

HI-QUALITY GROUP'S BULLA SPOIL PROCESSING FACILITY: TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT



FAQ AND INFORMATION SHEET

Hi-Quality Group in Bulla will be the preferred site to collect, treat and dispose of the material excavated by the tunnel boring machines on the West Gate Tunnel Project.

Management of material excavated from construction sites is one of the key issues in the waste and resources sector today. Hi-Quality is proud to provide world-class treatment solutions, in line with EPA guidelines and industry best practice, that rise to today's challenges.

Hi-Quality has undertaken rigorous assessments and our facility has been designed to meet and exceed the highest environmental, operational and safety standards.

Our site design for managing the material excavated from the West Gate Tunnel Project addresses many of the concerns raised by the community, including using hard-stand and leach-proof lining on the containment bays, installing a globally recognised water treatment plant, and using robust lining in the containment cell.

EPA Victoria has assessed the potential environmental impacts and determined Hi-Quality's Sunbury Eco-Hub can safely manage the material excavated from the West Gate Tunnel Project in accordance with strict regulations designed to protect the environment and the health of the surrounding community.

As the owners of approximately 1000 acres of land surrounding the facility, we have a long-term vision that puts us here beyond 2046 and a personal commitment to leaving a positive legacy.

We understand the community will have questions. We encourage anyone to reach out via www.hiqualityecohub.com.au.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why was Hi-Quality chosen?

Hi-Quality was recommended by the project builders CPB John Holland Joint Venture (CPBJH JV) after a comprehensive assessment of the technical specifications and environment and planning approvals.

Hi-Quality designed its facility to address many of the community concerns, including protecting human and environmental health, and to provide a world-class solution to an issue of state significance. The West Gate Tunnel is a critical part of Victoria's Big Build agenda and we are proud to play a role in ensuring its success.

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<p>Are the documents Hi-Quality submitted as part of its approvals available for public review?</p>	<p>Hi-Quality developed a multitude of reports and submissions as part of the competitive tender, EPA approval, and Planning Scheme Amendment applications. Many of these documents contain commercially sensitive information – including financial details, facility designs, plans, and company information.</p> <p>You can find out more about our EPA EMP here, and our Planning Scheme Amendment here.</p>
<p>Does this approval mean Hi-Quality will receive contaminated material from all major infrastructure projects?</p>	<p>Hi-Quality's approvals only relate to the spoil excavated from the West Gate Tunnel Project. Hi-Quality would be required to submit separate approvals applications to accept spoil from other infrastructure projects.</p>
<p>When will Hi-Quality begin construction?</p>	<p>Hi-Quality will begin undertaking preparatory works on-site in the coming weeks. This will include excavation, land clearing, and development of a bund wall to provide a noise barrier at the location of the facility, along Sunbury Road.</p> <p>Prior to beginning the preparatory works, Hi-Quality will reach out to adjoining landholders and the broader community with details on what will be undertaken and what it means for them. If you wish to sign up for regular project updates, please get in touch via www.hiqualityecohub.com.au.</p>
<p>Has Hi-Quality met the conditions imposed as part of the PSA?</p>	<p>Hi-Quality has provided all relevant required documentation specified in the Planning Scheme Amendment to commence the project to the Minister for Planning for consideration and comment.</p> <p>Throughout the project, Hi-Quality is dedicated to being a responsible part of the community, including through appropriate management of construction and its associated impacts such as dust, noise monitoring, and land preservation.</p> <p>Hi-Quality is aware of its responsibilities and takes all of its commitments very seriously. It is dedicated to upholding these conditions for the duration of the project.</p>

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<p>How long will construction take?</p>	<p>The first stage of construction will take approximately six to seven months. This will see the majority of the works on the processing area, water treatment plant and containment cell completed, and the Sunbury Road entrance signals will be installed. At that time, Hi-Quality will be able to begin taking material from the West Gate Tunnel Project tunnel boring machines.</p> <p>Phase two of construction will take five to six months and will involve completing all containment bays and the entirety of the containment cell.</p>
<p>When will the material begin being transported?</p>	<p>Hi-Quality needs to undertake construction of the processing area, containment cell, and water treatment plant, as well as installation of the entrance signals before it can receive material from the tunnel boring machines. This work includes a combination of on- and off-site construction and will take approximately six to seven months.</p> <p>Hi-Quality will be contacting the community and key stakeholders to update them of construction timelines and ensure anyone potentially affected by the works are notified.</p>
<p>How many truck movements will result from this?</p>	<p>At the peak of the project, approximately 425 trucks can be expected each day (a total of approximately 850 truck movements). However, it will take some time to build up to this peak, and the peak volumes are only expected to continue for a very short amount of time. Outside of the peak time, far less truck movements can be expected on average and likely less than what Hi-Quality has taken through its support on various other projects.</p>
<p>What are the findings from Department of Transport's analysis of the Bulla Bridge?</p>	<p>Hi-Quality can not speak to reports undertaken by other parties. However, as a result of our Planning Scheme Amendment approval, Hi-Quality commissioned an independent structural inspection of the Bulla Bridge to ensure its suitability for the approved haulage route. This review found that the Bridge is in good condition and able to handle the anticipated truck movements.</p> <p>Several structural matters are planned to be addressed over the next 2-5 years as part of routine maintenance, and Hi-Quality has committed to submit a recommendation to the Department of Transport to expedite these works and for them to be conducted during the operation of its facility. Hi-Quality will also conduct regular monitoring of the Bridge and provide reports to the relevant authorities.</p>

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	<p>Over recent years, the Bridge has seen higher volumes of truck movements than expected as part of the West Gate Tunnel Project, with no major disruption to the community or the road infrastructure.</p>
<p>What are the alternative traffic routes if something happens to the Bulla Bridge?</p>	<p>As is common in any project of this nature, Hi-Quality's proposal outlined alternative transport routes that could be used should an issue occur with the preferred route. All transport routes proposed to be used are all b-double approved haulage routes.</p> <p>Hi-Quality is not responsible for the transport of spoil, including determining which route to use, or when alternative routes are triggered. However, we have worked with key project parties and state authorities to develop routes that avoid residential areas, house frontages and community services such as schools.</p> <p>You can find out more information on the Project at westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au.</p>
<p>Will the judicial review being undertaken by Hume City Council affect this decision?</p>	<p>Hume City Council has initiated a judicial review proceeding against the Victorian Minister for Planning regarding his approval of Hi-Quality's Planning Scheme Amendment.</p> <p>In the meantime, Hi-Quality is able to proceed with construction of the facility with its existing approvals and awards.</p>
<p>What community engagement will you be undertaking?</p>	<p>Hi-Quality regularly speaks with local residents, business owners and community groups to understand their concerns and answer questions, along with a regular community dialogue with community representatives.</p> <p>We also provide project updates via email to those who have subscribed to receive them.</p> <p>Throughout the facility construction and operations, we will be regularly reaching out to nearby landholders and the broader community to inform them of the works and how they will be affected well in advance of these beginning.</p> <p>As always, we encourage anyone with questions or concerns to get in touch with us by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sending an email to getintouch@hiqualitysunbury.com.au • Asking a question by going to www.hiqualitysunbury.com.au and clicking on 'Talk to Us' • Giving us a call on the project phone line: 03 9021 0678.

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How can I stay up to date on construction and project timelines?

You can email getintouch@hiqualitysunbury.com.au to subscribe to project updates. We will also be posting regular updates on our dedicated project website www.hiqualityecohub.com.au.