



Wednesday, September 26 2018

Seeding has a tinge of green

A project seeding grass directly into clay in the base of the Hazelwood Mine will help mitigate dust and erosion.

A modified seed mix was sown directly into the clay on the Eastfield Eastern Batter Toe Surcharge, and grass is now growing across the four-hectare area.

Water Project Engineer with the Hazelwood Rehabilitation Project, Dave Shanahan, said the plan was designed for dust and erosion minimisation as the grass reduced dust on windy days and also reduced erosion from rainfall.

Dave said a trial of sowing grass directly into clay without topsoil was successful on the Northern Batters and also on some overburden dumps.

“It helps with temporary stabilisation until this area is eventually covered with water,” he added.

The broad-acre sowing was carried out by tractor at the end of May and the start of spring has seen the area turn green.

Once the grass is long enough and started to cure, it will be mulched mowed or slashed to reduce the fire risk.

Because of the project’s success, it will be considered for further toe surcharge areas as part of ongoing rehabilitation of the Mine.

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