



Hunter and Central Coast
Development Corporation

Environmental Management

Since the early 2000s, The Hunter and Central Coast Development Corporation (HCCDC) has been working on behalf of the NSW Government to remediate and rehabilitate two former BHP sites around the port of Newcastle.

These sites include a 150-hectare former steelworks at Mayfield and associated waste emplacement facility at Kooragang Island. Our remediation works will help unlock the potential reuse of these sites.

Our team has developed award-winning remediation methods in accordance with Environmental Protection Agency regulations, receiving a prestigious NSW Premier's Award in 2016 for protecting the environment. When complete, it will mark the most significant project of its type in Newcastle's history.



Mayfield steelworks

The \$110-million remediation of the former BHP Steelworks site at Mayfield was formally completed in 2019, marking a major milestone in the city’s transformation. Our works involved a range of projects to contain or remove contaminants while returning the land to a productive state.

This included:

- a 1.4 km long x 50 m deep underground ‘barrier wall’ to reduce groundwater flow toward the Hunter River
- low permeability capping, reducing infiltration of rainwater
- new major stormwater drains
- demolition and land forming.

Kooragang Island Waste Emplacement Facility

The Kooragang Island Waste Emplacement Facility (KIWEF) is a former landfill site that once received waste from the Newcastle Steelworks. In 2020, we completed the fifth stage of closure works, bringing the total area of the landfill that we have closed to 62 hectares.

The final stage of remediation work is progressing, with planning and design for stage six recently completed.

The environmentally sensitive site is situated near the Ramsar listed Hunter Estuary Wetlands and contains habitat of the protected Green and Golden Bell Frog. All closure works have been designed sympathetically to the local environment, including providing migratory corridors for the frogs.

We will continue to work with specialists to develop strategies that contain and reduce environmental and health risks, while maximising ecological and sustainability outcomes.

At a glance

-  More than 210 hectares of contaminated former BHP land being rehabilitated and remediated by HCCDC
-  \$110-million project including infrastructure to contain contaminants and protect the surrounding environment
-  Initiatives in Aboriginal participation in native seed gathering, land regeneration and restoration, and working with native species for optimum ecological and sustainability outcomes

