

Hazelwood Cooling Pondage



The Hazelwood Cooling Pondage

The Hazelwood Cooling Pondage was built to provide water for cooling the power station condensers and is an integral part of the station's operations.

Water is cycled through the power station creating a heated lake, which is then available for recreational use.

Water lost through evaporation is made up through rainfall, inflow from upstream (Churchill area storm water), artesian water from beneath the Mine, untreated Moondarra water purchased and used by the station, and storm water from the mine and station.

The pondage covers 550 hectares with a capacity of 31,000MI. It has nearly the same surface area as nearby Lake Narracan but holds more than four times the volume.



Water quality monitoring

Water quality monitoring is important for the health and safety of employees and community users of the pondage as well as for power station operation.

ENGIE's EPA licence provides strict discharge conditions for the pondage water into the Morwell River.

ENGIE conducts weekly water chemistry tests, fortnightly blue green algae tests, monthly health (e.g. E.coli) tests, monthly nutrient monitoring and quarterly detailed water analysis.

There is a process in place to provide notifications to the public and authorities through signage and alerts if any water quality issues arise (such as blue green algae).

The most recent quarterly water analysis results met the National Water Quality Management Strategy's recreational purposes guidelines.

Importantly, ENGIE is committed to continuing water quality monitoring beyond 31 March 2017 when the Hazelwood mine and power station close.

Related activities

Latrobe City Council publishes information on boating and fishing restrictions on its website:

[http://www.latrobe.vic.gov.au/Our_Services/Arts Recreation_and_Leisure/Boating_and_Fishing](http://www.latrobe.vic.gov.au/Our_Services/Arts_Recreation_and_Leisure/Boating_and_Fishing)

For information on the Victorian Government's Target One Million Barramundi program, please visit:

<http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/fisheries/recreational-fishing/target-one-million/towards-victorias-first-ever-barramundi-recreational-fishery>

