



The MLRA's development and first year

Dave Salmon
CEO

28-7-2021



Overview of the presentation

- 
- **Background to the MLRA (the Authority) - history and formation**
 - **Objectives and functions**
 - **Organisational structure**
 - **Relationships with stakeholders**
 - **The first year**
 - **Latrobe Valley Regional Rehabilitation Strategy and Implementation Actions**
 - **Looking forward**

Background

Hazelwood Mine Fire Inquiry 2016



Key finding

‘as the mines near closure, there will be greater complexities and priorities that will need to be addressed. The Board considers that mine closure will require a commensurate increase in coordination and oversight.’

Key recommendation

The Inquiry recommended that “the Authority should have ‘ongoing tenure until all mines have been successfully rehabilitated, and monitoring and maintenance of the Latrobe Valley mines is no longer required. It is foreseeable that this could be decades after the last mine has closed”.

Background and MLRA formation

- The Latrobe Valley Commissioner - established in 2017 and the Latrobe Regional Rehabilitation Strategy (LVRRS) is developed.
- The Authority is founded 30 June 2020 (under MRSDA) supersedes the Latrobe Valley Commissioner
- The MRSDA defines objectives, functions and powers of the Authority
- LVRR Strategy commences in July 2020 with six implementation actions



Latrobe Valley Regional Rehabilitation Strategy

Implementation actions

1. Provide guidance on the use of climate change scenarios for water resource planning for mine rehabilitation. Completed December 2020

2. Provide of new Declared mine regulations

3. Provide guidance on potential water sources and access arrangements for mine licensees to undertake rehabilitation

4. Assess feasibility of alternative water sources

5. Identify alternative / contingency rehabilitation options if water is not available

6. Support the Integrated Mines Research Group



Objectives of the Authority



Provides assurance to the Victorian community —

- that public sector bodies and the Latrobe Valley licensees are implementing the regional rehabilitation strategy; and
- that public sector bodies and the declared mine licensees are planning for the rehabilitation and ongoing management of declared mine land



Promotes

- Participation of community and stakeholders in mine rehabilitation
- Effective and consistent rehabilitation of declared mine land
- Promotes the sustainable and beneficial use of declared mine land

A declared mine is a mine that has geotechnical, hydrogeological, water quality or hydrological factors that may be deemed to pose significant risk of harm to the community, environment and infrastructure.

Functions during rehabilitation

- Reviews declared mine work plan variations
- Monitors, evaluates and reports on:
 - Rehabilitation planning activities of licensees and public bodies
 - Implementation of the LVRRS
- Investigates matters relating to rehabilitation and the LVRRS
- Establishes a register of mine land
- Monitors environmental processes
- Consulted as part of:
 - The approval of declared mine rehabilitation plans
 - The Minister's decision on satisfying closure criteria



Functions post closure

- Monitors registered mine land
- May own post-closure mine land or land in close proximity if required
- May rehabilitate, maintain and manage registered mine land



Organisational structure



- A body corporate
- Overseen by a Board who manages the affairs of the Authority
- Projected to have up to 20 staff in the long term
- Initially the Authority will build a team of 9 staff covering:
 - Organisational Administration
 - Community and Stakeholder engagement
 - Knowledge Management
 - Environmental Assessment

MLRA Board



Manages the affairs of the Authority



6 members

- Rae Mackay, Chair [Mine Rehab]
- Christine Trotman, Deputy Chair [Governance]
- Ian Nethercote [Past Head of Loy Yang, Local Community]
- Claire Miller [Governance, Legal]
- Ian Gibson [Water, Education, Community]
- Corinne Unger [Mine Rehab]



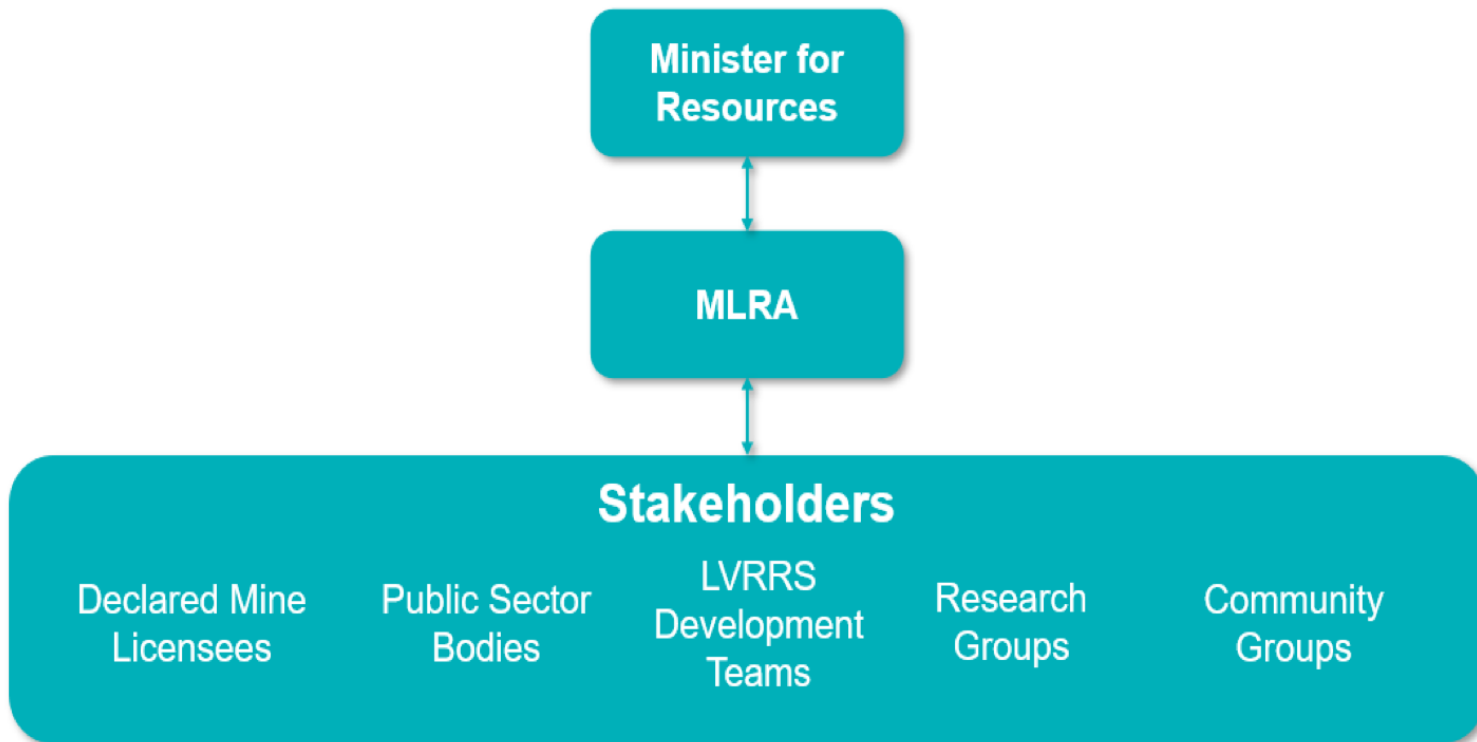
2 Committees

- Audit, risk and finance committee
- People, culture and safety committee



3 year terms

Relationships



Main activities over the past year

- Reviews of work plans and work plan approval pathways for Hazelwood and Loy Yang
- Oversight of LVRRS actions including providing advice and inputs on:
 - Declared mine regulations
 - Evaluation of empty pit and contingency scenarios
 - Access to local water sources for rehabilitation
- Development of a new Monitoring and Evaluation Framework to support oversight



Main activities over the past year



- Community engagement covering:
 - 3 webinars, extensive social media postings,
 - Delivery of 3 issues of Mine Land Post,
 - Conference presentations (AusIMM Life of Mine)
 - Meetings with community groups including with the City Council.
- Delivery of the Commissioner's final annual report
- Support for research and oversight of ongoing research programs.
- Board orientation and development of Governance processes including completion of the corporate plan for 2022-2024.

Looking forward

- Maintain communication base – media, webinars, newsletters
- Build staff base to enable objectives/functions to be achieved
- Deliver statutory role and functions
- Develop stakeholders and community engagement programs
- Establish the foundation to enable future potential ownership of rehabilitated mine land
- Stakeholder consultation and communication workshops of Implementation Action Plans IA3, IA4 and IA5
- Production of the Authorities first Annual Report





Thank you

