

## Cadia tailings dam fix

CIMIC Group subsidiary CPB Contractors has entered into an alliance with Newcrest Mining to work on a tailings storage facility recommissioning project at the Cadia gold and copper mine, near Orange in New South Wales.



## Karma Barndon

That will involve enabling works at the existing TSF and ancillary works including haul roads and supporting facilities.

Cadia was rocked in March 2018 when its northern tailings dam suffered a catastrophic failure, which halted production for about three months and caused ongoing environmental concerns.

It was later found a 300m section of the 94m-high dam wall had slumped.

An independent review found the decision to excavate a low-density foundation layer at the base of the dam wall played a big part in the failure.

The weak and brittle material ended up becoming deformed after bearing significant loads, which triggered liquefaction of part of the tailings behind the embankment.

Dangerous liquefaction remains a risk at Cadia.

CPB Contractors managing director Jason Spears said the company would work in close partnership with Cadia to ensure the project was safely delivered to schedule and budget and all operational objectives were secured.

"As always, we will be focused on safety and apply our extensive regional project expertise to maximise opportunities for cost-effective, efficient delivery," he said.

CIMIC Group executive chairman Juan Santamaria said CPB would work collaboratively with Newcrest to achieve the project's business goals.

He said they would also ensure the community's expectations regarding environmental performance and outcomes were met.

