



May-June 2026

COMMUNITY NEWS

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Brooklyn Recycling
Group

About the BRG Partnership

The Brooklyn Recycling Group (BRG) brings together industry, government, regulators and the community to improve environmental outcomes across the Brooklyn Industrial Precinct.

Through Victoria's first Better Environment Plan, BRG partners are working collaboratively to improve environmental performance, share data, and deliver transparent, accountable outcomes.

This newsletter showcases some of the projects, partnerships and achievements driving continuous improvement while strengthening trust with the local community.

BRG members include Sunshine Groupe (EcoGypsum & Fertilizer), Delta Group, City Circle Group, ResourceCo and Pelligra.



Site Tour Strengthens Partnership

In May, BRG welcomed the Environmental Protection Team from the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) to the Brooklyn Industrial Precinct to showcase the collaborative work underway through the Better Environment Plan.

The visit highlighted how neighbouring businesses are improving environmental performance by sharing knowledge, environmental data and innovative practices.

A key feature was the new shared dust monitoring platform, providing real-time information to support coordinated dust management and continuous improvement.

The tour reinforced the value of collaboration between industry, government and stakeholders in delivering better environmental outcomes for the precinct and the community.

ResourceCo


ecoGypsum
GYPSUM & FERTILIZER SALES


CITYCIRCLE
A CIRCULAR ECONOMY COMPANY

Pelligra

 DELTA GROUP



BRG showcased at national clean air seminar

The Brooklyn Recycling Group's collaborative approach to dust management was recently highlighted at a seminar hosted by the Clean Air Society of Australia and New Zealand (CASANZ).

Dr James Brett from Synergetics, who is also a member of the Brooklyn Recycling Group project team, presented the Better Environment Plan as a case study demonstrating how neighbouring businesses can work together to improve environmental outcomes through shared dust monitoring.

The presentation explored how collecting data across multiple sites provides greater insight into dust movement than monitoring individual sites alone. It also highlighted the use of computational fluid dynamics (CFD) modelling to help determine the most effective locations for dust sensors.

The seminar attracted around 100 environmental consultants, regulators and industry professionals from across Australia and New Zealand, with strong interest shown in the Brooklyn Recycling Group's collaborative monitoring approach. Attendees provided positive feedback on the benefits of shared monitoring networks and asked questions about complementary initiatives, including vegetation planning to further support dust management.



Two sides of the same creek. Two very different outcomes.

Along Kororoit Creek in Brooklyn, one side is increasingly green, treed and recovering — while the opposite bank still struggles with far less vegetation and habitat coverage. The contrast is striking.

For almost 15 years, feral goats have roamed sections of this industrial landscape, contributing to vegetation loss and preventing natural regeneration. Their presence has become one of the many challenges associated with managing the lower Kororoit Creek corridor and planting projects within the industrial precinct.

In May this year, landowners, industry representatives and a specialist contractor conducted a field visit to assess the local goat population and review management options. As part of a coordinated approach, work is now underway to safely and humanely guide the goats back into a controlled area using monitored and feed-based techniques.





Building trust and social license

The Victorian Waste Management Association (VMWA) Conference this year held 1-2 June, focused on "Building a Safer, Stronger and Bigger Sector in Victoria." BRG's Community Liaison Officer, Lisa Field, presented on the group's place-based, partnership-led program of activities delivered under Victoria's first Better Environment Plan.

Building trust and driving environmental improvements has been centred on collaboration, transparency and consistency. The approach prioritises being proactive rather than reactive, investing in face-to-face engagement, and reporting back on outcomes and improvements—even when they are small. Through ongoing partnerships with industry, government agencies, community groups and local stakeholders, the program demonstrates how trust can be strengthened over time through visible action, open communication and a shared commitment to positive environmental impact.

Centre for Safe Air

Air quality is influenced by many factors, from household environments and transport choices to bushfire management and industrial activity. While we often think of air pollution as something that occurs outdoors, research presented at a recent Victorian Air Quality Forum highlighted that mould, dampness and poor ventilation can contribute to respiratory illnesses and other health concerns. Simple actions such as improving ventilation, managing moisture, repairing leaks and maintaining heating and cooling systems can make a meaningful difference.

Another recurring theme was that while air quality data is readily available, many people are unaware of how to access or use it.

Tools such as the AirRater app and EPA Victoria's AirWatch service make it easy to monitor local air quality conditions and make informed decisions during smoke or pollution events.

Clean air is something we all share, and understanding air quality is the first step towards protecting both our health and the places we live.

Read on <https://brooklynrg.com.au/f/clean-air-matters-more-than-we-think>





The Story Behind Brooklyn's Most Recognisable Building

If you've driven along Somerville Road in Brooklyn, you've probably noticed the striking former Huntsman administration building standing alone on a vast vacant site. For many locals, it has become a landmark and a reminder of Brooklyn's industrial heritage.

The site's history stretches back to 1941, when it was established during World War II to manufacture aspirin and sulfa drugs. Over the following decades, it evolved into a major chemical manufacturing facility, operated for much of its life by Monsanto before becoming part of Huntsman Chemical Company of Australia. The plant closed in 2009, and most of the industrial infrastructure was demolished in 2011.

While the factories are gone, the administration building remains as a visible link to the generations of workers and industries that helped shape Melbourne's west.

A new chapter began in 2018 when Pelligra purchased the 35-hectare site with plans for future redevelopment.

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In 2026, Pelligra also joined the Brooklyn Recycling Group, demonstrating a commitment to working alongside local businesses, community organisations and government agencies to support positive outcomes for Brooklyn.

The former Huntsman site reminds us that Brooklyn has always been a place of industry, innovation and change. As the area continues to evolve, partnerships between landowners, businesses and the community will play an important role in shaping its future.

Do you have memories of working at the site or seeing the factory in operation? We'd love to hear your stories.

