

Enviro Facts



HAZELWOOD MINE

Heli-Spraying Trial

Weed control and management is an important part of Hazelwood's fire season preparation. In addition to the usual weed spraying work, the first trial of aerial spraying was undertaken in November 2015 as part of the fuel reduction program. A helicopter was used to spray self-sown weeds and vegetation within and around the mine, especially in difficult to access locations. A process commonly used in plantations and on farms, Heli-spray was trialed along the base and north-western batters of the mine.



Fugitive Dust

Hazelwood has several gravimetric fugitive dust gauges located around the site to measure dust that has the potential to leave the site boundary.

- Site target is less than 4 grams/m²/month
- Actual achieved for 2015 was 2.1 grams/m²/month



Rehabilitation

Site Rehabilitation Total since 1996 = 601 hectares (Ha)

The mine rehabilitation program continued during 2015, with a rehabilitation target of 38 Ha compared to an actual of 38.9 Ha which was comprised of the following areas:

- Northern Batters
Target 1.4 Ha/Actual 2.3 Ha
- Southern Batters
Target 11.6 Ha/Actual 11.6 Ha
- Spoil Mound 5 (section off)
Target 25 Ha/Actual 25 Ha

Pest Animal Reduction Program

Hazelwood's new integrated Vertebrate Pest Management Plan was implemented in 2015. Both rabbit and fox baiting programs were completed across the site, as well as additional fumigation of rabbit burrows within Hazelwood's Old Strzelecki Highway conservation area.

Revegetation

During 2015, 2500 trees and large shrubs were planted in the Hazelwood Old Strzelecki Highway conservation area and Wilderness Creek. A further 22,000 trees were also planted along the Morwell River Diversion. During 2016 about 3,000 plants will be planted around the "Terminal Wetlands" located between the Morwell River and Marretts Road.

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HAZELWOOD POWER STATION

Regulatory Reporting

There were five EPA notifiable incidents for 2015 with one in January 2016 as follows:

- 17 January 2016, Business Notification 433852 - Unit 5 stack Dust Monitor indication in the control room became faulty. The EPA Licence compliance stack dust data was still recording independently the dust emissions which were compliant.

Complaints

There was only one verified complaint received against Hazelwood in 2015 which was a noise complaint.

A verified noise complaint is one that can be shown to be caused by a noise that comes from the Hazelwood site at a frequency, duration and/or level that is "unacceptable".

Other complaints received by Hazelwood for 2015 were:

- Smoke and dust from Stack - 7
- Other - 1 (oil on Hazelwood Pondage but no oil could be found)

All seven visual emissions complaints were related to start-ups and shutdowns of units. On all seven occasions, the station was operating within its EPA licence conditions.

Stack Emissions

For the 2015/16 financial year to December 2015, the stack gaseous and dust emissions from the Power Station were all compliant with the EPA licence.

Regulatory Approvals

Hazelwood applied to the EPA on 20 October 2015 to propose raising the Hazelwood Ash Pond 1 (HAP1) embankment to increase the capacity of HAP1 while an upgrade project was undertaken at the Ash Thickening Plant. The Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (DEDJTR) was also included in the process. DEDJTR and EPA granted approval on 22 and 25 January 2016 respectively.

2015 - 2018 Environment Improvement Plan (EIP) update

Hazelwood's new Environment Improvement Plan (EIP), the fifth one, continues the commitment and improved environmental performance of the business into the future. The EIP outlines further areas of the business's operations that need to be improved. There are 23 Action Plans identified, incorporating a total of 104 individual activities to be completed. A total of 34 activities were completed in 2015, leaving 70 of the 104 activities to be progressed over the next three years.

Rainfall Summary 1982 to 2015

