

# Let's continue the conversation

HAZELWOOD POWER STATION & MINE

ENGIE

COMMUNITY  
CONSULTATION UPDATE

At our November 2017 meeting, ENGIE Hazelwood key personnel presented those who attended with 'Seed Cards', designed to seek your feedback on our five Future Use Objectives.

We said we would provide that feedback at our first community meeting in 2018. This is what the community told us...

## **Value and complement the natural environment: How can the rehabilitated Hazelwood site best enhance the natural environment?**

Thoughts of those present:

- Consideration given to planting indigenous vegetation (trees) that are currently endangered, i.e, E Strzelecki, E Yarracuses, etc. This should be properly and appropriately managed for the long term.
- By providing a landscape around a water feature (series of lakes) which provides benefit to the community and is very accessible.
- Drawing boundaries between park and residential/farming.
- Recognise and enhance the environmental potential of the site; provide an opportunity for local flora and fauna to flourish.
- Useable resource. Some recreational, some farming.
- Filling the pit with water is a waste of opportunity. It will be detrimental to the Gippsland Lakes. German mines had more overburden than coal seams... only about 30 metres deep. Germany is wetter than Gippsland so the lakes could form more quickly. We need better solutions, not just the cheapest. Use aquifer water to cover the bottom - use this water to irrigate the upper slopes to grow stabilising plants.
- Create conservation corridors to wetlands and re-establish a nature ecosystem to allow flora and fauna to repopulate the area. Attempt to exclude pests. How can original vegetation be determined?
- Continue to manage pest plants and animals across the site. Develop corridors of habitat of different types. Continue to manage high quality remnant native vegetation/habitat and ensure its sustainability. End land use should not all be agricultural.

## **Provide a safe and stable landform for future use:**

### **What is your expectation of a safe, stable and sustainable landform?**

Thoughts of those present:

- Standards are set and ongoing monitoring is undertaken to ensure these standards are maintained. Clear articulation of what the "walk-away" point is for ENGIE. Safe and stable may be easier to achieve than sustainable.
- This is important but NOT enough. There should also be a requirement to produce USEFUL and BEAUTIFUL outcomes.
- The Mine is too close to the freeway so (need to look at) how to prevent road/freeway from collapsing.
- How will the water levels be maintained if the Mine is filled? Will pumping out still be required? And where will excess be pumped to?
- Where is the water going to come from to fill the Mine?
- There must be no risk to the community and no health issues from demolition. The site must be usable for economic use, assuming that coal is not seen as part of that challenge.
- More overburden needs to be put back in and make the "edges" of the lake usable and accessible.
- Safe, stable and sustainable are minimum requirements. A series of voids between major towns, part-filled with water are not enough for a sustainable set of communities.
- Agree (with objective). But it would be nice to use the pit for value adding-wealth creation projects. Manage the aquifer water rising by pumping-solar powered on by wind turbine. Use the Pondage water for pumped hydro. Use the pit for pumped hydro, rail gravity electricity generation. Forests of spotted gum on the sides. The lake should be minimal.
- Where will the water come from to fill the Mine? How will the quality of any water that flows out of the Mine be monitored for quality?
- Land stability affects a very large area. Further than just the freeway. We do NOT want asbestos contamination of waterways, including aquifers.

- How can the water pressure from the aquifers be stabilised while at the same time, filling the Mine with water?
- Meet regulatory and community safety concerns by ensuring long-term land stability and ensure the risk of Mine fire is managed to the community's expectations.

**Honour the heritage value of the site:**

**What is the most appropriate way of honouring Hazelwood's workforce, past and present, and their families?**

Thoughts of those present:

- Deeply address the habits entrenched in workers - get realisation into them about re-skilling. I know that a lot has been attempted and achieved but more breakthrough is needed.
- Ensure the culture of what - a Mine?
- Use materials from the site to build an iconic structure with the names of all employees, including their contribution.
- Regardless of the heritage listing of the Power Station, doesn't the asbestos need to be removed?
- Establish an entire lookout, glass in, where the Power Station's history could be projected onto the landscape via the glass window/screen. Could include zoom-in tour of Yallourn, Hazelwood open cuts, etc. (Could be located) on Coach Road.
- A monument is enough. Many schools, hospitals, etc, have been demolished without acknowledgement. Saving the old building is not necessary. Nothing was saved of the huge plant!
- This is hugely important. A Great Latrobe Park with a range of park areas and recreation uses and facilities.
- Not heritage listing. It is NOT a tourist attraction. Recognise past contribution but NOT with monolith.
- Enhance the beauty of the area so that people want to live and work in the region.

**Provide a resource to the local community:**

**What is your preferred future use for the rehabilitated Hazelwood site?**

Thoughts of those present:

- Have a section for outdoor recreation, sports and accommodation. As it is a large site, a variety of uses can be accommodated and real estate. Will the water be safe for human use?

- Safe access to coal resources. Worked out section should be fire safe and economically and environmentally useful.
- Provide a resource to the local community. Work with community groups, not imposing so can tick boxes and leave.
- If the Hazelwood Pondage is drained, who will own the land that is created?
- To the extent possible, support a diverse range of future uses and enhance environmental, recreational, lifestyle, tourism and community outcomes.
- Don't limit future land use with constructed land form, where possible. Provide for active and passive recreation opportunities. Provide recreation facilities.

**Complement the future of the Latrobe Valley region:**

**What is your aspiration for Hazelwood's lasting legacy for future generations?**

Thoughts of those present:

- Safe environment. No potential asbestos contamination. No water contamination. A stable and natural environment, left for future generations. A stable land mass.
- To ensure the lake is a usable resource for the community and is not a restricted, polluted water body.
- Build upon the natural beauty of the Gippsland region; encourage local community aspirations and local and regional planning processes; support and stimulate future economic activity and benefit to the community into the future.
- Recognition NOT monolithic. Honour the memory.
- A lasting legacy which provides an attractive, community resource which maybe a tourist destination and therefore of economic benefit to the Latrobe Valley.
- Probably best achieved by contributing to the development of a Great Latrobe Park with a range of park areas and recreation uses.
- Would like to see more job opportunities in agriculture, food processing, arts, manufacturing. Even tourist-attracting large gardens. Hazelwood has NOT been central to many families.
- Have individual representation from community groups included on actual planning board.



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