



Hazelwood Rehabilitation Investigation Report

In 2021, the then Minister for Resources, Jaala Pulford MP, referred to the Mine Land Rehabilitation Authority five matters for investigation related to rehabilitation planning for Hazelwood mine in the Latrobe Valley, Victoria.

What was investigated?

The Hazelwood Rehabilitation Investigation Report describes the findings for all five matters.

Rehabilitation planning activities (Matters 1 & 2)

Matter One addresses the question *What are the recommended methods for geotechnical assessments of Latrobe Valley coal mine batter stability and the criteria employed to demonstrate stability during water filling?*

Matter Two looks at the definition of a set of reference water fill levels and the identification of the data, information and knowledge required to manage risks associated with filling to each reference level.

Rehabilitation of declared mine land (Matters 3, 4 & 5)

Matter Three looks at identifying the risks to the environment, to members of the public, land, property or

infrastructure and the controls/mitigation strategies needed to eliminate or reduce those risks as far as reasonably practicable to safely manage water fill at the declared mine land.

Matter Four looks at identifying any additional steps necessary to ensure alignment between the proposed rehabilitation works within the Hazelwood mine and the Latrobe Valley Regional Rehabilitation Strategy and Declared Mine Rehabilitation Plan requirements.

Matter Five is concerned with identifying the risks that may require monitoring, maintenance, treatment or other ongoing land management activities after rehabilitation is complete, the activities required to manage the risks and the projected costs to manage the risks.

What does the report recommend?

A total of 28 recommendations are made in the report. Some recommendations cover better design requirements, including the selection of factor of safety and probability of failure values for design. Other recommendations relate to assessments and controls, dewatering risks, adaptive monitoring, assessment and management, including approaches to altering the final landform design in the case of severe long-term water shortage.

The report suggests that the case for a collective Environment Effects Statement that incorporates rehabilitation requirements for all three mines is strong and should be considered before progressing too far with the single mine Environment Effects Statement for Hazelwood, and that connecting the strategy explicitly with regional planning should be given high priority for the update to the 2023 Strategy.

The final recommendation suggests that where the timing of delivery of the Latrobe Valley Regional Rehabilitation Strategy, the Environmental Effects Statement and the Declared Mine Rehabilitation Plan for each mine cannot be appropriately connected and where the outputs from each action may require approvals under the other actions, then conditions upon approvals may be required.

Where can you read the report?

You can read the full report, including the terms of reference of the referral and a summary of recommendations at <https://www.mineland.vic.gov.au/>.

How does this affect you?

You may have a vision for the use of the rehabilitated mines in the future. Learning more about the technical, environmental and social issues around mine rehabilitation can help inform this vision. An informed community is an empowered community.

One way of staying informed about mine rehabilitation is by watching our videos and following us on social media.

Want to get involved?

If you have any questions about this, want to join the conversation or meet with us? Contact us at 1800 571 966 or contactus@mineland.vic.gov.au

MINELAND.VIC.GOV.AU



FACEBOOK.COM/MLRAVictoria



YOUTUBE.COM/@MLRAuthority



@MLRAuthority

