

## RESOURCE RECOVERY FOCUS AT HAZELWOOD

Underpinning the Gippsland Waste and Resource Recovery Group's recently released Waste and Resource Recovery Implementation Plan is a vision of waste as a valued resource.

*Imagine a Gippsland where we create an economy and a society that values the material we discard. A region that leads the way in managing this material as a valuable resource, supports job creation and drives innovation.*

Providing clear actions and priorities for the region, the implementation plan will be the driving force behind the effective and responsible management of the materials discarded in Gippsland over the next 10 years and beyond.

Gippsland currently manages 735,200 tonnes of waste each year. Of this material, around 136,200 tonnes go to landfill and 599,000 tonnes are recovered and reprocessed.

Valuing discarded material and being innovative when it comes to waste is important at an individual and household level, and is a key consideration when it comes to the large-scale decommissioning of industrial sites.

As such, the Gippsland Waste and Resource Recovery Implementation Plan undertakes to work with ENGIE (Hazelwood), the EPA and other relevant stakeholders to support the management of materials generated through the decommissioning of the Hazelwood Power Station and Mine.

To aid this task, Board members from the Gippsland Waste and Resource Recovery Group joined ENGIE Environment Manager, Regulatory, Ross Booker recently on a tour of the Hazelwood Mine and on-site landfill areas.

Board Chair, Cr Dick Ellis said, "It has been particularly useful for us to be out on-site to appreciate the complexity of the Hazelwood Closure Project."

"Hazelwood comprises substantial amounts of aggregate, masonry and steel, the power station potentially presents a significant resource recovery opportunity."

"The more we talk about waste as a resource, and highlight to industry and community the innovative ways it can be recovered, repurposed or recycled, the more likely its value to the economy and to the region will be realised."

The Gippsland Waste and Resource Recovery Implementation Plan outlines actions aimed at improving the waste and resource recovery system in Gippsland and reducing dependence on landfills.

For a copy of the plan visit: [www.rightcycle.com.au](http://www.rightcycle.com.au)

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**Photo attached**



**Caption**

GWRRG Board members. L-R: Dale Harriman, Dick Ellis (Chair), Theresa Glab, Chris Badger, Matthew Peake (Executive Officer) and Julie Hocking.