

## Submission 12

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### 1. What is your level of knowledge of mine rehabilitation in general?

Have strong technical understanding.

### 2. What is important to you when you think about the rehabilitation of the Latrobe Valley coal mines?

That the concept of a just transition is foremost, so that the legacy is positive to the community and the environment, both within the Latrobe Valley and the broader region - including downstream..

### 3. What do you feel are the most important things Government can do as part of the planning, rehabilitation, and post-rehabilitation stages of the Latrobe Valley coal mines?

- determine the risk and impact of all options available
- strongly consider long-term climate projections in setting parameters for rehabilitation, including water availability
- encourage the energy companies to develop iterative plans for rehabilitation with strong requirements for ongoing monitoring, evaluation and adaptation
- present feasible options for rehabilitation to the community
- make the energy companies accountable
- oversee the process and outcomes of rehabilitation in terms of meeting regulatory standards and integrating the rehabilitation process within the broader environment and community

### 4. What do you feel are the most important things the coal mine operators can do as part of the planning, rehabilitation, and post-rehabilitation stages of the Latrobe Valley coal mines?

- monitoring and evaluation of all works
- research and test the models developed for rehabilitation and not rely on desk-based assessments
- consult with each other to share knowledge and experience through the staged closures
- be genuine in their consultation processes, so that they listen as well as tell

### 5. What do you feel are the most important things community and stakeholders can contribute as part of the planning, rehabilitation, and post-rehabilitation stages of the Latrobe Valley coal mines?

- local knowledge and experience
- expertise in geohydrology engineering and aquatic ecology
- context for how rehabilitation fits with other regional plans (in particular water resource use - town water, irrigation, environmental flow, forestry, fire)
- ongoing monitoring of downwind and downstream impacts
- inclusion of Indigenous values and cultural flows knowledge to be developed regarding the Morwell and Latrobe Rivers

**6. How would you like to be engaged in the rehabilitation process for the Latrobe Valley Brown Coal mines?**

- Involved in working group for scientific expertise (aquatic ecology and water quality)
- Support development and implementation of monitoring and evaluation plans for water quality, in particular
- possibility to develop citizen science programs to assist with monitoring and river restoration efforts

**7. Overall, do the principles outlined in Section 4 of the LVRRS Overview meet your expectations (considering the important issues you identified above)?**

Neither agree nor disagree.

**8. Are there any changes you would suggest to the proposed principles outlined in Section 4 of the LVRRS Overview? If so, please provide a short explanation as to why you have suggested these changes.**

- government to consider and advise on possible advantages of water NOT being used on rehabilitation, or being used and stored in mine voids for future use - and conditions to achieve appropriate quality (potential positive, not just risk mitigation)

**9. Are there any specific elements of the LVRRS Overview that were not clear, or need further information to be provided in the LVRRS?**

- How community sentiment and engagement is going to be captured iteratively throughout the course of rehabilitation
- what triggers may be adopted to force a change to rehabilitation plans going forward (e.g. extended drought)
- what research is required for more sound and informed decisions to be made regarding ongoing rehabilitation and how these will be addressed

**10. Do you have any further comments on the LVRRS Overview?**

This plan is going to need to be rigorous and binding, but also enable flexibility around how plans may need to change in response to unforeseen circumstances or strong changes in public sentiment/social license. Understanding the parameters that may trigger these changes would be very useful.

**Stakeholder group**

Environmental Scientist

**Postcode**

3870

**Age Group**

45-49

**Gender**

Female