

7 MINE INFRASTRUCTURE

7.1 Access Roads

Haul roads and general access roads provide operational and emergency access for the full range of earthmoving equipment utilized at the mine site, as well as 4WDs and other service vehicles. Roads are generally formed from clay, gravel and sand combinations and where of a more permanent basis, may have a crushed rock wear surface applied. Roads are designed as per generally accepted standards appropriate for the required equipment and purpose. These basic principles will be applied to roads systems introduced and constructed during the period covered by this Work Plan.

7.2 Buildings and Amenities

The current mine buildings are generally considered central to both current and future operations and are not envisaged to be relocated into the future. The current mine workshop, mine amenities and general office buildings are sufficient for current operations and will be reassessed for adequacy at various stages through the mine life with alterations undertaken where appropriate.

7.3 Ash Disposal Areas

Wastes from the adjacent power station ashing system, consisting of ash from the coal fired boiler and blowdown from the water treatment plant, are removed from the power station ash pond areas and deposited into the mine area. Currently this is performed by normal excavator and truck operation that moves the ash to an area in the overburden dump. The ash is then incorporated into the general overburden backfill process.

This work is currently covered by the site Waste Discharge Licence EM32162 (Appendix B), approved by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) Victoria. This licence is currently under review and any changes to the licence will be made available to the DPI.

7.4 Mine Fire Service Dam

See Section 8.6

7.5 Lease Roads and Tracks

As the mine develops past Stage 2, there are several roads and tracks that are currently open to public use and will be required to be relocated or closed to facilitate the mine progression. Relocation and closure will only be completed following consultation with and to the specification and satisfaction of Parks Victoria.

7.6 Fencing

Due to the size of the Work Plan area, the predominant fence type in use is a typical 'farm' style post and wire. Historically, as the mine develops and there is an obvious interface between operations and the public, the farm fence has been replaced by a higher (approximately 1.5 metres) post and mesh style that ensures greater public safety and security by way of accidental or purposeful entry to the mine working area. Appropriately spaced signage is also attached to the fence and periodic integrity checks are carried out on a routine basis.

It is envisaged that this process will continue as the mine progresses.