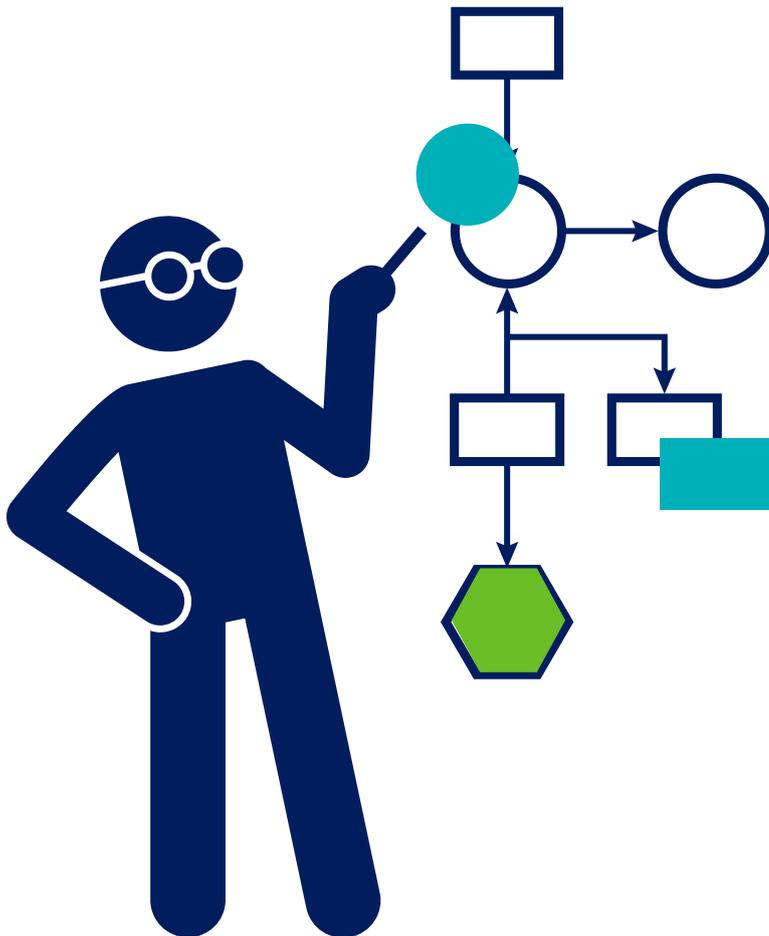


## DISCUSSION PAPER 02

# Structuring a Declared Mine Rehabilitation Plan



# MLRA Discussion Paper 02: Structuring a Declared Mine Rehabilitation Plan

## Approval for Use

Title & ID	MLRA Discussion Paper 02: Structuring a Declared Mine Rehabilitation Plan	
Classification	External Use	
Rev	Date	Approved For Use
00	17 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Antonia Scrase, Technical Director

# MLRA Discussion Paper 02: Structuring a Declared Mine Rehabilitation Plan

## Executive Summary

The purpose of this discussion paper is to support the development of a clear and effective structure for the Declared Mine Rehabilitation Plan (DMRP) including selected chapters. It is intended to assist licensees to prepare a document that is assessable by current and future stakeholders, implementable by mine licensees, and minimises the need for future rework.

This discussion paper covers key points that span across the entirety of the DMRP including:

- Structuring chapters to minimise repetition and improve readability and comprehension
- Using cross-referencing between interrelated elements such as risks, objectives, controls, criteria, and milestone planning.
- Summarising reports to explain why each study was undertaken and its relevance to rehabilitation planning
- Ensuring consistent terminology throughout the document.
- Defining terms not covered in the *Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) Act 1990* (MRSDA), Regulations, or MLRA Vocabulary.
- Provide framework descriptions that clarify relationships between reports and supporting documents.
- Include a clear summary of the studies/ supporting information purpose and why it is relevant to the project or other relevant documents.

In addition, specific key topics within the DMRP that are covered here include:

- Key considerations when structuring the DMRP
- Capturing EES outcomes and other obligations
- Describing rehabilitation domains
- Describing the risk framework
- Summarising the risk assessment outputs
- Establishing and maintained the Knowledge base

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# 1. Purpose

The Mine Land Rehabilitation Authority (MLRA) has prepared this discussion paper to outline key considerations for the structure and content of key chapters within Declared Mine Rehabilitation Plans (DMRPs). The paper is deliberately structured in a manner to lead the reader through a logical sequence and to allow them to understand each step in the process and the key points that are being made along the way.

It is critical that DMRPs are easily read and understood, so they can be assessed during regulatory processes. In addition, the DMRPs must be implementable by the mine licensees, who are responsible for undertaking the work and ensuring that the information within the DMRP's is traceable. Licensees need to clearly understand the requirements, the activities to be undertaken, who is responsible, the quality and quantity of data required and how the information will be updated across a long period of time.

# 2. Introduction

Having a well-structured DMRP is critical and will assist with:

- stakeholder understanding
- enabling the assessment and traceability of interacting technical and non-technical information
- clarifying what planning and physical works are required and when they will be completed
- allowing the DMRP to be updated iteratively without significant rework or inconsistencies
- clearly identifying biannual reporting requirements
- creating an implementable document
- ensuring all legislative aspects are identified and answered

A clear and well-structured DMRP will support more efficient future assessments and better outcomes. This paper does not address all chapters required within a DMRP; instead, it focuses on selected chapters and their associated topics. Additional discussion papers will be developed to address more complex chapters, such as those relating to closure criteria, and will be released separately. A structured DMRP will support more efficient future assessments. This paper does not address all chapters required within a DMRP; instead, it focuses on selected chapters and their associated topics. Additional discussion papers will be developed to address more complex chapters, such as those relating to closure criteria, and will be released separately. This paper does not address all chapters required within a DMRP; instead, it focuses on selected chapters and their associated topics. Additional discussion papers will be developed to address more complex chapters, such as those relating to closure criteria, and will be released separately. A structured DMRP will support more efficient future assessments. This paper does not address all chapters required within a DMRP; instead, it focuses on selected chapters and their associated topics. Additional discussion papers will be developed to address more complex chapters, such as those relating to closure criteria, and will be released separately.

Chapters / topics covered in this discussion paper are:

- Key considerations when structuring the DMRP
- Capturing the EES and other obligations
- Describing rehabilitation domains
- Describing the risk framework
- Summarising the risk assessment outputs
- Knowledge base

## 2.1. Background

Many mine closure guidelines discuss the required content of mine closure plans (for Victoria's Declared Mine Licensees this is the DMRP process). International guidance is available via the *ICMM (2025) Integrated Mine Closure: Good Practice Guide<sup>1</sup>* and *ISO Mine Closure and Reclamation Planning<sup>2</sup>*. In Australia, each state and territory has guidance on mine closure and / or rehabilitation, which compliments the legislative requirements of that jurisdiction.

Guidance on the structure and content of DMRPs can be drawn from various sources however jurisdiction-specific guidance should remain the primary reference.

The Victorian government has released the *DEECA (2025) Ministerial Guidelines for preparation of Declared Mine Rehabilitation Plans* (The Guidelines) which provide specific guidance for Declared Mine Licensees on the development of DMRPs. As Ministerial Guidance, the content must remain closely aligned with the wording and intent of the *Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) Act 1990* (MRSDA) and the associated *Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) (Mineral Industries) Regulations 2019* (the Regulations). The Ministerial Guidelines are therefore written at a high level, and additional detailed information (such as this paper) could assist the licensees in developing their DMRPs.

**Note:** Key terminology may differ between ICMM, ISO and other state-based mine closure and rehabilitation guidance documents. For clarity, please refer to the MRSDA and Regulations, and subsequently the *MLRA Vocabulary<sup>3</sup>*

## 2.2. Disclaimer

The information outlined in this discussion paper has been drafted by the MLRA in good faith and intends to provide information for consideration by:

- mine licensees, during the preparation of their Declared Mine Rehabilitation Plans (DMRPs), which includes a post-closure plan, and

This paper does not replace, preclude or overwrite any legislation or guidance material published by Resources Victoria relating to the Declared Mine Rehabilitation Plans and is only intended as supportive guidance if and where it is deemed helpful. The use of this material is at the discretion of the mine licensees.

## 3. DMRP: Key considerations

Table 1, identifies some key considerations when designing the overall and chapter-level structure of DMRPs. The ICMM Guidance<sup>4</sup> also provides guidance on some of these matters.

Table 1: Considerations in the structure of the DMRP and chapters

ID	Considerations for the DMRP	Recommendation
001	The DMRP is, as far as possible, a live document, with data being collected and used to update or validate the contents of the DMRP over a potentially significant period of time.	The structure of the DMRP is critical, for a number of reasons including ease of updating, maintaining the ongoing relevance of information and ensuring readability. Suggestions include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The use of domains to structure the site,</li> <li>• Consideration of the sequencing of the chapters to provide ease of reading.</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> ICMM (2025) *Integrated Mine Closure: Good Practice Guide<sup>1</sup>*. <https://www.icmm.com/integrated-mine-closure>

<sup>2</sup> [ISO 21795-1:2021 - Mine closure and reclamation planning — Part 1: Requirements](#)

<sup>3</sup> MLRA [Vocabulary](#)

ID	Considerations for the DMRP	Recommendation
	<p>The DMRP will be updated and varied over many years and will be a large and complex document that is likely to include many appendices.</p> <p>Structure of the document is critical</p>	<p>While there is significant potential cross over between chapters, the sequence of some chapters is key to understanding the document, and reducing repetition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incorporating cross-referencing between chapters, sub sections, objectives, risks, knowledge bases, milestone planning, criteria etc and the appendices</li> </ul>
002	<p>There is the potential for significant repetition in the DMRP, as some baseline and/ or monitoring and/ or modelling and/ or design etc information may be key for multiple chapters.</p> <p>Structure of the document is critical.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decide the most appropriate chapter to house the main summary / information, and ensure that it references relevant chapters / studies / appendices</li> <li>• For other sections where similar (or the same) information is required, include a few sentences summarising the relevance to that subsection and cross reference to the chapter where the detail is housed and/ or the appendices.</li> <li>• Use cross-referencing between chapters, sub sections, objectives, risks, knowledge bases, milestone planning, criteria etc and appendices</li> </ul>
003	<p>Mine licensees may want to consider the early relinquishment of parcels of land within the mine license.</p> <p>Structure of the document to facilitate early relinquishment of parcels is critical.</p>	<p>Develop a structure to the DMRP that supports the application of early relinquishment of distinct areas of the license.</p> <p>Grouping distinct areas of the site and the associated information by Domain and subdomains consistently throughout the document will greatly assist in compiling a closure determination application.</p> <p>In line with Reg 64N of the MRSD Regulations, the application for closure determination will likely require, but be not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Closure criteria and all the supporting data</li> <li>• Detailed designs and supporting information post-closure plan, including risk assessments and plans</li> <li>• Costing of the post-closure plan &amp; payment into the fund</li> <li>• Prescribed information for each domain / subdomain to be registered onto the Declared Mine Land Register.</li> </ul>
004	<p>Clarity and readability of content are essential to ensure the DMRP is easily understood and accessible to all users. Inconsistent flow, illogical structure, duplication, or undefined acronyms can reduce confidence in the information and make the document difficult to interpret.</p>	<p>Write the DRMP in clear, plain language, with logical sequencing and consistent formatting. Avoid duplication by using concise summaries and cross-references. Define all acronyms on first use and use them consistently throughout. The document should read smoothly, allowing the reader to easily follow the narrative, verify information, and have confidence in the accuracy and intent of the content.</p>

ID	Considerations for the DMRP	Recommendation
	Structure of the document is critical.	
005	<p>Consider the target audience when preparing the DMRP. The document needs to be easily read, understood, and all data traceable by the audience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assessment teams</li> <li>• Compliance teams</li> <li>• Internal rehabilitation team</li> <li>• Other stakeholders</li> </ul>	<p>Write the document to include concise summaries of technical information, with cross references and reference out to the relevant appendices. This is critical to readability.</p> <p>As an example, the reader needs be able to understand why criteria have been developed (post mining land use/s (PMLU), risk, mitigation, etc), for which objective, and why that objective is relevant. This takes cross referencing to different sections, where information on development of these aspects is held, and references to individual objectives, risks, controls, criteria and milestone plans.</p>
006	<p>Consider the target audience when preparing the DMRP. The document needs to be easily read, understood, and all data traceable by the audience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Figures and plans included within the document must be legible and to scale. Without this, the data cannot be interrogated or understood.</li> </ul>	<p>Include figures and plans in the DMRP that are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To scale, with scale on the figure</li> <li>• Legible, able to be increased in size and not distort.</li> </ul> <p>Where relevant figures and plans should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Figure/plan number and title</li> <li>• Legible image</li> <li>• Scale bar</li> <li>• North arrow</li> <li>• x,y (z) references.</li> <li>• Detailed readable key</li> </ul> <p>Source references where relevant</p>
007	<p>Implementation of landform designs need to be understood and discussed. The process of conceptual to detailed designs should be demonstrated</p>	<p>Follow standard design processes used in other disciplines (civil engineering / construction) from conceptual to detailed constructable designs, that include material parameters, construction notes QA/QC etc.</p>
008	<p>Providing confidence in the implementation / construction of the final landform design through the demonstration of design and construction controls<sup>5</sup>.</p>	<p>Include descriptions of systems and planning controls (including quality, competency, audit / oversight, IT support for detailed information / design etc) demonstrating they are in place for the construction of the landform both during progressive rehabilitation and the final construction works. Providing references to the plans where the detailed information is held.</p>
009	<p>Complex technical information and demonstrating linkages between documents can be difficult to interpret without visual support. Figures, flowcharts, and tables enhance comprehension and engagement.</p>	<p>Use clear, labelled figures, diagrams, and summary tables to explain key relationships and processes. Ensure visuals are consistent in style, scale, and terminology across the document.</p>

<sup>5</sup> The implementation of the DMRP/ construction of the final landform may have an individual discussion paper to provide additional detail.

ID	Considerations for the DMRP	Recommendation
010	<p>Consistency in referencing legislation, guidelines, and standards is essential for clarity and credibility. Readers need to be able to easily identify the source being referred to and understand its relevance to the DMRP. Inconsistent or unclear references can lead to confusion and reduce confidence in the information presented.</p> <p>Consistency is critical for understanding</p>	<p>Apply consistent terminology and referencing when citing legislation, guidelines, frameworks, or standards. Clearly identify each source on first mention and apply the same naming convention throughout the document. Where appropriate, briefly explain what the reference is and how it applies. Consistency and transparency in referencing help build reader confidence and support the DMRP's clarity and reliability.</p>
011	<p>Given the size and complexity of the DMRP document, inconsistencies in language, and presentation can occur across chapters, reducing coherence and confidence in the plan.</p> <p>Consistency is critical for understanding.</p>	<p>Coordinate chapter development through a clear overarching structure and shared reference materials. Conduct cross-discipline reviews to align key assumptions, terminology, and data sources before submission.</p>
012	<p>Document control is important to keep track of content and currency. The intention is for the DMRP to be iterative in nature, with chapters and supporting documentation to be added, revised, updated or removed as required. A document control/version control table is an easy way to show version history and allow both you and the reader to understand the evolution of the document. It also ensures document currency is maintained, and all parties are referring to the same document at a given point in time.</p>	<p>Include a document control table at the start of all documents to track dates, versions, file name, authorship, authorisations and review/update schedules. It may be of use to include a summary statement of key changes when each version is published.</p>

## 4. Capturing the EES & other Obligations

Acknowledging and clearly presenting all regulatory obligations is essential in the DMRP. A summary of these obligations should be included and cross referenced to enable traceability. If any obligation is likely to continue post-closure, it must be summarised and acknowledged in the main body of the DMRP and also included in the Post Closure Plan. It is recommended that a register of legal obligations be included in the appendices, detailing required actions, dates and close-out. Various recommendations may also arise during the development of the DMRP. It is advisable to maintain a register of these, along with a process for acceptance, rejection, or close-out.

## 4.1. Capturing the EES outputs

If a mine licensee has completed an EES process and the project has been deemed to have acceptable effects, The Planning Minister's assessment may provide advice on project implementation and environmental management measures<sup>6</sup>, including:

- opportunities for incorporating necessary measures in conditions of particular statutory approvals or in binding agreements
- coordinating different aspects of the environmental management regime to ensure an integrated approach for achieving acceptable environmental outcomes; and
- recommended approaches to environmental monitoring and management, including further public involvement.

Upfront identification and inclusion in the DMRP, of any outstanding comments from the EES supporting technical studies that were not resolved and are deemed appropriate to be further developed through the DMRP. The EES represents a single point in time assessment, whereas the DMRP is intended to be iterative and adaptive, enabling ongoing knowledge development point in time assessment, whereas the DMRP is intended to be iterative and adaptive, enabling ongoing knowledge development.

Transparency on the outcomes of the EES, could be included in the Regulatory Obligations chapter of the DMRP and would assist in stakeholder understanding and confidence in the outcome and next steps. The following inclusions would provide clarity:

- a brief summary of the EES process
- details of the preferred and assessed projects
- recommendations from the EES, including the Environmental Management Framework, and where they will be addressed in the DMRP
- Identification of any EES technical reports with outstanding comments, which provide a summary and references to where and how they will be addressed
- acknowledgement of any ongoing post-closure recommendations with cross reference to the Post Closure Plan, where the details could be held.

## 4.2. Other regulatory obligations

Transparency is essential for all regulatory obligations associated with the site. Consideration should be given to providing:

- the title of the license or relevant document and regulatory identification numbers
- the relevant government department and contact details where the obligation resides
- operational and renewal timeframes
- a brief summary of the purpose of the obligation, with references to further details
- reporting requirements
- an indication of whether the obligation is expected to continue post-closure. If so, it should be referenced and included in the Post Closure Plan.

## 4.3. Other obligations

Transparency is essential for all other obligations or commitments associated with the site, such as obligations and commitments made to First Nation peoples and commitments made to community during the life of the mine. Consideration should be given to providing:

- The relevant stakeholder group
- The nature and extent of the obligation (for example, government policy, license condition, past commitments made during engagement processes)

<sup>6</sup> DPT: [Making the final assessment](#)

- A brief summary of the obligation/ commitment and the expected time span for close out of the obligation
- A cross reference to where additional detail is contained, and if it is included as a closure criterion

## 5. Describing rehabilitation domains

A domain can be defined as an area within the mining license that requires similar rehabilitation methods or treatments. Subdomains within these domains can further assist with defining specific areas that may require slightly different approaches to rehabilitation, criteria and proposed end land uses. The domain-based approach is widely used in the mine rehabilitation industry to provide a clear way of organising information and structuring documents.

The Ministerial Guidelines<sup>7</sup> recommend the domain-based approach as an effective way to organise information in the DMRP. The ICMM Guidelines<sup>8</sup> provide significant guidance on use of domains and provide a template that can be amended to fit Victoria's declared mines. The WA Government 2025 Preparing a Mine Closure Plan provides some additional guidance on this approach<sup>9</sup>.

Domains, and potentially subdomains, can improve document readability, facilitate information traceability, and support change management over the life of the rehabilitation planning and implementation. Each domain within the DMRP should be treated separately, examples of domains are:

- Infrastructure (bores/ laydown areas/ workshops/ roads etc)
- Infrastructure corridors (e.g., conveyor systems, pipelines, fire services, electrical systems)
- Overburden dumps/ waste rock dumps
- Open mine pits/ voids
- Licensed landfill areas
- Water features (rivers/ creeks / open drains/ wetlands etc)
- Other areas within the license

A detailed description of the domain should be written in addition to defining the location and extent for the domain using surveyed data and incorporated into figures within the DMRP. See Table 1 on information for figures.

Domains can facilitate targeted risk assessments and support strategies to implement closure in a structured and controlled manner, as well as allowing the grouping of information in the DMRP such as:

- status, location, dimensions, historic and current uses and post mining land uses
- technical information (environmental, geology, baseline conditions, technical studies, trials, etc)
- risks and mitigations and controls
- objectives and criteria
- monitoring plans
- designs
- implementation/ construction (schedules, QA/QC) etc

Organising the DMRP and the data collection using a domain and subdomain-based approach would assist with early surrender application and subsequent sale of packages of land within the mining license.

<sup>7</sup> DEECA (2025) *Ministerial Guidelines for preparation of Declared Mine Rehabilitation Plans*

<sup>8</sup> ICMM (2025) *Integrated Mine Closure: Good Practice Guide*<sup>8</sup>. <https://www.icmm.com/integrated-mine-closure>

<sup>9</sup> Government of Western Australia (DMIRS 2023b) [Guideline for preparing Mining Closure Plans - March 2025](#)

## 5.1. Domain chapter

It is important to provide a summary of all the domains and include key aspects relevant to those Domains. Items that should be discussed, as a minimum, are:

- the name,
- any subdomains,
- description,
- status,
- closure strategy,
- end land use/s or outcomes
- mapping and
- closure objectives.

Key studies used to develop the landform designs for that domain should also be referenced and included as appendices. Full references to where detailed information is held should be provided in the reference table. An example of a table structure that could be used to ensure consistency in setting up the Domain chapter within the DMRP is supplied in Appendix A.

Domain specific figures should be included, and, in some cases, subdomains may also need individual figures, and features. The figures should include the topography, domain and/ or sub domain boundaries, tracks and other surveyed features (see Table 1 for information to be included in figures).

To avoid duplication of information across DMRP chapters, cross-referencing is essential. A summary of the referenced information is required to enable the reader to make sense of the placement of the reference and relevance to that section of the DMRP.

## 6. Describing the risk framework

It is critical to describe the risk management tools that will be applied to site rehabilitation, their hierarchy, and their interactions. It is important to reference all current risk assessments and risk management plans, including any relevant operational risk plans related to rehabilitation. The identification of any future risk tools, such as assessments and management plans, that may be required should be provided, outlining how, why, and when they will be used. The framework should be forward looking, clearly articulating both current and anticipated risk assessment needs and demonstrating a thorough understanding of the site's rehabilitation risks and complexities. -looking, clearly articulating both current and anticipated risk assessment needs and demonstrating a thorough understanding of the site's rehabilitation risks and complexities.

### 6.1. Considerations for a risk framework

Successful mine closure is complex, as evidenced by the lack of mine licenses that have been fully surrendered or relinquished in Australia. There are many interacting aspects that require understanding and assessment.

In Victoria safety and stability risks at operational declared mines have traditionally been managed separately from environmental risks. Fully integrating safety, stability and environmental considerations is key for successful closure. For example, risk management decisions made for stability risks have the potential to cause significant environmental harm, and vice- versa. Without this integration successful mine closure is unlikely.

Mine rehabilitation can significantly change the mine license area, physically (landform), chemically, and in terms of site security and ongoing management requirements. The rehabilitation designs and strategies may eliminate some risks, but they can also create new ones or change the nature of existing risks that are managed during operations and will need continue to be managed into future land uses.

Rehabilitation risk assessments must address multiple timeframes or phases, as risk ratings may change over time due to physical, chemical, or social factors requiring altered risk management strategies. This evolution necessitates changes in risk management strategies and updates to associated plans. Phases that need consideration in the terms of rehabilitation planning are:

- Operations / progressive rehabilitation (where relevant)
- Rehabilitation (active: implementation/ construction, passive: monitoring & maintenance)
- Post closure (period directly after the landform is rehabilitated, closure criteria have been achieved, closure determination made and the mining licence is surrendered).

*Note: See the MLRA discussion paper on Post Closure Risk Assessment for further information on this phase.*

With this level of complexity, a single risk assessment is unlikely to adequately identify and mitigate all relevant risks:

- current rehabilitation risks
- changing physical, social and chemical risks for each timeframe, and
- newly introduced risks associated with the end landform and potential land uses

## 6.2. What should be included in the DMRP

A description of the risk framework used to develop the DMRP should be provided to explain what documents are available and how they are related, as well as describing other relevant matters such as risk matrices, review periods and how key risk focused decisions are made, such as, As Low as Reasonably Practicable (ALARP).

The framework should seek to identify the hierarchy of documents. For example, a high level site wide risk assessment would potentially be the first risk document and be linked to subordinate detailed risk assessments on key risks areas. These may then include further analysis of specific mitigations and controls, which together inform the development of risk management plans. Provide a process diagram to clearly show the hierarchy and relationships between documents.

All documents should be numbered and referenced for traceability.

## 7. Describing risk assessment outputs

The findings of each of the rehabilitation risk assessments should be summarised in a structured manner, such as:

- a summary of the purpose of the risk assessment,
- reference previous relevant risk assessments
- the process for the risk assessment (including the tool used), date and time of the workshop and all titles of people involved and their skills.
- a summary of risks per domain and for each phase assessed.

In the summary of risks per domain include:

- The number of high, moderate and low inherent and residual risks
- A description of the risks with inherent 'high' ranking. For each high risk include:
  - the objective & ID number
  - corresponding risk ID numbers
  - the ranking
  - the mitigation measures including references to more supporting information
  - the residual risk ranking
  - relevant closure criteria ID numbers

For each risk assessment and phase assessed, provide a summary of key findings, including whether further focused, detailed risk assessments are required to address key risk areas or to develop new controls and mitigations.

Full risk assessments should be included in the appendices to ensure traceability and comprehensive understanding.

## 8. Knowledge base

The knowledge base chapter will contain summaries of a large and expanding volume of technical and non-technical studies used to support all aspects of the final landform design, from modelling, ecological and cultural surveys, trial designs and results to environmental studies and design work. It can be structured in a number of ways to assist with stakeholders' understanding. However there are several considerations to bear in mind when designing the structure of the knowledge base chapter:

- There will be a growing volume of studies to be incorporated into this chapter over time
- Many of the studies are expected to be updated or superseded as knowledge grows
- The studies may apply site wide, or only to a specific area/ domain
- The studies will include a wide range of disciplines

The studies will all have been undertaken to address different questions or issues.

Without a well-considered structure, this wide range of studies can make it difficult for stakeholders to trace and understand how knowledge has developed throughout the DMRP. The chapter could be structured into subchapters based on:

- Discipline area, for example, water quality, stability (geotechnical & hydrogeology), rehabilitation material, ecology, hydrology, etc or
- Domains

However the licensee chooses to structure this chapter, there will be cross over between subchapters. Cross referencing to other studies / chapters is crucial to maintaining the understanding of the knowledge growth and the reduction of assumptions and gaps.

Introduce and summarise the knowledge base chapter, provide a description of:

- what is contained within this chapter,
- how it is structured with a contents list of subchapters
- how to read this chapter.

### 8.1. Subchapters

To assist the readers' understanding each subchapter should begin with an introduction explaining how the section is organised and how it should be read. Including a complete list of all studies contained within that subchapter. For example, if the knowledge base chapters are structured by discipline, *Surface Water* could form one subchapter, accompanied by an introductory table, such as the example provided in Table 2.

Table 2 Example of a table introducing the content of a subchapter

Domain/s	Title & number	Date	Purpose & reason	Appendix
<i>Grouped Studies: Water Quality Modelling</i>				
<i>01 Pit</i>	<i>R. Pin, 24 Conceptual Pit Lake Study RP00.01.02 V2</i>	<i>06/24</i>	<i>Commencing water quality modelling for the pit lake. Risk identified</i>	<i>B.1</i>

Domain/s	Title & number	Date	Purpose & reason	Appendix
01 Pit	R. Pin, 24 Pit water quality Design based memorandum RP00.01.03 V2	12/24	Details contained within the model – assumptions for details	B.2
<i>Grouped Studies: Hydrology</i>				
02 Surface water features	D. Thomspson, 23 Base line hydrology RP01.01.01 V1	11/23	Location of surface water features on site, including monitored volumes & quality. Identified knowledge gap	B3

The order of the subchapters should follow the contents list.

### 8.1.1. Individual studies

It is not recommended to paste entire sections of original reports into the knowledge base. This can make for a confusing and lengthy section, which loses its impact and clarity. Summarising the information is key to providing a concise version, that enables the reader to understand the point of the study, the scope, how it fits into the wider picture of rehabilitation for the site, and key outputs.

When discussing the individual studies, each study should begin with an introduction that provides readers with;

- Full title, date, author and report number
- What domain/s and subdomains it applies to
- The reason why the study was undertaken, (more than one can apply), for example:
  - An identified knowledge gap through the risk assessment or study recommendations
  - Background information
  - Closure criteria development
  - Detailed design development
  - Trials etc.
  - Does the report supersede previous reports? What are they (reference)?
  - Is the study part of a larger group of studies, what are they, what's the overall purpose of the group of studies, noting report references must be supplied

An introductory table for each study may assist in providing a consistent approach throughout the chapter, such as the example provided in Table 3..

Table 3 An example of a table for the beginning of each study

<b>Study Grouping: Hydrology</b>			
Study information	<i>Base line hydrology RP01.01.01 V1 D. Thomspson, 2023. XY Consultants</i>		<i>Appendix B.3</i>
Purpose of the report	<i>Supporting the understanding of the site hydrology, providing inputs for modelling and other hydrology projects.</i>		
Domains:	<i>01 Pit lake 02 Surface water features</i>	Milestone reference:	<i>MS-Tech-W-01</i>
Risk references:	<i>PC-D01WQ03: Available water for top up</i>	<i>R-D01WQ05: poor water quality entering the pit</i>	<i>R-D05Geo01: stability of batters</i>
Criteria Reference:	<i>N/A x</i>		
Relevant / linked reports	<i>N/A</i>		

Once the individual study has been introduced, a summary of the report and its findings should be provided, ideally including:

- The purpose
- The scope
- Brief methodology
- Brief findings / conclusion
- Recommendations

## 9. References

DEECA (2025) *Ministerial Guidelines for preparation of Declared Mine Rehabilitation Plans*

DPT Victoria [Environment effects statements in Victoria](#)

Government of Western Australia (DMIRS 2023b) [Guideline for preparing Mining Closure Plans - March 2025](#)

ICMM (2025) *Integrated Mine Closure Good Practice Guide*, [ICMM - Integrated Mine Closure: Good Practice Guide](#)

[ISO 21795-1:2021 - Mine closure and reclamation planning — Part 1: Requirements](#)

Mine Land Rehabilitation Authority (2025) *Vocabulary*  
<https://www.mineland.vic.gov.au/learn/vocabulary/>

## Appendix A

### Rehabilitation Domain Table Example

<b>Domain: No. &amp; Name</b>		<b>Status:</b>	<b>Fig Ref:</b>
Rehabilitation start date			
Rehabilitation completion			
Description of domain			
Historic use			
Mining use			
Proposed post closure land uses			
<b>Subdomains</b>			
No. & Name	Describe		Fig Ref:
			Fig Ref:
			Fig Ref:
<b>Objectives</b>			
Objective ID			
<b>Study History</b>			
Location	Title & purpose	Report ID	Date issued
<b>Risks</b>			
Risk ID	Summarise high risks		Phase
<b>Key Closure Activities</b>			
Activity ID	Summarise		Ref to plan