

Hazelwood Recovery Effort

April update

Community information



As part of our commitment to the Hazelwood recovery effort, Environment Protection Authority (EPA) continues to monitor air quality across the Latrobe Valley.

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Five air monitoring stations in the Latrobe Valley

EPA's air monitoring stations in Moe and Churchill are operational and providing residents with up-to-date air quality information on our website. The Moe and Churchill stations, which measure fine particulate matter (PM2.5), complement the existing network and information already provided to the Morwell and Traralgon communities.

The Moe and Churchill air monitoring stations have been installed as part of EPA's Hazelwood recovery effort, along with the air monitoring stations in Morwell. These additional sites complement EPA's long-term air monitoring station at Traralgon. EPA has completed more than 12 months of air quality monitoring since the end of the mine fire.

EPA will continue to engage with the Latrobe Valley community about the way we monitor air quality in the region.

See the air quality hourly updates on EPA's website

epa.vic.gov.au/hazelwood/environmental-reporting/air-quality

Improvements to EPA's air monitoring procedures

EPA is committed to improving the way it responds to the Latrobe Valley community's needs and expectations around air monitoring. In order to achieve this, EPA is implementing a number of improvements to its processes around air quality data collection, its validation and how it is communicated to the community.

As part of this process, EPA has consulted the community to seek feedback on how to better present and communicate air quality data on our website to all our stakeholders.

<http://www.epa.vic.gov.au/amequipmentreview>

Our data is now more accessible

EPA has made its data more accessible by creating an interactive, user-friendly map on our website that shows the sites in the Latrobe Valley where EPA conducts environmental monitoring as part of the Hazelwood recovery effort.

Simple icons indicate whether it is a soil, water or air monitoring site, and one click gives the user information about the location, as well as links to the data EPA has collected at that site.

Learn more about EPA's environmental monitoring in the Latrobe Valley at:

epa.vic.gov.au/hazelwood/environmental-reporting

Our latest soil and water sampling results

EPA continues to collect soil and water samples in and around Morwell. The results of the most recent rounds of sampling conducted in December 2014 and March 2015 are available online.

The results from December and March's water and soil sampling are consistent with sampling done in March, April and September 2014. The results show that water and soil quality in the region appear to have not been adversely impacted by the Hazelwood mine fire.

The full set of water and soil sampling data can be downloaded from our website.

See the data at:

epa.vic.gov.au/hazelwood/environmental-reporting/soil-sampling

epa.vic.gov.au/hazelwood/environmental-reporting/water-sampling

Newly trained citizen scientists

EPA has purchased a number of comprehensive water testing kits that are available to schools, community groups and individuals that are taking part in EPA's Citizen Science Program in the Latrobe Valley. In early 2015, EPA conducted a number of hands-on water testing and air monitoring training sessions for the community at locations around the Latrobe Valley.

Our citizen scientists have been trained in a variety of water testing techniques and have begun using the kits to test water quality in waterways in the region. The data collected by citizen scientists will provide valuable information about the health of the environment in the Latrobe Valley, and will be shared with EPA and the community.



Find out more

epa.vic.gov.au/hazelwood/citizen-science

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