

Morwell Mine Fire Community Briefing



## **Morwell Mine Fire Community Briefing Overview**

- Overview and introductions
- Inquiry Outcomes
  - 17 Affirmations made by GDF SUEZ
  - Six Recommendations made by the Hazelwood Mine Fire Board Inquiry for GDF SUEZ
  - Where we are today GDF SUEZ progress on the affirmations and recommendations
- Coal mine fire taskforce
  - Terms of reference
  - Membership
  - Communication strategy
  - Management and engagement structure
  - Timeframes
  - Reporting/accountability framework



# **Hazelwood Mine - Overview**











Hazelwood Mine Fire Inquiry

**Inquiry Outcomes** 



- Nominate a group of staff to be trained in the Phoenix Rapidfire modelling tool prior to the 2014/2015 fire season.
  - STATUS: Training has been organised with the CFA and is scheduled for 28 October for 9 GDF SUEZ employees.
- Offer enhanced training prior to the 2014/2015 fire season and on an ongoing basis, to personnel who are intended to perform a role under the emergency command structure and relevant emergency service agencies.
  - STATUS: Training for Emergency Service agencies has commenced (2 sessions) with a further two sessions scheduled between now and mid-November.

GDF SUEZ Emergency Command personnel enrolled in Incident Controllers Course in two sessions during November.

- Establish an emergency command structure at the mine to deal with Extreme Fire Danger Days.
  - STATUS: Substantially completed. Update of Emergency Response Plan and Mine Fire Instructions is being finalised to reflect new command structures devised for extreme fire danger days.
- Notify CFA of the identity and contact details of those personnel holding these roles.
  - STATUS: Completed. CFA will be advised for each extreme fire danger day. Ongoing obligation for each Extreme Fire Danger Day.



- On Extreme Fire Danger Days, GDF SUEZ ensure more personnel are rostered on and additional contractors are available for dedicated fire protection duties.
  - STATUS: Substantially completed. Update of Emergency Response Plan and Mine Fire Instructions is being finalised to include additional personnel for the fire protection duties on Extreme Fire Danger Days.
- Upgrade signage within the mine to make orientation easier for non-mine personnel.
  - STATUS: Underway. Review of signage is completed, order has been placed for posts. Signage being ordered and will be installed as a matter of priority.
- Negotiate with SP AusNet regarding a feasibility study to upgrade the MHO substation from temporary to permanent standard.
  - STATUS: Works Order has been placed with consultant to conduct the feasibility studies. Study is due on 30 November for Ausnet Services review.
- Initiate a program for reducing vegetation in the worked out areas of the northern batters to reduce fire risk commencing in the areas closest to Morwell.
  - STATUS: Substantially Completed. 80% of Vegetation has been removed from Northern Batters and grass levels. Remaining vegetation removal expected to be completed by mid-November.
- Maintain and continue to use the additional pipe system located in the northern batters which was installed during the 2014 fire and install additional pipework as identified.
  - STATUS: Completed and operational.



- Conduct a review of the current pipework and condition in the areas of the mine other than the eastern section of the northern batters.
  - STATUS: Underway. External Consultant has been engaged to complete the review.
- On Extreme Fire Danger Days GDF SUEZ instigate wetting down of non-operational areas.
  - STATUS: Underway. Mine Fire Instructions are being finalised to include this requirement.
- Nominate a representative to attend the meetings of the Municipal Fire Prevention Committee convened by Latrobe City Council.
  - STATUS: Completed. Names provided to Latrobe City.
- Nominate designated people to be in attendance at the CFA Incident Control Centre during an emergency which threatens the mine.
  - STATUS: Completed. Names provided to CFA.
- Review its own communications protocol to ensure that during the response to a fire which is capable of impacting on the community, it is able to communicate messages to the community via any protocol adopted following the review by all agencies.
  - STATUS: Completed. GDF SUEZ will engage with all Incident Controller briefings and media.



- Work with Victorian WorkCover Authority (**VWA**) to review its Safety Assessment and Safety Management System in light of regulations 5.3.21 and 5.3.23 of the *Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2007* (Vic).
  - STATUS: Underway. VWA has conducted a verification review, the results of which are being factored into the review. External Consultant has been engaged to assist with this process.
- Develop a Carbon Monoxide management protocol for firefighter and mine employee safety prior to the 2014/2015 fire season, in consultation with VWA and CFA.
  - STATUS: Underway. CFA has issued for comment a new Standard Operating Procedure. GDF SUEZ is engaged in consultation with CFA about finalising and implementing these protocols.
- Undertake the rehabilitation set out in Exhibit 88 Statement of James Faithful, annexure 5 and discuss the appropriate timing of each sequence of rehabilitation with the Department of State Development, Business and Innovation.
  - STATUS: In progress and on schedule. Clay capping will be completed by 31 December. Rehabilitation of the nominated 9 hectare area is expected to be completed during the summer period.



## Recommendations to GDF SUEZ made by the Board of Inquiry

## Recommendation 13

Revise Emergency Response Plan

#### Recommendation 14

Establish back-up power supply

## Recommendation 15

Conduct Risk Assessment and Risk Implementation



# Recommendations to GDF SUEZ made by the Board of Inquiry – Cont'd.

## Recommendation 16

Fire Service Policy and Code of Practice

#### Recommendation 17

Adopt Carbon Monoxide Protocol

## Recommendation 18

Improve Crisis Communications Strategy



 Revise Emergency Response Plan



#### GDF SUEZ revise its Emergency Response Plan, to:

- require an increased state of readiness on days of Total Fire Ban;
- require pre-establishment of an Emergency Command Centre;
- require pre-positioning of an accredited Incident Controller as Emergency Commander;
- require any persons nominated as Emergency Commander to have incident controller accreditation and proficiency in the use of the Australasian Inter-service Incident Management System.
  - Review of ERP addressing each of these elements is substantially completed and being finalised.



 Established back-up power supply



GDF SUEZ establish enhanced back-up power supply arrangements that do not depend wholly on mains power, to:

- ensure that the Emergency Command Centre can continue to operate if mains power is lost.
  - A diesel generator has been positioned at the ECC.
- ensure that the reticulated fire services water system can operate with minimal disruption if mains power is lost.
  - In progress:
    - Investigations of arrangements to ensure additional redundancies of power supplies to the reticulated fire services water system pumphouse 50 and 53 are in progress.
    - Ausnet Services to install 66KV switches on power supplies to isolate impact process underway.



 Conduct Risk Assessment and Risk Implementation



- conduct, assisted by an independent consultant, a risk assessment of the likelihood and consequences of fire in the worked out areas of the Hazelwood mine, and an assessment of the most effective fire protection for the exposed coal surfaces prepare an implementation plan that ensures the most effective and reasonably practicable controls are in place to eliminate or reduce the risk of fire; and
- implement the plan
  - In progress. External Consultant engaged to undertake risk assessment.



 Fire Service Policy and Code of Practice



- review its 'Mine Fire Service Policy and Code of Practice' so that it reflects industry best practice and ensures that, by taking a risk management approach, it is suitable for fire prevention, mitigation and suppression in all parts of the Hazelwood mine; and
  - Hazelwood's review of the Mine Fire Service Policy and Code of Practice is well advanced, and being finalised. Consultants retained by Hazelwood will subsequently provide input regarding industry best practice. There has been significant engagement with CFA, DSDBI and VWA on this issue.
- incorporate the revised 'Mine Fire Service Policy and Code of Practice' into the approved work plan for the Hazelwood mine.
  - Further discussions required with DSDBI to implement work plan variation to provide for Mine Fire Service Policy and Code of Practice.



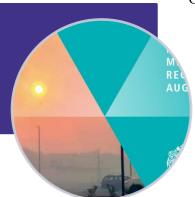
 Adopt Carbon Monoxide Protocol



- adopt and apply the firefighter carbon monoxide response protocol.
  - Underway. CFA has issued for comment a new Standard Operating Procedure.
    GDF SUEZ is engaged in consultation with CFA about finalising and implementing these protocols.



 Improve Crisis Communications Strategy



- improve its crisis management communication strategy for the Hazelwood mine in line with international best practice.
  - Completed. GDF SUEZ will engage with all Incident Controller briefings and media.



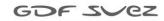


CFA – Forward Looking Infra Red (FLIR) technology





Hazelwood Mine Works Update – Video footage





Closing

