



SIMEC

Myrtle Creek

Corrective Management Action Plan

January 2020 | Newsletter # 9

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Progress Report

Tahmoor Coking Coal Operations (TCCO) completed coal extraction below Myrtle Creek between 2004 and 2015. Longwall mining has caused subsidence impacts that has resulted in some pools along Myrtle Creek only retaining water after heavy periods of rain.

As a result, TCCO have prepared a Myrtle Creek Corrective Action Management Plan (**Myrtle Creek CMAP**) that outlines proposed rehabilitation works and includes pool mapping, photogrammetry and surveying, characterisation and pool rehabilitation works.

Works have been developed in consultation with and approved by relevant government departments including, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (**DPIE**) – Resources Regulator, DPIE – Planning, Department of Primary Industries (**DPI**) – Fisheries, Natural Resources Access Regulator (**NRAR**), Wollondilly Shire Council and community consultative committees.

Characterisation Drilling

Characterisation drilling along the banks of Myrtle Creek is now complete. Drilling was conducted to determine the fracture network to inform rehabilitation works. Piezometers have now been installed and are now being used to monitor groundwater levels.

For More Information

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Environmental Project Coordinator

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Pool 23 Rehabilitation

Drilling across the rock bar is complete and has been successfully used to identify the location and size of fracturing. Geotechnical Engineers were then able to define the pressure required to injection an approved polyurethane material to fill the voids. Polyurethane has been used successfully for creek rehabilitation in Sydney Catchment Authority areas as it has minimal ecotoxicological effects and has proven highly effective.

Success was measured by determining the rate at which the pool recedes before and after each polyurethane injection stage. After 3 stages of drilling and injection the recession rate of Pool 23 has reduced by approximately 30 times.

Works will continue to ensure the pool is rehabilitated to its pre-mining condition. Additional works are due to commence in January 2020 that will involve further drilling and injection of polyurethane to target the final voids within the rock bar.

Works are being conducted between **8:00am to 5:00pm, Monday to Friday**, and are expected to be completed by February 2020.

Pool Rehabilitation Trials

Remediation of smaller pools using natural products was trialed at upstream pools. Works are continuing at Pool 18 that involves shallow drilling and injection of colloidal silica to return surface flow. Colloidal Silica is effectively liquid silica that sets hard to form a sandstone type product. It has no environmental impacts and is safe to use. Works are being conducted between **8:00am to 5:00pm, Monday to Friday**, and are expected to be completed by February 2020.

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Rehabilitation Sites



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