



SIMEC

Myrtle Creek

Corrective Management Action Plan

October 2020 | Newsletter # 13

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Progress Report

Tahmoor Coal Pty Ltd (**Tahmoor Coal**) 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, Tahmoor Coal 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.

Pool 23 Rehabilitation

Remediation of the controlling rock bar at Pool 23 was completed in early February 2020. The works consisted of drilling boreholes up 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.

Upcoming Works

Myrtle Creek CMAP Stage 2 was submitted to the NSW Resources Regulator in May 2020. It involves investigation drilling and remediation of a further six pools along Myrtle Creek (see overleaf). The entire project is expected to return pool holding capacity to selected pools and increase surface flow along Myrtle Creek.

Investigation drilling at Pools 10, 11, 12a, 14, 18 and 20 will commence in early November (see overleaf). This will involve drilling two boreholes in the creek and conducting geotechnical testing to determine the fracture network. Works will be conducted from 8:00am to 5:00pm and will be completed within five weeks.

Following the investigation drilling, planning and implementation of a grout curtain wall will be constructed at Pool 20. Works will be based on the successes at Pool 23 and will aim to return pool holding capacity and surface flow. Pool 20 works will trial the use of natural sand and colloidal silica as a binding agent.

Learnings from Pool 20 works will be utilised at the remaining pools. The remediation of all pools is expected to be completed by mid-2022.

For More Information

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Myrtle Creek CMAP Stage 2 proposed remediation sites



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