

Latrobe Valley Coal Mine HazMat Fire PLAN

Version 5.1

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Distribution:

State Control Team

State Emergency Management Team

Regional Controller Latrobe Valley

Regional Controller Gippsland

Regional Emergency Management Team



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***Purpose***

The purpose of this Plan is to document the strategic approach being taken to manage the HazMat/Fires in the Latrobe Valley (LTV) coal mines (this includes Hazelwood and Yallourn coal mines). It is supported by a range of strategies and plans addressing specific issues involved in this complex event. These strategies and plans are updated as appropriate to respond to the needs of the suppression of the Hazmat/Fire and the wellbeing of the community and responders.

End State

The ultimate goal for this State LTV Strategic Plan is to assist the State Controller to ensure the effective management of the HazMat/Fire to achieve containment of the fire, to a level that will allow the State Controller to hand control of the situation to the operators for post fire ratification purposes.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Latrobe Valley Coal Mine Hazmat Fire is considered a State significant event requiring a large contingent of ongoing resources committed to manage the suppression and community consequences.

The Latrobe Valley Coal Mine HazMat/Fire Plan has been developed to manage the complexities associated with this event. The critical elements of the Plan and the success of the operation relate to an integrated approach across all departments and agencies, industry and the community. To achieve this, a series of strategies and plan underpin the Plan focusing on six core theme:

Suppression

The priorities for the targeted suppression and extinguishment of the Latrobe Valley Coal Mine Hazmat/Fire event is to:

- Maintain a focus on the State Strategic Control Priorities;
- Maintain critical mine infrastructure;
- Reduce smoke, ash and toxic plumes in order to minimise the impact on personnel and the broader community;
- Ensure sufficient fixed resources are in place for mine personnel to manage the incident autonomously; and
- Transfer responsibility for the event back to mine management at the appropriate time.

Communication and Engagement

The Communication and Engagement Strategy's intent is to keep the Latrobe Valley and wider Gippsland community informed in relation to the open cut mines Hazmat/Fires by providing accessible, timely, tailored and relevant information.

Air/Water Analysis and Monitoring

The strategic operational priorities for air/water analysis and monitoring are;

- Maximise the information value of available assets;
- Maximise the automation/real time availability of the data/information;
- Match product with the needs of the stakeholders – but balance granularity of data with value for better decisions;
- Support a streamlined and clearly understood decision making process with other agencies from the analysis of the data;
- Continuously re-evaluate against stakeholder needs and upgrade/amend if necessary.

Health Impact

The health of the community and personnel is paramount. The Strategic Health Management Plan for community smoke impacts from the Latrobe Valley Hazmat/ fires priority is to manage and clarify



the health protection needs of the Latrobe Valley community impacted by the smoke from the Hazelwood mine and provide the appropriate level of information and support to the community.

Infrastructure Protection

At risk infrastructure has been identified and assessed within and surrounding the Morwell (Hazelwood) and Yallourn coal mines. This information is provided to inform the decision making at the incident, regional and State levels

Government Services

Regular Government Services are to remain accessible for the community.

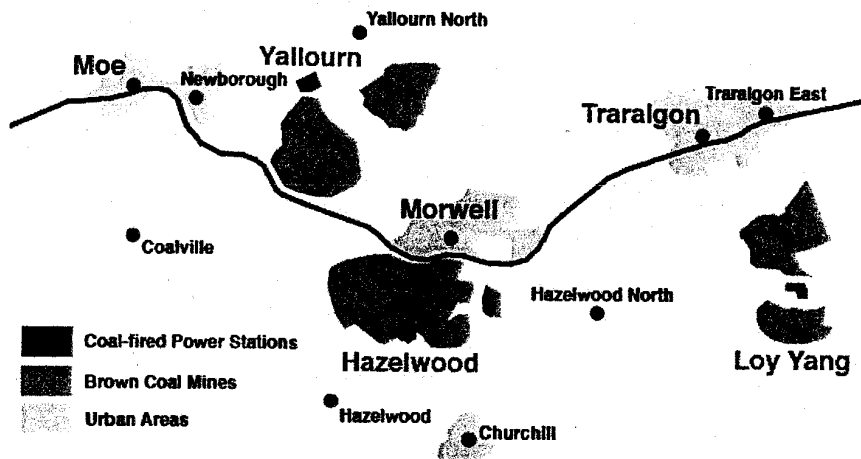
This Plan is for the period 20 February to 26 February 2014 and will be released weekly to ensure that the response and support provided for the Latrobe Valley Coal Mine Hazmat/Fire remains relevant and effective to the changing incident environment and needs of the community.

1. SITUATION

1.1 Background

1.1.1 Location Summary

The Latrobe Valley has a number of power stations and mines around the towns of Moe, Morwell and Traralgon, as shown in the diagram below. Fires have impacted two of the three major power stations in the area: Hazelwood Power Station and Yallourn Power Station.



1.1.2 Community Profile

LaTrobe City Council is located in the Gippsland region of Victoria, about 150km south-east of Melbourne. The City is bounded by Baw Baw Shire in the north and north-west, Wellington Shire in the east and south-east, and South Gippsland Shire in the south-west. Latrobe is an urban and rural area with the majority of the population living in the urban areas of Traralgon (pop: 25,597), Moe (pop: 9,310), Morwell (pop: 13,942) and Churchill. The City encompasses a total land area of about 1,425 square kilometres and is a significant energy provider for Victoria, with brown coal mining used to generate electricity. The rural land is used mainly for dairy farming, general farming and plantation forestry.

1.1.3 Facility Summary

Hazelwood Power Station

- The Hazelwood power station and brown coal mine are located in Victoria's Latrobe Valley, 150km east of Melbourne. The 1,542 megawatt brown-coal fired power station is supplied with brown coal from the adjacent mine.
- The power station is owned by GDF SUEZ. The power station directly employs more than 500 staff plus an average of 300 contractors, with hundreds more employed during major outages. Hazelwood supplies up to 25% of Victoria's energy requirements and more than 5% of Australia's total energy demand.



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- The generators at Hazelwood are two-pole synchronous machines, direct coupled to the associated turbine. All use a combination of water and hydrogen cooling.
- Water for the thermal cooling process is provided from Moondarra Reservoir, supplemented by artesian water extracted to ensure mine stability. Hazelwood uses the adjacent man-made Hazelwood Cooling Pondage (volume 30,000 MI) to circulate and cool water for reuse in the power station's thermal water cycle.
- Hazelwood power station uses lignite or brown coal sourced from the Hazelwood mine. Up to 20 million tonnes of coal is extracted annually to fuel Hazelwood power station and provide coal to Morwell power station (Energy Brix Australia). Around 4.8 million cubic metres of overburden is removed each year to ensure access to coal reserves.
- Hazelwood occupies 3,965 hectares and has a perimeter boundary of 39 km.

Yallourn Power Station

- The Yallourn brown coal power station is located in the Latrobe Valley, 150km east of Melbourne. The power station commenced operations in 1974 with four generating units commissioned between 1974 and 1982.
- The station supplies approximately 22% of Victoria's electricity needs and approximately 8% of Australia's total energy demand.
- These turbines have a combined capacity of 1,480 megawatts of electricity which is enough to supply around two million homes.
- A unique feature of the power station is its three vast concrete cooling towers, once the steam has passed through the turbine, water from the towers cools the steam so it can be pumped back to the boilers and reheated to steam, once again driving the turbines.

1.2 Current Situation

1.2.1 Situation Summary

On Sunday 9 February, a large number of grass fires started around Morwell. As a result, fires impacted a range of infrastructure, including the Hazelwood Power Station and Yallourn Power Station. Fire remains in the area around Morwell, including inside the Hazelwood mine site and in proximity to the Yallourn Power Station. Incident Management Team is established at the Traralgon Incident Control Centre under the leadership of a Hazmat/Fire Incident Controller. There are two divisions operating being:

- Hazelwood; and
- Yallourn.

Hazelwood Mine Division

Fire continues to burn in non-working sections of the mine along batters for a length of about 1.8km in Southwest Field Sector and a length of about 2km in East Field Sector of the mine. There is a large quantity of overburden with some vegetation fires burning on the floor of the mine. Surveying work will be undertaken again today to monitor fire movement.



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Wet lines have been put in place between the active fire area and the working sections of the mine to prevent the spread of the fire. Contingency plans have been made for fall back lines in the event of increased fire behavior or loss of control.

There is currently no firefighting activity in the Working Face Sector. Ground monitors are in place on the Northern side to provide fall back line.

Asset Loss currently is some damage has previously occurred to onsite power lines and pumping stations. Power lines have been partially restored. Damage has also occurred to the conveyor to Energy Bricks which is an adjoining property to the Hazelwood Mine. Substantial work is being undertaken to allow the mines to continue operations.

Yallourn Mine Division

Progressed has been made on addressing hot spots. The situation was assessed and fire agency resources were demobilized and transition management back to Energy Australia Yallourn on 19 Wednesday 2014. Yallourn continued to operate at full capacity throughout this event and there were no recorded asset loss.

1.2.2 Weather Prognosis (7 day outlook for the Latrobe Valley)

Issued Tuesday 18 February 1745 hrs

Forecast for Thursday 20 February

Maximum temperature 20 C. Minimum relative humidity about 35%. Minimum morning mixing height: 600m. Maximum afternoon mixing: 1700m. Chance of at least 5 mm rainfall 20%. 9 am conditions: Temperature: 11 C; Relative humidity: 80%; Wind: W 30 km/h. 3 pm conditions: Temperature: 20 C; Relative humidity: 35%; Wind: W 35 km/h.

Forecast for Friday 21 February

Maximum temperature 21 C. Minimum relative humidity about 35%. Minimum morning mixing height: 700m. Maximum afternoon mixing: 1600m. Chance of at least 5 mm rainfall 0%. 9 am conditions: Temperature: 12 C; Relative humidity: 70%; Wind: W 15 km/h. 3 pm conditions: Temperature: 21 C; Relative humidity: 35%; Wind: SW 20 km/h.

Forecast for Saturday 22 February

Maximum temperature 24 C. Minimum relative humidity about 40%. Minimum morning mixing height: 400m. Maximum afternoon mixing: 1100m. Chance of at least 5 mm rainfall 5%. 9 am conditions: Temperature: 14 C; Relative humidity: 75%; Wind: W 15 km/h. 3 pm conditions: Temperature: 24 C; Relative humidity: 40%; Wind: SW 25 km/h.

Outlook for Sunday and Monday

Warming trend with dry, stable conditions and lowering morning mixing heights (particularly Monday). Mostly sunny afternoons with light variable winds and seabreezes developing later in the afternoon.

Note that mixing heights may lower below 100 metres on any morning this forecast period if winds become light and variable and skies clear, allowing temperature to drop enough to form a low level inversion.



2. INTENT

The State Controller's 'Strategic Control Priorities' outlined in the Emergency Management Manual Victoria are being utilised to ensure planning is focused and strategic. The 'Strategic Control Priorities' for the 2013/14 Bushfire period are:

- Protection and preservation of life is paramount. This includes:
 - Safety of emergency services personnel, and;
 - Safety of community members including vulnerable community members and visitors/tourists located within the incident area;
- Issuing of community information and community warnings detailing incident information that is timely, relevant and tailored to assist community members make informed decisions about their safety;
- Protection of critical infrastructure and community assets that support community resilience;
- Protection of residential property as a place of primary residence;
- Protection of assets supporting individual livelihoods and economic production that supports individual and community financial sustainability; and
- Protection of environmental and conservation assets that considers the cultural, biodiversity, and social values of the environment.

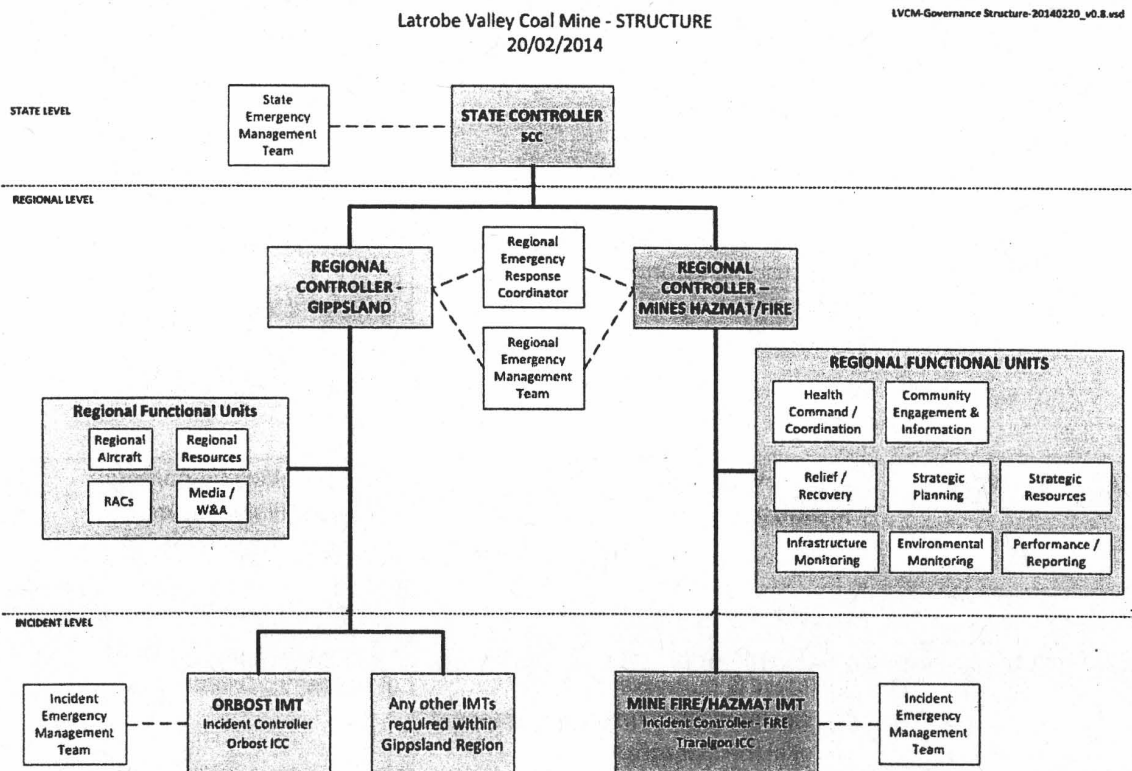
This HazMat / Fire is a State significant priority second only to priority of life.

3. EXECUTION

3.1 Governance Arrangements

3.1.2 Background

On Sunday 9 February, two fires burnt into the vicinity of both the Morwell (Hazelwood) brown coal open cut mine which supplies the Hazelwood power station and the Yallourn brown coal open cut mine which supplies Yallourn. Under the State arrangements for Fire, the line-of-control arrangements were already in place with a Regional Controller in place for Gippsland, operating from the Traralgon Regional Control Centre. These fires entered both the Hazelwood and Yallourn open cut mines creating a new level of complexity and challenges. To manage the fire Gippsland region the following structure has been established to ensure the most appropriate structures are in place to oversight the LTV Coal Mine Hazmat/Fire and the bushfire complexes burning in East Gippsland. The State Controller approved governance structure is detailed below.





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Regional Functional Units

The Regional Controller Latrobe Valley Mines/HazMat is supported by a range of Regional Functional Units (as per the above diagram) to cover the complex environment and to support the needs of the community. These Functional Units operate within the Regional Control Centre implementing the strategic plans and actions plans develop for this event and consist of:

<i>Regional Functional Units</i>	<i>Department/Agency Lead</i>	<i>Strategies/Plans</i>
Health Command/Coordination	Department of Health Ambulance Victoria	Strategic Health Management Plan v0.1 – Community smoke impacts from the Latrobe Valley coal mines fire. February 2014 Health Management & Decontamination Plan – Latrobe Valley Coal Mine HazMat/Fire V4 20 Feb 2014
Communication Engagement & Information	Fire Service Agencies Latrobe City Council Department of Health Ambulance Victoria	Communications and Stakeholder Engagement Strategy 18 February 2014
Relief and Recovery	Department of Human Services Latrobe City Council	Relief and Recovery Plan
Strategic Planning	Fire Service Agencies Industry	Latrobe Valley Coal Mine HazMat/Fire Operational Strategic Plan v4; 20 February 2014
Strategic Resources	Fire Services Agencies Industry	Latrobe Valley Coal Mine HaMat/Fire Operational Strategic Plan V4; 20 February 2014
Infrastructure Monitoring	Department of State Development, Business & Innovation Department of Transport, Planning & Local Infrastructure VicRoads Department of Environment & Primary Industry	Infrastructure Protection Strategy 20 February 2014
Environmental Monitoring	Department of Health EPA Victoria	Air Analysis and Monitoring Strategy v1 17 Feb 2014
Performance and	Fire Services Agencies	Reporting and Performance

Reporting	Other Lead Agencies	Frameworks (being developed)
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Integrated Response Arrangements

3.1 Suppression and Extinguishment Strategy

The initial suppression and extinguishment strategy was focused on extinguishing surface fire utilising: aircraft, aerial pumpers, ground crews, building fixed infrastructure for water and fixed sprinklers monitoring.

A Suppression Strategy Options were developed and an Expert Reference Group was assembled to review and provide advice to the State Controller on the soundness of the approach and other options for consideration.

The Expert Reference Group identified three overarching principles that must underpin successful operational suppression planning:

1. Safety of personnel and community
2. Efficient resourcing
3. Effective management structures.

In addition to the three overarching principals, the Group identified the following operational actions underpinned by suggested approaches to these that should be considered when determining the suppression and extinguishment activities:

- Continue to reduce smoke and products of combustion
- Continue to protect critical assets within the mine
- Continue to extinguish the fire
- Use a balance water strategy
- Employ an aggressive focused weight of attack
- Continue to monitor and analyse critical aspects of the incident (eg. Geotech).

The optimal suppression and extinguishment methodology for this HazMat/Fire is an aggressive focused weight of attack. The main suppression and extinguishment strategy involves four parts:

1. Manage protection of critical mine infrastructure including working mine face
2. Hold areas already extinguished and manage breakouts
3. Smoke (ash and carbon monoxide) management in areas not yet extinguished
4. Intensive weight of attack in small incremental sections of the northern batter from both ends.

Reference Documentation:

Latrobe Valley Coal Mine HazMat/Fire Suppression Strategy Options. Version 2; 17 February 2014

Latrobe Valley Coal Mine HazMat/Fire Suppression Operational Strategic Plan Version 4; 20 February 2014

3.2 Air/Water Analysis and Monitoring Strategy

The EPA Victoria has developed an Air Analysis and Monitoring Strategy to support the Regional Control and Incident management to acquire air quality data, and to translate into information and provide in a timely manner to inform operational and consequence decision making.

The strategic operational priorities for EPA are;

- Maximise the information value of available assets;
- Maximise the automation/real time availability of the data/information;
- Match product with the needs of the stakeholders – but balance granularity of data with value for better decisions;
- Support a streamlined and clearly understood decision making process with other agencies from the analysis of the data;
- Continuously re-evaluate against stakeholder needs and upgrade/amend if necessary.

Water testing was undertaken 15 February 2014 and the analysis of the results determined that no ongoing water monitoring was required. A schedule for regular water testing is currently being developed.

Air quality analysis and monitoring for Carbon Monoxide (CO) within the community has been carried out since 14 February 2014 and from the 19 February 2014 Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂) has also been monitored for the purpose of managing the health impact and advice information to the community. This will continue until the situation subsides.

Reference documentation: EPA Date Analysis and Monitoring Strategy Version 1 Date: 17 Feb 2014

3.3 Health Impacts Strategy

3.4.1 Community Health

The Strategic Health Management Plan for community smoke impacts from the Latrobe Valley Hazmat/ fires has been developed to manage and clarify the health protection needs of the Latrobe Valley community impacted by the smoke from the Hazelwood mine. The key focus is on the community of Morwell which adjoins the Hazelwood mine. The plan has been established by the Department of Health in its role as a support agency under the EMMV. This incident is described as a fire with a HazMat overlay.

On the 14 February the Department of Health and EPA implemented Bushfire Smoke Air Quality Guidelines for mine fire and developed communication plan for responders, mine workers and the community.

The State Health Emergency Response Plan (SHERP) was activated on 16 February with deployment of Health Commanders in support of the occupational health and safety of responders to the fire in the Hazelwood mine. The Health and Human Services Emergency Management (HHSEM) State Emergency Management Centre was activated on 17 February to provide the Incident Management



System (IMS) functions of planning, operations, logistics, public information, investigation and intelligence to support the health response.

The Strategic Health Management Plan provides detailed information of the response to the Latrobe Valley community including: an outline of the control relationships, a framework for escalation of health risk messages, Chief Health Officer Advice, communication framework and details on the integrated approach being undertaken on the Monitoring, Assessment, Actions and Communication of potential community health impacts from smoke.

Reference Document: *Strategic Health Management Plan – Draft v0.1 – Community smoke impacts from the Latrobe Valley coal mine fires. February 2014.*

3.4.2 *Respite Centre*

On 19 February 2014 the State Crisis and Resilience Council agreed to the establishment of Respite Centre for residents seeking temporary respite from the smokey conditions caused by the Hazelwood coal mine Hazmat/Fire. The Respite Centre may be located at different venues depending on the environmental conditions on any given day. Locations identified for respite purposes will be easily air-conditioned, accessible, identifiable and will have facilities to cope with large numbers of people, for example, Moe Town Hall. The Centres will operate from 9.00am to 7.00pm daily.

Senior representatives from departments and agencies will be present to provide information and support to affected persons. Services at the Respite Centres are information on the Hazmat/Fire event and health impact, provision of tea and coffee, activities for children, personal support and first aid. The Department of Human Services is coordinated the provision of Respite Centres.

3.4.3 *Workplaces*

The Victorian WorkCover Authority is advising workplaces in the Latrobe Valley to take steps to reduce the impact of bushfire and coal fire smoke on workers, as fires continue to affect air quality in the region. Workplaces are being directed to the advice issued by the Department of Health in relation to people undertaking strenuous activity outdoors, particularly those with pre-existing heart and lung conditions, while air quality remained poor.

Each workplace is different, so WorkSafe are asking businesses to review their systems of work and consider if measures need to be put in place to protect workers from the risks associated with smoke and carbon monoxide. The importance of communicating with their workplaces about the conditions is being stressed and encouraging workers to speak up if they identify any risks to health and safety.

3.4.4 *Emergency Services and Personnel on the fire-ground*

The Health Management and Decontamination Plan for Latrobe Valley Coal Mine HazMat/Fire has been developed to manage the health and safety of all personnel on the fire-ground at both Hazelwood and Yallourn Mines. The Plan covers the health, safety and welfare arrangements in relation to:

- General health and Crew Selection requirements for the deployment to Hot Zones
- The health monitoring process for personnel that have been deployed to the mine fire due to the risk posed by elevated levels of Carbon Monoxide



- The management of Personal Protective Clothing and Equipment used in the Hot Zones.

Reference Document: *Health Management and Decontamination Plan – Latrobe Valley Coal Mines HazMat Fire Version 4; 20 February 2014*

3.5 Infrastructure Protection

The Infrastructure Protection Strategy provides for the identification, assessment and communication of at-risk infrastructure within and surrounding the Hazelwood and Yallourn coal mines to inform decision making at the incident, regional and State levels. Monitoring and reporting will be through the State Strategic Emergency Management Team Latrobe Valley. The Strategy will focus on at risk infrastructure within and surrounding the Hazelwood mine such as mine stability, roads, power lines, dredges and buildings. The Strategy is being led by the Department of State Development, Business and Innovation with the Department of Planning, Transport and local Infrastructure and the Department of Environment and Primary Industries.

Reference Document: *Hazelwood and Yallourn Open Cut Coal Mines Infrastructure Protection Strategy. 19 February 2014*

3.6 Community Impact

3.6.1 Community Health Information

To provide timely tailored authoritative community information a Community Health Information protocol has been enacted. The baseline health advisory information will be communicated via any suitable platform (eg. OSOM) and authored by the Department of Health being the appropriate authority to deal with long term accumulative health issues.

Immediate Health Impact Any monitoring above 70PPM (rolling average for one hour over two consecutive hours) will immediately trigger EPA, Health, VicPol, Incident Controller, Deputy Regional Controller and Ambulance Victoria to convene as a strategic EMT to consider the appropriate advice/information to the community. This may include respite, relocation or evacuation.

Readings above 70PPM (rolling average for one hour over two consecutive hours) will immediately deploy specialists whose mission will be to delineate/identify the safest area for potential relocation of community to limit the social dislocation of vulnerable community members in particular but also the broader community.

3.6.2 Operational Evacuation Plan

VicPol has prepared an Operational Evacuation Plan for the deteriorating air quality associated with the Hazelwood Coal Mine HazMat/Fire at Morwell. The intent of this plan is to facilitate the safe and orderly withdrawal, sheltering and the return of the affected community in the event of evacuation. Evacuation is a last resort and the preferred strategy is for people to relocate or take a break, that is, go out of town and get some fresh air. A 'respite centre' has been established in Moe with the intention of providing for this option.



Fluctuating air quality causes fluctuating levels risk and means the precise extent of evacuation is to be determined subject to risk. A risk assessment indicates an evacuation could affect from 500 to 3000 people depending on the area impacted by carbon monoxide at the time. The area most likely to be impacted is the residential areas south of Commercial Road Morwell. In the very worst case scenario where the entire Morwell town ship required evacuation approximately 10,000 people would be affected. Those persons most at risk and in need of assistance being the elderly, sick and vulnerable persons are planned for in the evacuation process. It is anticipated that the majority of people living in this area will be in a position to self-evacuate.

Both north and south of Commercial Road Morwell has been divided into sectors to assist with the orderly movement of affected persons to relief centres identified in the operational plan. Triggers for evacuation will be determined by the Department of Health who will communicate this information to the Incident Controller.

Reference Documentation: VicPol Operational Evacuation Plan – Location Morwell 17 Feb 2014

3.7 Community Engagement

3.7.1 *Community and Stakeholder Engagement*

The Communication and Engagement Strategy's intent is to maintain trust and good-will by keeping the Latrobe Valley and wider Gippsland community informed in relation to the open cut mines Hazmat/Fires by providing timely, tailored and relevant information. The strategy is also designed to assist and support other agencies and departments to communicate their information (Health, EPA, Local Government). This will be achieved by committing to regular communication and stakeholder engagement (including mainstream channels but with a strong emphasis on face-to-face engagement and letter box) and by having a clear channel for information. The messaging content and modes of delivery will be continually adjusted to meet the changing circumstances and the needs of the community. A key source of the community circumstances and needs are the community meetings, Mobile Education Unit, Information Points, Mobile Education Trailer and Walk & Talk activities which are carried out by Community Officers and Local Health personnel.

Reference Document: *LTV Community and Stakeholder Engagement Strategy 18 February 2014.*

3.7.2 *Business Engagement Strategy*

The Department of State Development, Business and Innovation in association with Worksafe have development a Business Engagement and Communication Strategy designed to provide specific information and advice to business operators and industries impacted by the Latrobe Valley Hazmat/Fires. The communication plan targets businesses directly and responds to their issues and needs.

Reference Document: *Latrobe Valley Business Engagement Strategy. Version 1 19 February 2014*



3.7.3 *Government Services*

There is a commitment and plan to maintain Government Services to the communities during the Latrobe Valley Coal Mine HazMat/Fire. Some services such as schools and early childhood centres have been relocated to surrounding areas such as Moe.

Details of any changes to service delivery locations are a critical component of all community information.

4. ADMINISTRATION & LOGISTICS

4.1 Financial Management

Under development.

4.2 Resourcing

The State Controller recognises that with a number of significant incidents occurring across the State, there is a limitation on the availability of resources for both response to the major fires and for readiness in the event of new fire starts.

The Deputy Regional Controller, in consultation with the Regional Controller and IMT, is developing a resourcing plan for the Latrobe Valley Coal Mine IMT, to ensure there is consistent and efficient use of resources. The current resourcing strategy involves developing a 16-day plan with 4-day rotations of IMT staffing levels.

The intent of the resourcing strategy is to maintain a steady number of State resources at the fire sites, provided partly from within the Region and partly from outside the Region where required. Substantial support has been prepared and provided by MFB personnel.

Resource requests will be submitted via the State Resource Request System and the State Strategic Support Team Lead in order to ensure that progress is monitored effectively and priority focus in consultation with MFB, is maintained.

IMTs

Day shift requires a full IMT rotating on a 4-day cycle with 1-day travel at each end of the 4-day rotation.

Night shift requires a Core IMT rotating on a 4-day cycle with 1-day travel each end of the 4-day rotation. All IMTs to have key local personnel blended within IMTs.

Regional Control

Deputy Regional Controller Latrobe Valley for Hazelwood will continue to remain in place to focus on Latrobe Valley Mine Fires and provide a linkage back to the Gippsland Regional Controller and strategies to broader fire surroundings. Deputy Regional Controllers Latrobe Valley for Hazelwood will rotate on 4-day shifts.

Human Resource Management

This incident will be prolonged, complex and dynamic and will create a workplace that will require constant support and management. The management of people is a key aspect to the overall approach to this event.



Volunteer personnel from the CFA, SES, Red Cross, St John's Ambulance and other volunteer agencies and organisations are critical to the success. The management and acknowledgement of the Volunteer contribution is very important step in managing a prolonged incident.

Likewise, career personnel working with volunteers, in an integrated workforce is fundamental to the overall success. Review and consideration of the appropriate support and needs is paramount in all strategies and action plans developed to deliver a successful outcome.

Specialist Resources

Specialist pumping equipment and monitors such as Aerial Pumpers, Tele booms, Heavy Pumpers and Ground Monitors have been sourced and provided to support the suppression/containment strategy. Atmospheric monitoring and CO monitoring equipment is in place and has been expanded in order to advise on community impacts. A range of new technologies have and will be applied to reduce smoke levels and quicken extinguishment.

5. COMMAND

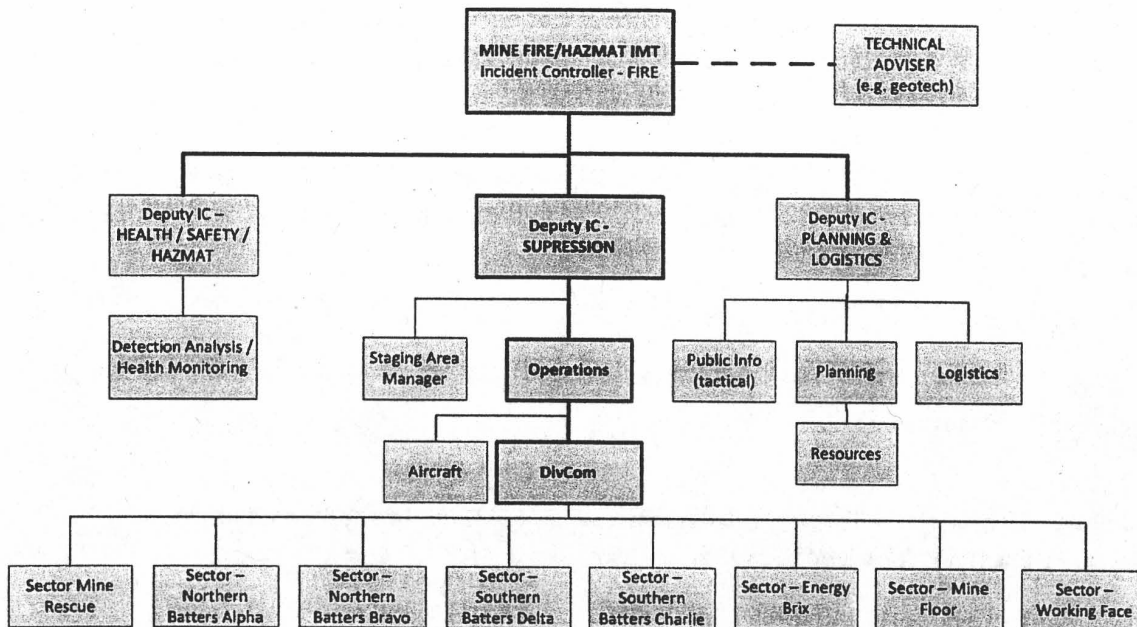
5.1 Control Structure

The State Controller approved governance structure for the Latrobe Valley Coal Mine HazMat/Fire is referred to in Section 3 of this document.

At the regional level the Regional Controller – Mines HazMat Fire has been established to focus on the area of interest of the Latrobe Valley Coal Mines. A single Incident Controller is reporting directly to the Regional Controller. This Incident Controller is managing fires in two mining sites as two divisions (Hazelwood and Yallourn).

5.2 Incident Management Structure

The overall Incident Management Structure of the Latrobe Valley Coal Mine Hazmat/Fire has been approved as detailed below.



5.3 Strategic Partners

The State Controller has established a State LTV Strategic Emergency Management Team that brings together the key strategic partners required to assist in managing LTV Hazmat Fire. The role of this Strategic Support Team is to:

1. Ensure that State level agencies are engaged and actively supporting the response effort;
2. Provide a one-stop for strategic support to the Deputy State Controller LTV for any mine/power incident;



3. Action resource requests in a timely manner;
4. Provide assistance and advice to work through any blockages;
5. Ensure strategy plans are developed for infrastructure, air and water monitoring and Community health.
6. Consider broader impacts and what if scenarios of smoke impacts in the community, as well as associated potential health impacts;
7. Support a suppression strategy including:
 - a. Safety advisors providing health guidance for responders
 - b. Interstate/international expertise to support local personnel
 - c. Suppression of fire and how this will be achieved
 - d. Prevention of fire entering critical coal pits of infrastructure and how this will be achieved
 - e. Appropriate level for command staff
 - f. Appropriate SME on site
 - g. Connection to industry
 - h. Support the development of consistent messaging at Incident / Region and State levels as well as ESOs and ensure messaging to the community is consistent and relevant
8. Link into the State Control Centre – EMJPIC;
9. Ensure that resourcing is provided, where and as needed, as a priority;
10. Ensure that 4-day cycles of Incident Management Team (IMT) resources are planned for (full for day shift, core for night shift) jointly with MFB.

The ultimate goal for this Team is to assist the Regional Control and IMT to; manage the HazMat fire effectively, achieve containment of the fire, minimise impact and ensure that focus is maintained as the States strategic priority, second to protecting life.

State LTV Strategic Emergency Management Team

The Team is led by Deputy State Controller LTV and consists of members from the following departments and agencies:

- MFB
- Department State Development, Business and Innovation (DSDBI)
- EPA Victoria
- Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD)
- Ambulance Victoria
- Department of Health (DH)
- Victoria Police
- Worksafe

Appendix 1 – LTV Risk and Consequence Plan (drafted)

Attachments:

- 1 Latrobe Valley Coal Mine HazMat / Fire Suppression Strategy Options V2 17 Feb 2014
- 2 Latrobe Valley Coal Mine HaMat/Fire Operational Strategic Plan V4; 20 February 2014
- 3 Air Analysis and Monitoring Strategy V1 17 Feb 2014
- 4 Health Impact
 - Strategic Health Management Plan – Draft v0.1 – Community smoke impacts from the Latrobe Valley coal mines fire. February 2014
 - Health Management & Decontamination Plan – Latrobe Valley Coal Mine HazMat/Fire V4 20 Feb 2014
- 5 Infrastructure Protection Strategy 20 February 2014
- 6 VicPol Operational Evacuation – Morwell 17 February 2014
- 7 Communications and Stakeholder Engagement Strategy 18 February 2014
- 8 Business Engagement Strategy V1 19 February 2014