



SIMEC

Myrtle Creek

Corrective Management Action Plan

September 2020 | Newsletter # 12

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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 retaining water only after heavy periods of rain.

To address this, TCCO prepared a Myrtle Creek Corrective Action Management Plan (**Myrtle Creek CMAP**) that outlines proposed rehabilitation works, including 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.

Investigation boreholes along the banks of Myrtle Creek were completed in November 2019. The investigation boreholes provided information regarding mining induced fractures in order to plan rehabilitation works. Groundwater monitoring bores have been installed and continuously capture data. This data is interpreted to understand the intricate interaction between groundwater and surface water.

For More Information

Email:

Tahmoorenquiries@simecmining.com

Phone: +61 (02) 46 400 100

Fax: +61 (02) 46 400 140

Pool 23 Rehabilitation

Remediation of the controlling rock bar at Pool 23 was completed in early February 2020. The works consisted of drilling boreholes to 16 meters below the creek bed for geotechnical testing to identify the location and size of fracturing. Fractures were then filled using an approved polyurethane injection resin (PUR). PUR has been used successfully for creek rehabilitation in Sydney Catchment Authority areas as it has minimal ecotoxicological effects and has proven highly effective.

Since its completion, Pool 23 has returned to its pre-mining water level. It will continue to be monitored in a variety of climatic conditions.

Future Works

A further six rock bars are proposed to be remediated at Myrtle Creek using similar techniques to those proven to be successful at Pool 23. The next stage of works are detailed in Myrtle Creek CMAP Stage 2, which was submitted to the NSW Resources Regulator on 8 May 2020. It is based on the learnings of recent works, most notably Pool 23.

Works will include investigation boreholes at specific sites to determine the fracture network and groundwater level, followed by remediation works, like those conducted at Pool 23. The figure overleaf shows pools identified for rock bar works.

The investigation borehole phase is currently out to tender and is due to commence in late October 2020.



T: (02) 4640 0100 E: tahmoorenquiries@simecfg.com W: www.tahmoorcoal.com.au

SIMEC Mining | Site Address: 2975 Remembrance Drive, Bargo | Postal Address: PO Box 100, Tahmoor NSW 2573, Australia



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Myrtle Creek CMAP Stage 2 proposed remediation sites



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