



Level 23, 121 Exhibition St
Melbourne Vic 3000
GPO Box 4356
Melbourne Vic 3001

T +613 8684 1388
F +613 8684 1399
E admin@emv.vic.gov.au
DX 210077

www.emv.vic.gov.au

29 October 2014

COAL MINE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TASKFORCE

As part of the Hazelwood Coal Mine Inquiry implementation plan, a Taskforce has been established to examine preparedness for the 2014/15 summer fire season and for 2015/16 for the three mines in the Latrobe Valley in Victoria.

In line with the Terms of Reference below and a requirement to include, for consistency of approach, all brown coal mines in Victoria. It is also necessary for the establishment of a second group to enable the same process to be adopted for the Alcoa mine at Anglesea.

This notification is provided to commence the process for the development of what will be known as the Surf Coast Taskforce.

Coal Mine Emergency Management Taskforce (in two groups)

The Taskforce will be known as the “Coal Mine Emergency Management Taskforce” and be led by the Emergency Management Commissioner and will have two groups to the Latrobe Valley and Anglesea coal mines.

The “Coal Mine Emergency Management Taskforce” will work with the four coal mine operators (namely the three in the Latrobe Valley and the one at Anglesea) and include the CFA, Local Government Authority (LGA), EPA, VWA, and DSDBI Earth Resources - Mine Regulator. Community representative groups will be engaged through the process to ensure the preparedness and achievements are communicated.

Terms of Reference:

The “Coal Mine Emergency Management Taskforce” are:

- review the fire / emergency preparedness of the four Victorian brown coal mines,
- oversee the implementation of the relevant Hazelwood Coal Mine Inquiry affirmations and improvement plans,
- supporting improved capability and interoperability between the coal mine industry and government agencies.

Membership:

Surf Coast Taskforce

- Emergency Management Commissioner Craig Lapsley (Chair)
- CFA District 7 OM Michael McGuinness others TBA
- Surf coast Shire – Mayor Margot Smith others TBA



Error! No text of specified style in document.

- Alcoa Anglesea – Chris Rolland, Warren Sharp and Lisa Mills
- EPA – Jason Young and Liz Radcliffe
- VWA – Rob Kelly
- EMA – Peter Schmidt
- Others as appropriate

The Latrobe Valley Taskforce has commenced their meetings with a number of items identified for progression and implementation these include, but are not necessarily limited too:

- Stocktake of matters for short term attention
- Identification of community groups and stakeholders
- Development of a Strategic Operations group
- Development of a Strategic Communications Group
- Implementation plan in alignment with Implementation Monitors structure and timelines

Furthermore, a number of items that were included in the Latrobe Valley Improvement plan have been listed below to facilitate initial discussion

Latrobe Valley Improvement plan

The following themes require discussion and action:

- Surveillance / Monitoring of hot spots within the Hazelwood coal mine
- Control / Management of hot spots and fires
- Mine Mapping
- Development of Compressed Air Foam Systems (CAFS)
- Integration of Mines staff into the Incident Management structure
- Capability to respond and manage fires in the Hazelwood coal mine
- Operational Improvement plan (local)
- Training and preparedness
- Industry Relationship
- Welfare / Staging Areas
- Incident Naming
- Hazard Removal
- Other matters as appropriate