



REHABILITATED AVONBANK TEST PIT SITE: INSPECTING 2026'S WHEAT CROP

PROJECT UPDATE

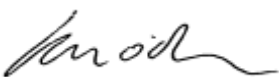
WIM Resource was pleased to announce the establishment of the Avonbank Community and Coexistence Reference Group.

It will ensure that community voices help shape our long-term Community Benefits Fund and Support Program during both the pre-operational and operational stages of the Avonbank Mine. This reflects our enduring commitment to delivering significant long-term benefits to the region.

While this is being established, our Community Grants Program remains open for small and large grants, and we welcome enquiries from the community.

Our community engagement team, based at our Community Information Hub in Horsham, remains active across the region. We were pleased to participate in and support a number of events – the Western Victorian Careers Expo, Mallee Machinery Field Days, and the Wimmera Schools Science and Engineering Challenge, just to name a few – and look forward to a busy second half of the year.

We welcome community members to visit our Community Information Hub located at 83 Firebrace Street, open Monday to Friday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm or visit our online Information Hub to learn more about the Avonbank Project.



Kevin O'Brien
Director of Community and Landholder Relations

AVONBANK PROJECT NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 24 – AUGUST 2026

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CONTACT US

Do you have a question or comment?
Get in touch and let us know your thoughts on the Avonbank Project.

Visit www.wimresource.com.au or email admin@wimresource.com.au

MINING LICENCE UPDATE

The Avonbank mining licence application continues to be assessed by Resources Victoria. A related Commonwealth approval process is also underway under Australia's foreign investment framework. This is a common requirement for any major mining project involving foreign investment, even when it is majority Australian-owned, such as WIM. However, the Commonwealth process is taking longer than originally anticipated.

To allow the Commonwealth process to be completed, Resources Victoria has granted WIM an extension until 31 January 2027. The extension provides a clear and transparent timeframe for the remaining Commonwealth regulatory process to be completed and the required information to be provided. This timing issue does not reflect any change to the Avonbank Project, which remains unchanged.

ADDITIONAL SAFEGUARDS

After carefully considering matters raised by the Horsham Rural City Council and in response to feedback from the Council and the community about their concerns about dust generation, WIM has announced additional safeguards and will strengthen community involvement in Avonbank rehabilitation.

Once in operation, WIM will:

- ◆ cover the heavy mineral concentrate stored in the WIFT Precinct with storage sheds; and
- ◆ publish validated environmental monitoring summaries, including any exceedances and the actions taken in response.

As committed, WIM has already acted and updated the following:

- ◆ provided clearer public-facing maps, distinguishing the proposed mining licence boundary from the area where mining disturbance is proposed, to make it clear no disturbance is permitted to occur over the Dooen Rail Hard Stand;
- ◆ explained in clear terms how staged mining and progressive rehabilitation will work; and
- ◆ provide a clear pathway for raising concerns and escalating unresolved matters to the appropriate regulator, including a dedicated web landing page portal.

WIM remains committed to engagement with the community, listening carefully, understanding the outcomes people are seeking and taking practical action to provide greater confidence.

Visit our online information hub or our office to view the above-mentioned mining licence map, information on progressive rehabilitation, and our new community enquiry page. We continue to welcome suggestions and feedback.

REHABILITATED TEST PIT & CROP UPDATE

This growing season marks our sixth consecutive season over the rehabilitated Avonbank Test Pit. In 2026, wheat has been sown and, following good rainfall, is now well established. We look forward to continuing favourable growing conditions leading into this year's harvest.



Newly emerging Wheat crop over the Avonbank test pit (July 2026)



Wheat crop over the Avonbank test pit (August 2026)

Longerenong College Rehabilitation Research Project

WIM's test pit rehabilitation partnership with Longerenong College continues in 2026 as a new group of first-year Diploma of Agriculture students undertake their research project at the rehabilitated Avonbank Test Pit site. With ongoing support from WIM, this year's student team will be monitoring plots across the test pit site while examining plant growth and soil health, weed, pest, and disease impacts, and undertaking soil mapping and satellite imagery to assist their project studies.

COMMUNITY & COEXISTENCE REFERENCE GROUP

WIM is establishing a significant, strategic, long-term Community Benefits Fund and Support Program. To ensure local voices help shape the delivery of long-term community benefits for the Wimmera and Southern Mallee communities, the Avonbank Community & Coexistence Reference Group (CCRG), an advisory group, is being established.

The CCRG will provide a structured way for local voices to inform community benefit priorities, offer input into the community support program, and provide feedback on WIM's communication and engagement activities as the project progresses.

INDUSTRY CAPABILITY NETWORK

As a Premium Plus member of the Industry Capability Network (ICN), WIM had the opportunity to speak to the 300-plus suppliers at the Wimmera Mallee Mining Ready event in Horsham in June. WIM's Kevin O'Brien and Jarrod Pye provided an overview of the Avonbank project, outlined upcoming procurement opportunities and encouraged local businesses to engage with WIM.



Register your Interest

We are pleased to continue to receive significant interest in job and business opportunities at the Avonbank mine. We have established a dedicated online portal and partnered with the Industry Capability Network Gateway to make it easier to register your interest.

To submit an Expression of Interest for the Avonbank Project on the ICN Gateway, or to register your interest in career opportunities visit www.wimresource.com.au/3281-2/ or scan the QR codes below.



Industry Capability Network



WIM Careers Register

MINING CAREERS GUIDE

A *Mining Careers Guide* was launched in June and was available at the Western Victoria Careers Expo. This new information resource aims to provide students, job seekers and community members with information on career pathways, training opportunities and employment options within the mining and resources sector. View our *Mining Careers Guide* online today or pick up a copy from the WIM Community Information Hub.



Work Experience with WIM – Apply Now

WIM welcomed our first local work experience student, Charlie Murray, who aspires to be a geologist. Charlie experienced a range of activities and learnt about the diverse work undertaken by WIM exploration manager and senior geologist David Jelley. We thank Charlie for spending the week with us and wish him every success in the future. We welcome other interested students or schools to apply with us for work experience programs at any time.

Apply for a Community Grant

Our Community Support Grants Program supports initiatives that deliver meaningful, long-term benefits to local communities impacted by our exploration, development, and mining activities in Victoria's Wimmera Southern Mallee region. To discuss grant opportunities, get in touch with our Community Engagement Team at the Community Hub via email admin@wimresource.com.au or free call 1800 959 298.

Community Information Hub

This is a reminder that WIM's Community Information Hub continues to serve as an effective engagement resource for the community. We welcome an increasing number of diverse people and organisations through our doors. There is plenty of information available, together with interactive displays and videos, including recently updated brochures and other information material.



WIM IN THE COMMUNITY

Variety Victoria Bash – Horsham Team Car Sponsor

The iconic Variety Victoria Bash is Australia's longest running charity motoring event. Part road trip, part challenge, teams travel in a convoy of 25+ year-old decked out cars. WIM is proud to get behind this long-standing charity event and has come on board as a key sponsor of 2026 Horsham local team car entry, "Santa's Sled". Held from 18 to 27 August, the route starts at Halls Gap in the Grampians and finishes at Exmouth on the Ningaloo Reef, Western Australia. We wish the team every success and look forward to welcoming them back to Horsham.



Wimmera Schools Science & Engineering Challenge

The Wimmera Schools Science and Engineering Challenge held at the Wimmera Events Centre in March, brought together over 400 primary and secondary students from across the region for a series of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) team challenges. WIM has been a major sponsor of this school-based initiative since 2022, and it is hosted and coordinated locally by the Rotary Club of Horsham East. Wimmera Lutheran College Horsham won the award for primary schools, whilst St Brigids College Horsham took home the award for secondary schools.



Horsham Plaza

WIM is holding regular pop-up information sessions at the Horsham Plaza. These fortnightly public engagement opportunities are proving popular, offering the broader community a chance to chat with WIM team members and discuss the Avonbank Project and latest development initiatives.

Mallee Machinery Field Days – 5–6 August 2026

WIM had a successful two days at the Mallee Machinery Field Days held at Speed. WIM has attended this important regional event in the past and was pleased to be able to host a site again this year. Team members were kept busy chatting to interested patrons fielding a variety of questions and the new information brochures and project handout materials proved popular.

MCA Victorian Women in Mining Awards

In June, WIM attended the Minerals Council of Australia Women in Resources Awards at Parliament House in Melbourne. The awards recognise outstanding career accomplishments, advocacy for women, and contributions to social licence and the community. WIM proudly continues our support for these important awards, which celebrate the achievements of women in the Victorian mining industry.

Western Victorian Careers Expo

The Western Victorian Careers Expo, held annually in June, draws in prospective school leavers and job seekers, along with approximately 2000 students from secondary schools across ten local government regions. WIM remains a major sponsor of the West Victorian Careers Expo. Our interactive stand offered a wealth of information, a working model of a mineral sands separation spiral, industry giveaways, and our new *Mining Careers Guide*. Throughout the event, WIM representatives also presented on employment and future career prospects within the mineral sands mining sector.



Upcoming Sponsorships & Partnerships

- ◆ Defying the Drift: 21–23 September 2026
- ◆ Wimmera Art Fair: 7–11 October 2026

GET IN TOUCH

For project related enquiries please contact:

Email: admin@wimresource.com.au

Community Information Hub:

83 Firebrace Street, Horsham VIC 3400

Open Monday to Friday, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

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