

FAQS

HAZELWOOD POWER STATION

ENGIE

STATION
DECOMMISSIONING

ASBESTOS REMOVAL AND STORAGE

Is asbestos removed from the Power Station before demolition occurs?

Yes, ENGIE'S intention is to remove all asbestos material prior to the demolition with some areas needing to be partially dismantled as part of the removal process.

Exactly how much asbestos is in the Station?

Asbestos containing materials were broadly used throughout the power generation industry over many years, as the material was a very effective thermal insulator. During the Hazelwood Power Station's later operating life, much of the asbestos containing insulating material was removed and disposed of in approved landfills onsite at Hazelwood.

Post closure, ENGIE has undertaken an extensive hazardous materials survey, called a Division 6 audit.

This audit not only identifies the material on our site but it also looks at the risk, condition and volume of the material. We have calculated that we have approximately 75,000 square metres of asbestos containing wastes.

How do you know?

ENGIE employed an independent occupational consultant hygienist company to conduct a comprehensive survey of the plant called a Division 6 audit (see above). This was conducted over a 12-month period and investigated all accessible areas of the site.

How much asbestos is in the chimneys?

The chimneys have approximately 260 external four inch non-friable pre-cast cement vent pipes that contain asbestos material and 280 internal six inch non-friable pre-cast cement vent pipes that contain asbestos material. The capping at the top has some non-friable corking material that would be less than two square metres.

If explosives are used, how do we know asbestos fibres won't become airborne?

At this stage, the method for demolishing the Power Station buildings and associated infrastructure has not been finalised. However all asbestos material will be removed, so far as reasonably practicable, prior to demolition. During this removal program, an independent occupational hygienist will monitor and inspect all work to ensure all visible material has been removed. Air monitoring will be conducted daily around the removal program to validate the safe removal practices.

Do people need to stay indoors if explosives are used, just in case?

Again, the process to be used for demolition has not been decided but whatever methodology is used, it will be safe for people to be outside.





What class of asbestos is in the chimneys?

B class non-friable material has been identified in the chimney area. The term non-friable or bonded asbestos refers to asbestos-containing materials in which the asbestos is firmly bound in the matrix of the material.

Can you explain the asbestos removal process?

During the demolition process, we will have several removal processes in place. Determining the removal technique is based many factors including, but not limited to, risk, type, volume and condition of material.

The two key removal types on site will be friable or non-friable:

1. The friable removal technique for large areas consists of encapsulation of all of the identified removal zone, called a bubble. A wet removal technique inside the controlled environment is then undertaken. This technique is inspected and monitored throughout the entire process by the independent occupational hygienist company. On completion of the work, an inspection of the entire area is undertaken by the hygienist company to ensure all material has been removed correctly. Once satisfied with the cleanliness of the area, air monitoring is undertaken to ensure the air is fibre free.
2. Non-friable removal can be undertaken in an open air environment. Normally the material is wet down and sealed then carefully removed and wrapped up in

a sealed plastic envelope. If the area is larger than 10 square metres, a visual clearance inspection by the occupational hygienist is undertaken.

How do we know this work will be done safely?

ENGIE will appoint an independent occupational hygienist company to ensure that asbestos removal is undertaken correctly, as per the asbestos control plan. The asbestos control plan and its techniques will also be monitored and endorsed by WorkSafe Victoria prior to the start of the process.

How do we know that asbestos fibres won't escape into the air?

An extensive air monitoring program will be undertaken during the removal program to evaluate the effectiveness of the removal controls in place. WorkSafe has very strict protocols in place to ensure that all controls are in place and effective.

Is there asbestos anywhere else on site, other than in the Power Station?

We have conducted an inspection of the entire site. Some of the buildings and plant around the site contain asbestos material however the bulk of the material is in the Station block.

What happens to the asbestos once it is removed?

ENGIE has an EPA licensed landfill on site that has been approved to accept asbestos wastes.