


An aerial photograph showing a large, dark, irregularly shaped landmass, likely a mine closure site, surrounded by green fields and a road. The landmass is dark brown/black, suggesting exposed earth or coal. It has a jagged, uneven edge. To the left, there's a curved road or path. In the background, there are green fields and some distant structures. The overall scene depicts a significant area of land that has been altered by mining activities.

Mine Closure & Contaminated Land: The Challenges facing the Latrobe Valley.

Claire Fitzpatrick, AECOM

A wide-angle photograph of a large open-pit mine. The mine is characterized by deep, terraced levels of dark earth and rock. In the upper left, there's a small cluster of industrial buildings and equipment. A long conveyor system or road runs horizontally across the middle of the mine. A yellow excavator is visible on one of the lower terraces. The foreground shows a mix of dry grass and some green vegetation, suggesting reclamation efforts. The background features a line of trees under a clear sky.

Mine closure – how are contaminated land consultants involved?

FC2

Slide 2

FC2

check with Darryl

Fitzpatrick, Claire, 26/07/2020

Regulators of Mines

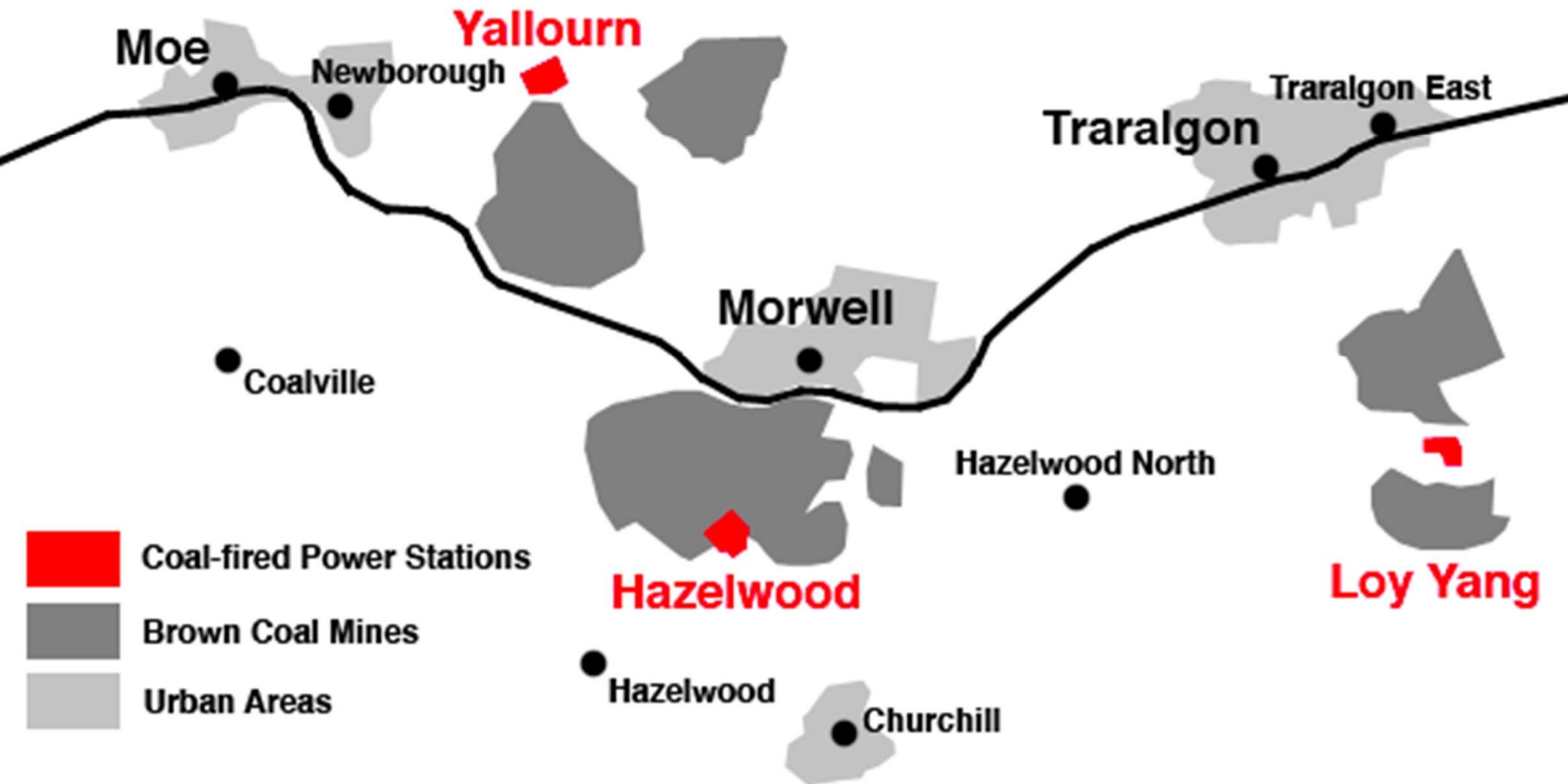
- Earth Resources Regulation (ERR) (through Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions)
 - Provides approval including development, compliance and rehabilitation of mines under *Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) Act 1990* and associated Regulations.
- Other Agencies/ Regulators
 - EPA – mainly off-site pollution and amenity impacts, EPA-licensed facilities.
 - Worksafe (OH&S)
 - Local government – implement Victorian Planning Provisions and Planning requirements
 - Water Authorities and Catchment Management Authorities
 - Heritage Victoria and Aboriginal Victoria
 - DELWP, DHHS
- For Declared Mines: Mine Land Rehabilitation Authority (formerly Commission)

A photograph of a large, terraced open-pit mine. A winding dirt road curves through the terraced levels of the mine. A small white vehicle is visible on the road. The landscape is arid, with sparse vegetation and some trees on the distant hills. The sky is clear and blue.

The Road to Mine Closure

Returning land use to it's original state... But what about the land form?

Case – Latrobe Valley



Why Did Hazelwood Close?




Rehabilitation

The *MRSD Act 1990* requires identification of achievable post-mining land forms and land uses that are:

- SAFE (e.g. water and human health/ safety)
- STABLE (e.g. geotechnical, water)
- SUSTAINABLE



Sources

A large yellow mining truck is driving on a dirt road at a mining site. The truck is carrying a large load of dark material, possibly coal or ore, in its bed. In the background, there are other mining vehicles and structures, including a conveyor belt system. The scene is dusty and hazy, suggesting a typical mining environment.

From mining specific activities, for example:

- Fly Ash Capture and Disposal
- Soil containing CoPCs
- Acid Sulphate Soils or Acid Mine Drainage

From ancillary activities, for example fuel and oil store, equipment maintenance involving hydrocarbons, solvents, heavy metals, etc.

Pathways

- Airborne – Dust, other particulates
- Water – Surface and Groundwater



Receptors

- Ecological
- Surrounding communities
- Agriculture



An aerial photograph of a large, irregularly shaped reservoir with vibrant blue water. The reservoir is bordered by a thick, dark green forest. A light-colored dirt or gravel road runs along the left and top edges of the water body. In the foreground, a concrete dam structure is visible, with a small, dark, rectangular building situated just behind it. The surrounding landscape includes patches of cleared land and more forested areas. A semi-transparent dark blue rectangle with white text is overlaid on the middle of the image.

So what are they going to do about Hazelwood?

Summary

- Mine closure and rehabilitation – varies on the mine!
- Contamination comes from a big range of sources
- Safe, stable and sustainable plans for future land use(s) and land form(s) are key
- Latrobe Valley Water Park???

Thank you!

- Rhonda Hastie, assistant to the Latrobe Valley Mine Rehabilitation Commissioner.
- Darryl Strudwick from AECOM, for his auditor point of view on the Hazelwood Mine Closure process.
- The AECOM GRS team for their support.