

FAQS

ENGIE

HAZELWOOD POWER STATION & MINE

REGULATORS AND LICENSING AUTHORITIES

Hazelwood often mentions “regulators”.

What is a regulator?

A “regulator” is a person or body that supervises a particular industry or business activity. In Australia, the activities of individual regulators are generally governed by legislation passed through Parliament.

In addition to regulators, there are licensing bodies and government corporations who also regulate activities within specific industries or for specific activities.

Who are the regulators for Hazelwood?

Hazelwood operates under the umbrella of a number of regulators and licensing authorities. They can be contacted by members of the community should they have any issues with Hazelwood’s operations.

Environmental issues across the site are regulated by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) who regulates the Hazelwood Ash Ponds (HAP), Hazelwood Ash Retention Area (HARA), landfills and hazardous substances.

Water regulation and licensing is managed by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP). This includes:

- Working in conjunction with water catchment management authorities to regulate the Morwell River
- Defining and regulating artesian water as well as regulating the Hazelwood Pondage with Southern Rural Water

- The oversight of Gippsland Water, from where Hazelwood gets its bulk water entitlement to top up the Hazelwood Pondage and also an entitlement for domestic water use on site.

Mine regulation and Mine rehabilitation is under the management of Earth Resource Regulation, part of the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (DEDJTR) who regulates and approves the Work Plan Variation and Mining Licence for Hazelwood.

Workplace and public safety is regulated by WorkSafe who ensures Hazelwood complies with all safety regulations and standards.

The Victorian Government oversees the above bodies.

The Latrobe City Council regulates in terms of any planning permits required by Hazelwood and has an involvement in long-term outcomes for the region.

Are these the only bodies Hazelwood is responsible to for its operations?

DEDJTR has a number of various expert groups located within it. There are groups responsible for earth resources regulation, regulatory compliance, stakeholder relations and the Mine Fire Inspectors. The department also oversees the Latrobe Valley Rehabilitation Advisory Committee and the Integrated Mine Research Group.





Are there any local community groups who work with Hazelwood in its operations?

Yes. Hazelwood is part of the Latrobe Valley Rehabilitation Advisory Committee and Mine Integrated Research Group which both have membership from stakeholder groups. Hazelwood is also represented on the Coal Mines Emergency Management Taskforce and initiated the formation of the Hazelwood Environmental Review Committee which meets on site and comprises community and stakeholder membership.

A range of individuals and organisations are also involved in extensive engagement, particularly over the last three years.

What are the Latrobe Valley Rehabilitation Advisory Committee and Integrated Mine Research Group?

The Victorian Government set up the Latrobe Valley Mine Rehabilitation Advisory Committee as part of implementing its response to the Hazelwood Mine Fire Inquiry.

The committee comprises representation from a broad range of stakeholder groups with an interest in mine rehabilitation in the Latrobe Valley.

The Integrated Mine Research Group also comprises key stakeholder groups and was set up as an outworking of the Mine Fire Inquiry to look at the three open cut mines in the Latrobe Valley – Hazelwood, Yallourn and Loy Yang. Its members are investigating options for the rehabilitation of all mines after closure of their respective businesses.

Both these advisory committees play a key role in community engagement and act as conduit to broader stakeholder engagement during the life of the Latrobe Valley Regional Rehabilitation Strategy (LVRRS).

What is the Environmental Review Committee?

The Environmental Review Committee (ERC) is a requirement of the Hazelwood Mining Licence. The ERC reviews the environmental performance of the Station against the EPA licence conditions as well as the Mine against the Mining Licence conditions.

The ERC is a collaborative group comprising:

- Volunteers and representatives of local community, local environment groups and Latrobe City Council
- Strategic environmental stakeholders for environment protection - West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority (WGCMA), Southern Rural Water (SRW)
- Environmental regulators - EPA; Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources; DELWP; and
- Mine and Power Station Directors and the environmental team.

