

# Water for mine rehabilitation

Fact sheet #2 September 2024

AGL's Loy Yang Mine has played a key role in generating electricity for Victorians for four decades.

As part of our transition to renewables, we are planning now to achieve a safe, stable and sustainable future for the site of the Loy Yang Mine after the scheduled closure of the Loy Yang A Power Station in 2035.

## Rationale for a lake

- Technical studies currently indicate that repurposing the coal mine pit as a full lake is the most viable rehabilitation option for the Loy Yang Mine.
- We're continuing further technical studies to investigate options.
- Filling the pit with water promotes stability as the weight of the water stops ground movement.
- Covering the coal with water reduces risk of fire.
- A lake creates new habitats for wildlife and maximises opportunities for the mine pit to be useful for a range of future purposes, and for suitable areas to be accessible to the public.



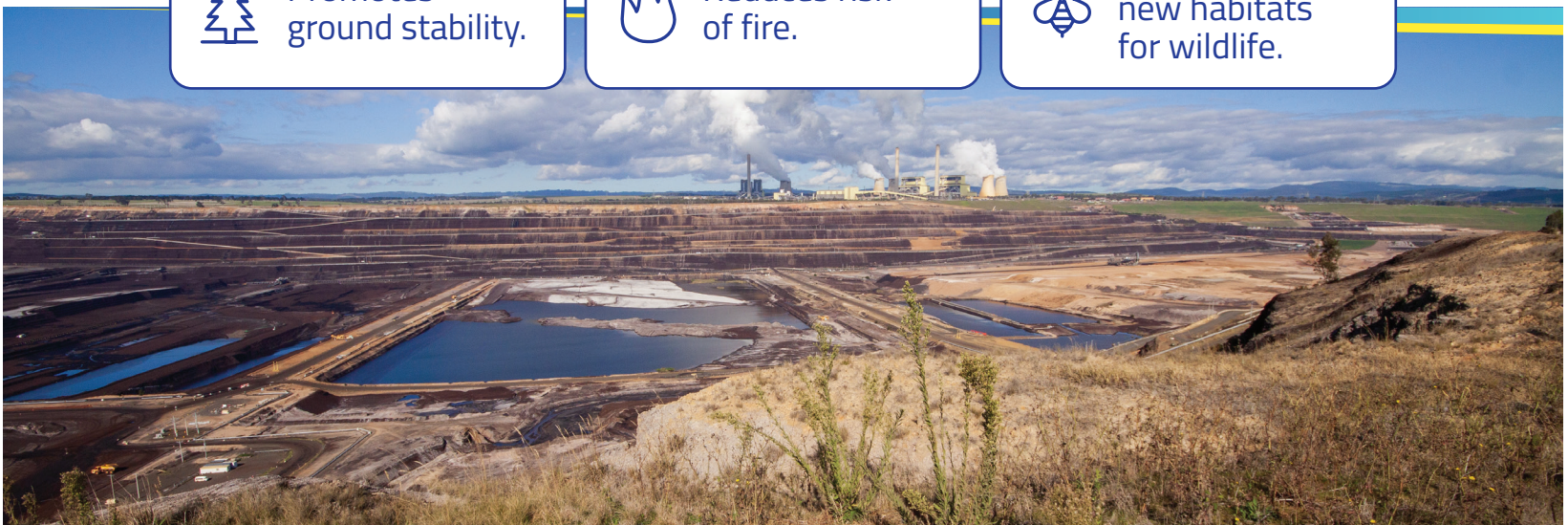
Promotes ground stability.



Reduces risk of fire.



Creates new habitats for wildlife.



## Sourcing water for a lake

We have applied for a Bulk Water Entitlement (BWE) to access surface water from the Latrobe River system for water-based rehabilitation.

A BWE is a legal right to access and user water for a specific purpose.

The conditional amount of water we have sought to use each year under a new BWE for rehabilitation is a maximum volume of 35.8 GL. **This is the same amount of water which is currently used by power stations each year to generate power from Loy Yang Mine, based on historical annual averages.**

We have taken advice from Government reports that highlight how we can minimise impacts on other water users and the environmental health of the Latrobe River system.

The specific conditions for AGL's application to help maintain the health of the river system include:

- The taking of water would be restricted to the wettest months in each year (June to November);
- A threshold will be in place to prevent the diversion of winter-spring baseflow in the Latrobe River;
- A limit will be in place on annual releases from Blue Rock Reservoir; and
- Surface water would be available for mine rehabilitation purposes for a period of up to 30 years from the initial supply date (which AGL intends to be from 30 June 2035 onwards, following the closure of the Loy Yang A Power Station) or until 2065, whichever is earlier

## How much water is needed

It's difficult to estimate expected annual fill rate for the pit lake. These figures are an example of estimated water usage:



Total Water Volume required to fill the mine void **~1087GL**



Fill time of **22 Years**



Expected Surface Water Required **~630GL**



Expected Ground Water Required **~462GL**



Evaporation (in total over the fill Period) **~90GL**



Evaporation for Top Up Requirements **~6GL/year**



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