

Green Star for mining villages

Boom times for Australia's mining sector mean that a lot of building development is currently underway to help accommodate an influx of workers. Unfortunately, most of this building development is of poor or limited quality.

In general, most mining villages are made from prefabricated buildings, which are poorly lit, and have poor indoor environment quality resulting from low quality furniture and finishes. The rushed design of mining villages often leads to high water and energy consumption, and accommodation and infrastructure that is motel-like, bland, and ultimately results in a poor living experience for miners.

But we can do better. Green Star offers mining villages the opportunity to improve on all aspects of their sustainable design and construction by providing a clear set of holistic benchmarks that they can be independently certified against. Green Star can assess and independently certify the health, energy, waste, and water impacts of the buildings within your mining village development.

Through Green Star - Custom, the GBCA's new rating tool development service, we can work with you to develop a Green Star rating tool that is specific to your mining village project.

Here's how a Green Star rating can benefit your mining village project:

► **Demonstrate leadership**

A Green Star rating is a clear expression of your company's commitment to the environment. By integrating Green Star principles into your mining village project, you'll leave the community with a lasting legacy of your sustainable leadership.

► **Work with the industry-leading sustainability rating system**

Green Star is designed for Australia's unique conditions, and is widely recognised across the Australian property and construction industry. Hundreds of projects have achieved Green Star ratings, and many more are registered for certification. Companies, consultants, builders, owners, tenants, students, patients, homeowners and governments are increasingly turning to Green Star as a proven method of achieving better results for the buildings they own and occupy.

► **Obtain independent, third-party verification**

A Green Star rating gives your project the independent, third-party verification you need to demonstrate that your project meets or exceeds best practice benchmarks across a range of environmental criteria.



► **Demonstrate commitment across holistic benchmarks**

A Green Star rating can help you demonstrate your commitment and accountability across holistic sustainability impact categories. Your Green Star rating is proof that your company cares about the environment and is committed to operating sustainably.

► **Gain competitive advantage**

A Green Star rating can deliver a competitive edge in today's crowded marketplace. The BCI *Green Building Market Report* (2008) found that one of the main drivers for committing to sustainable building was the competitive advantage of these projects. A Green Star rating can enhance not only the marketability of your project, but that of your entire business.

► **Future-proof assets**

Governments and large corporate organisations are increasingly incorporating sustainability principles into their property requirements, and a number of state governments have already mandated minimum Green Star benchmarks for all government office buildings – with similar mandates expected to follow for other building types. Obtaining a Green Star rating now can help you to 'future-proof' your mining village project and your business for changes in the market and regulatory environment, ensuring you will not be at a disadvantage in the future.

► **Retain and attract staff**

Attracting and retaining talented employees is vital to any business' success – and living or working within a Green Star-rated building or community is a valuable employee benefit.

“ We understand the importance of adopting environmentally friendly initiatives and procedures for the benefit of the communities in which we operate and are thrilled to achieve the first Green Star rating for a restaurant in the country. ”

Howard Armitage

South Kilsyth Restaurant Licencee
McDonanald's Australia

Find out more about Green Star - Custom and how we can work with you:

www.gbca.org.au/custom