



Tuesday, May 01 2018

Water surge tank repaired

A large clean water surge tank at Hazelwood has been repaired and cleaned safely, thanks to a coordinated effort from Hazelwood Rehabilitation Project employees and contractors.

Mine Services Superintendent, Dave Shanahan, said the tank, located on the grass level of the south-east Eastern Batters, was showing signs of leakage at the base.

“When it was drained and inspected, we found the floor had rusted out and repair work was needed,” he said.

“We isolated the tank, diverted the water, repaired the floor from the inside of the tank and then followed up by internal painting of the lower section of the tank.”

Because the project involved working in a confined space, a great deal of planning and design work was needed, involving multiple work groups.

Safety Officer, Andy Eaton, said there was terrific cooperation from everyone involved.

“Our planning meetings involved LendLease whose employees were undertaking the repairs, AsClear who did some internal cleaning and Vincent Painting who did sandblasting and painting,” Andy said. “Our Chem Lab team was involved for confined space monitoring and also Falck personnel for emergency response if required.”

The project was completed in a week, with the area tested for gas each morning before work started and emergency services remained in constant contact with those working inside the tank.

“The method we used to carry out the work ensured the fire services system for the Mine remained in service,” Dave said. “It also allowed for quick recharging of the surge tank at any stage during the outage in the event the water was needed.

“This was a great outcome for everyone involved.”

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