



## Hazelwood Mine Fire Inquiry

9 May 2014

Mr Chris Fox  
Partner  
King & Wood Mallesons  
Level 50, 600 Bourke Street  
600 Bourke Street  
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

By email: [chris.fox@au.kwm.com](mailto:chris.fox@au.kwm.com)

Dear Mr Fox

### Hazelwood Mine Fire Inquiry

The Board of Inquiry seeks a witness statement from George Graham, Asset Manager of Hazelwood Coal Mine and Power Station, in relation to the matters set out in the attachment.

In addition to addressing the matters set out in the attachment, Mr Graham may include in his witness statement any other matters that he considers will assist the Board in inquiring into the matters specified in its terms of reference. The witness statement should attach supporting documents, and include relevant maps, graphs and photographs where available.

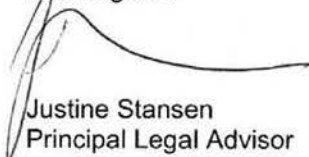
If you consider that other Hazelwood employees are better placed to address some of the matters set out in the attachment, or can provide more detailed information that will be of assistance, please prepare additional witness statements for those people.

Many of the documents provided with your helpful letter of 2 May 2014 are relevant to that matters we have asked Mr Graham to address in his statement. Rather than ask him to attach those documents to his statement, we propose to tender the letter and its attachments and refer to them as required. There is no need for him to attach documents already provided with your letter of 2 May 2014.

Please provide the statements no later than Wednesday, 21 May 2014, in both hard copy and electronic form.

If you have any queries in relation to this request, please contact me on 9223 1706.

Kind regards



Justine Stansen  
Principal Legal Advisor

1300 442 972  
[hazelwoodinquiry.vic.gov.au](http://hazelwoodinquiry.vic.gov.au)  
PO Box 3460  
GIPPSLAND MC VIC 3841  
20 Hazelwood Road  
Morwell VIC 3460

**Attachment: GDF Suez****Background**

1. Provide a brief overview of the ownership and management structure of the Hazelwood Power Partnership (**Hazelwood**) and the Hazelwood Coal Mine (**Mine**).
2. Outline your role and responsibilities at Hazelwood, and your relevant qualifications and experience.
3. Confirm the background information provided by King & Wood Mallesons in its letter to the Inquiry dated 2 May 2014.

**Rehabilitation of the Mine**

4. Describe the rehabilitation plans for the Mine from September 1996 to date, with particular focus on the rehabilitation plan contained in the work plan variation approved on 11 May 2009.
5. Describe rehabilitation work done at the Mine from September 1996 to date, with particular focus on rehabilitation work done under the 2009 work plan variation.
6. Describe future work that is required to be done under the rehabilitation plan, identifying the date by which rehabilitation of the Mine is required to be completed.
7. Explain the purpose of the \$15 million rehabilitation bond lodged by the Hazelwood under section 80 of the *Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) Act 1990*. How was the amount of the rehabilitation bond determined?
8. Is Hazelwood currently compliant with its obligations under the rehabilitation plan? If not, identify the areas in which it is not compliant and the actions being taken to achieve compliance.
9. Provide your views about the feasibility of bringing forward the rehabilitation of the northern part of the Mine, adjacent to the town of Morwell, to create a wider buffer zone between the Mine and the town.
10. What happens if Hazelwood has not rehabilitated the Mine to the mine regulator's satisfaction by the end of the license period? Is the \$15 million

rehabilitation bond the extent of Hazelwood's liability to rehabilitate the Mine?

#### **Previous fires at the Mine**

11. Identify the major outbreaks of fire at the Mine between September 1996 and February 2014, including those on 30 December 2005, 12-18 October 2006, 14-22 September 2008 and 21 January 2012. Describe briefly how each fire broke out and how it was brought under control.
12. In respect of each major outbreak of fire at the Mine since 1996, state whether Hazelwood undertook a review of the fire and identify any relevant reports.
13. Describe the implementation of the recommendations made in each of these reports, including the recommendations made in:
  - (1) the Final Report into the IPRH Mine Coal Fire December 2005;
  - (2) the International Power Hazelwood October 2006 Mine Fire Incident Investigation Report;
  - (3) the International Power Hazelwood September 2008 Mine Fire Incident Investigation Report; and
  - (4) the 11 Dredger Centre Chute Fire Incident – Final Incident Investigation Report

#### **Hazelwood fire plans and policies**

14. Outline the main features of the Fire Service Policy and Code of Practice (April 1994) (**1994 Code**).
15. Outline the main features of the Mine Fire Policy and Code of Practice revised July 2013 (**2013 Code**).
16. Identify any differences between the 1994 Code and the 2013 Code and explain the reasons for them.
17. Identify Hazelwood's other principal plans and policies for mitigating the risk of fire and responding to fires within the Mine.
18. Describe Hazelwood's state of compliance with its fire mitigation and response plans and policies as at 9 February 2014. Include training and vegetation management in this response. Attach the audit reports completed for the 2013-14 fire season including:

- (1) the preliminary Firefighting Equipment Annual Audit and Inspection;  
and
  - (2) the final Firefighting Equipment Annual Audit and Inspection.
19. How does Hazelwood ensure continuity of supply of power and water to respond to a fire? As at 9 February 2014, what back up power supplies were available in the event that mains power was lost during a fire?
20. Did any agency, for example the CFA or WorkSafe, audit Hazelwood's fire mitigation and response plans and policies at regular intervals? If so, please describe the audit process and provide copies of the most recent audit report.
21. Is Hazelwood reviewing its fire mitigation and response plans and policies in light of the fires that burned at the Mine in February and March 2014? Provide your views on what aspects of these plans and policies worked well, what did not work well and what could be improved.

#### **Co-operation with external agencies**

22. Outline the way in which Hazelwood works with the CFA, Latrobe City, the Department of State Development, Business and Innovation as mine regulator, WorkSafe and any other relevant agency or body in developing and implementing a fire risk mitigation strategy for the Mine.
23. Does Hazelwood participate in Integrated Fire Management Planning at State level, at regional level in the Gippsland Region, or at municipal level in the City of Latrobe? If so, describe Hazelwood's participation at each level.
24. Describe the arrangements that were in place between Hazelwood and the CFA as at 9 February 2014 for responding to a fire at the Mine. Include any joint training exercises in this response.
25. Is Hazelwood reviewing the way it works with external agencies to mitigate the risk of fire at the Mine, in light of the fires that burned at the Mine in February and March 2014? Provide your views on what aspects of its work with external agencies worked well, what did not work well and what could be improved.