The calibre of entries received this year reflects the depth of talent and expertise that exists across our industry and the positive impact it continues to deliver for workers, communities and the environment.

Thank you for joining us as we celebrate these outstanding contributions and the people behind them.



Stephen Galilee
Chief Executive Officer
NSW Minerals Council

MAJOR SPONSORS

We thank all of our sponsors, especially our Conference and Awards Dinner Platinum Sponsors, Glencore and Yancoal, for their continued support and commitment to leading practice in HSEC.



For over 20 years, Yancoal Australia has been contributing to the Australian coal industry, communities where we operate and broader society. With over 6,000 people working across our operations in NSW, Queensland and Western Australia, Yancoal's story goes beyond the product we mine. It is about the positive impact we have on people's lives, as we continue to deliver lasting benefits for all of our stakeholders.

GLENCORE

Glencore is one of the world's largest global diversified natural resource companies and a major producer and marketer of commodities that advance everyday life.

We've operated in Australia for more than 25 years and provide employment for 16,820 people across our mines and metals processing assets.

In 2025, our New South Wales operations helped support 2,940 suppliers, spent \$4.57 billion on goods and services, and contributed \$1.32 billion in taxes and royalties.

ENTERTAINMENT

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Andrew Barnett
MC & Comedian



Felix Quinn
Musical Entertainment

The Awards Dinner combines recognition, celebration and outstanding entertainment. Hosted by acclaimed stand-up comedian, writer and media personality Andrew Barnett, the evening will feature the presentation of awards across four categories, along with a special comedy performance showcasing the wit, storytelling and audience connection that have made him a regular performer at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival and Sydney Comedy Festival.

Guests will also enjoy live entertainment from Felix Quinn Music, whose polished performances and energetic mix of crowd favourites, classic hits and contemporary tunes will provide the perfect soundtrack to the evening as the industry comes together to celebrate its achievements.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to everyone who entered this year's HSEC Awards. We want to recognise the innovative spirit and commitment to excellence of all of this year's entrants across four categories.

Health Excellence

Australian Paramedical College Partnership
Develop Mining – Woodlawn

Yancoal Healthy Way
Yancoal Australia

The Salhy Workforce Hydration Monitoring Program
Hunter Valley Operations

Dustlight – Personal Dust Monitoring
Aurelia Metals

Safety Excellence

Longwall Mantis Sprag
Quarry Mining

In-Field Systematic Risk Management – Controlling
Energy
GM3 – Appin Mine

Starter Motor Muffler
Glencore – Ulan West

Open-Cut Gas Management
Glencore / United Wambo Joint Venture

My Risks & Critical Controls
BHP – Mt Arthur Coal

Felt Leadership; An Integrated Approach to Safety
Leadership
Evolution Mining

The Working in Right Places System
Newcastle Coal Infrastructure Group

Peer-to-Peer Program
Newmont – Cadia

Overhauls Ground Support to Improve Safety, Health
& Productivity.
Alkane Resources – Tomingley Gold Operations

Environmental Excellence

Thermal Drones and Threatened Species Project
GM3 – Dendrobium Mine

From Geotechnical Risk to Long-term Landform
Stability
Whitehaven Coal – Werris Creek Coal Mine

Tiger Orchid Translocation Program
The Bloomfield Group – Rix's Creek

Cadia EnviroSuite Environmental Portal
Newmont – Cadia

From Uncertainty to Innovation:
Protecting the Blue Mountains Water Skink
Centennial Coal – Springvale Mine

Turning an Environmental Problem into a Sustainable
Resource – Circular Economy
Evolution Mining

Community Excellence

Yancoal's Indigenous Cultural Awareness Training
(ICAT)
Yancoal Australia

Blackroo Community
Blackrock Industries

Beyond Best Practice
Larvotto Resources

From Classroom to Career:
Inspiring Year 12 Environmental Futures in Mining
The Bloomfield Group – Rix's Creek

Doctors 4 Mudgee Region
Glencore – Ulan, Yancoal – Moolarben, & Peabody –
Wilpinjong,

Glentarkie Home for the Aged
Idemitsu – Boggabri Coal Operations

Partnership with Upper Shoalhaven Landcare
Aurelia Metals

District Community Sticky Nightshade Program
Newmont – Cadia

Cowal 20 Years of Operations
Evolution Mining

HEALTH EXCELLENCE FINALISTS

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**HUNTER VALLEY
OPERATIONS**

HUNTER VALLEY OPERATIONS The Salhy Workforce Hydration Monitoring Program

The Salhy Workforce Hydration Monitoring Program is a saliva-based hydration testing system developed by NSW start-up IhydRATE in partnership with Glencore's Health, Safety and Training (HST) teams at Hunter Valley Operations (HVO) and Mangoola Coal.

The initiative was developed to address the ongoing risk of dehydration in mining. Even mild dehydration can impair reaction time, decision-making and physical performance, while traditional monitoring methods are often invasive and impractical for everyday use.

The Salhy test provides a simple, portable and non-invasive alternative. Workers place the single-use test on their tongue for several seconds, scan it using a smartphone or tablet and receive immediate hydration results.

The program has improved workforce awareness around hydration and fatigue management, while helping identify workers requiring additional support. Pilot results demonstrated strong workforce engagement and positive behavioural change.



AURELIA METALS Dustlight – Personal Dust Monitoring

Dustlight Personal Dust Monitoring is a real-time wearable dust monitoring initiative trialled by Aurelia Metals to give workers immediate visibility of respirable dust exposure during their shifts.

The initiative was developed to address the limitations of traditional gravimetric dust sampling, which provides delayed laboratory results and makes it difficult for workers to connect daily tasks with actual exposure levels.

The lightweight monitors are worn in the breathing zone and continuously measure dust levels through a simple traffic-light system. Workers can see exposure levels in real time and respond immediately by adjusting controls or using respiratory protective equipment (RPE).

Dustlight monitoring has strengthened on-the-ground risk management and improved worker awareness of dust exposure. Data from the devices has also supported the identification of high-exposure tasks and the development of an evidence-based dusty task register.

The system is practical, easy to use and has potential to support dust management across a range of mining and industrial environments.

SAFETY EXCELLENCE FINALISTS

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QUARRY MINING Longwall Mantis Sprag

The Longwall Mantis Sprag (LWMS) is an innovative portable pneumatic roof support system developed to improve safety during longwall maintenance tasks.

The initiative was developed to address the risks associated with manual roof bolting during cutter drum pick changes, where workers were required to operate in unsupported roof conditions in low-height environments.

The LWMS provides immediate temporary roof support during maintenance activities, eliminating the need for manual roof bolts and replacing a labour-intensive process with a safer, faster and more repeatable solution.

The project has improved worker safety, reduced maintenance downtime and now become standard practice at Mandalong Mine.

The LWMS is portable, practical and has potential application across underground coal mining operations undertaking similar longwall maintenance activities.



NEWCASTLE COAL INFRASTRUCTURE GROUP The Working in Right Places System

The Working in Right Places system is a practical, technology-enabled safety control developed to prevent workers commencing tasks on incorrect equipment or isolations.

The initiative was developed to address risks identified through incident investigations, where workers had inadvertently locked onto incorrect isolation plans or begun work on equipment that was not isolated.

The system integrates QR code verification into existing Permit to Work and isolation processes, allowing workers to confirm they are on the right permit, isolation and physical equipment before work begins.

The initiative has strengthened critical control effectiveness by embedding a reliable verification step into daily operations. Since site-wide implementation in July 2025, NCIG has recorded zero incidents involving incorrect isolations or work on the wrong equipment.

The system is practical, scalable and has potential application across a range of complex industrial and high-risk operational environments.

ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE FINALISTS

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GM3 **Thermal Drones and Threatened Species Project**

In partnership with Symbio Wildlife Park, the University of Wollongong, Conservation Partners and government agencies, GM3 deployed night-time thermal drone surveys across the Illawarra escarpment to monitor koala and greater glider populations.

The initiative was developed to address the limitations of traditional wildlife surveying in steep, densely vegetated terrain near active and historical mining operations. Ground surveys and spotlighting are labour-intensive, carry increased safety risks at night and often produce low detection rates.

Using thermal imaging, aerial verification and statistical modelling, GM3 surveyed more than 1,175 hectares across 47 sites to detect and estimate populations of endangered koalas and southern greater gliders.

The project delivered the first peer-reviewed, large-scale abundance estimates for both species simultaneously using this technology and confirmed stable koala populations in areas previously thought to be locally extinct.



CENTENNIAL COAL **Protecting the Blue Mountains Water Skink**

Centennial Coal's Springvale Mine has implemented a long-term biodiversity management program to help protect the endangered Blue Mountains Water Skink and demonstrate that conservation and mining can coexist.

The initiative was developed to address the challenges of monitoring the skink in sensitive upland swamp environments, where drought, fire and changing hydrology can make it difficult to distinguish mining impacts from natural environmental variability.

Using an integrated Before-After-Control-Impact (BACI) monitoring and genomics approach, the program supports adaptive, evidence-based management of the species and its habitat.

Over more than a decade, the program has supported site-specific management decisions while maintaining mining operations. Monitoring has shown post-fire recovery at key sites, with no sustained decline attributable to mining activities.

The program has strengthened environmental outcomes, reduced operational and regulatory risk, and demonstrated a scientifically rigorous approach to biodiversity management.

COMMUNITY EXCELLENCE FINALISTS

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IDEMITSU BOGGABRI COAL OPERATIONS **Glentarkie Home for the Aged**

Glentarkie Home for the Aged – Boggabri is a purpose-built aged care accommodation project delivered by Boggabri Coal Operations to support older residents within the local community.

The initiative was developed in response to growing concerns around ageing population pressures, limited housing availability and outdated aged care accommodation that no longer met community needs or current standards.

Boggabri Coal fully funded and delivered nine new independent living units, along with upgrades to existing facilities at the Glentarkie site.

The project has provided high-quality accommodation for older residents while easing pressure on the town's limited housing supply by freeing existing homes for the broader community.

The development demonstrates how long-term industry investment can deliver lasting social infrastructure and meaningful community outcomes in regional areas.

GLENCORE



Peabody

GLENCORE (ULAN) **YANCOAL (MOOLARBEN)** **PEABODY (WILPINJONG)** **Doctors 4 Mudgee Region**

Doctors 4 Mudgee Region (D4MR) is a community-led initiative jointly funded by Glencore Coal, Peabody and Yancoal to improve healthcare access across the Mid-Western Local Government Area.

The initiative was developed in response to growing GP shortages across the region, which were placing increasing pressure on local healthcare services as population growth accelerated.

Through a combination of financial incentives, targeted marketing and personalised support for relocating families, the program has successfully attracted new General Practitioners and GP registrars to the region.

The initiative has helped reopen medical services in Mudgee and Gulgong, improved access to healthcare for local communities and created a sustainable pipeline for future medical workforce capacity.

The D4MR model demonstrates how industry and community partnerships can deliver long-term regional benefits and provides a practical framework for other communities facing healthcare workforce shortages.

JUDGES

We thank our judging panel for their time and contribution to our awards program.

ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY



KAREN LAMB

Senior Principal Social Consultant,
Umwelt



ANDREW WANNAN

Consultant

HEALTH & SAFETY



ISMET CANBULAT

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Kenneth Finlay Chair of Rock
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JODI GOODALL

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WAYNE GREEN

Chief Operating Officer,
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