

# Latrobe Valley Regional **REHABILITATION STRATEGY**

Stakeholder and Community  
Engagement Strategy



Published by the  
Department of Economic Development,  
Jobs, Transport and Resources  
1 Spring Street Melbourne, Victoria 3000  
Telephone (03) 9208 3799

June 2017

© Copyright State Government of Victoria 2017  
This publication is copyright. No part may be  
reproduced by any process except in accordance  
with provisions of the *Copyright Act 1968*.

Authorised by the Victorian Government, Melbourne.

Designed by DEDJTR Design Studio

ISBN 978-1-925532-80-7 (Print)  
ISBN 978-1-925532-81-4 (Online)

#### **Disclaimer**

This publication may be of assistance to you  
but the State of Victoria and its employees do  
not guarantee that the publication is without  
flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your  
particular purposes and therefore disclaims all  
liability for any error, loss or other consequence  
which may arise from you relying on any  
information in this publication.

#### **Accessibility**

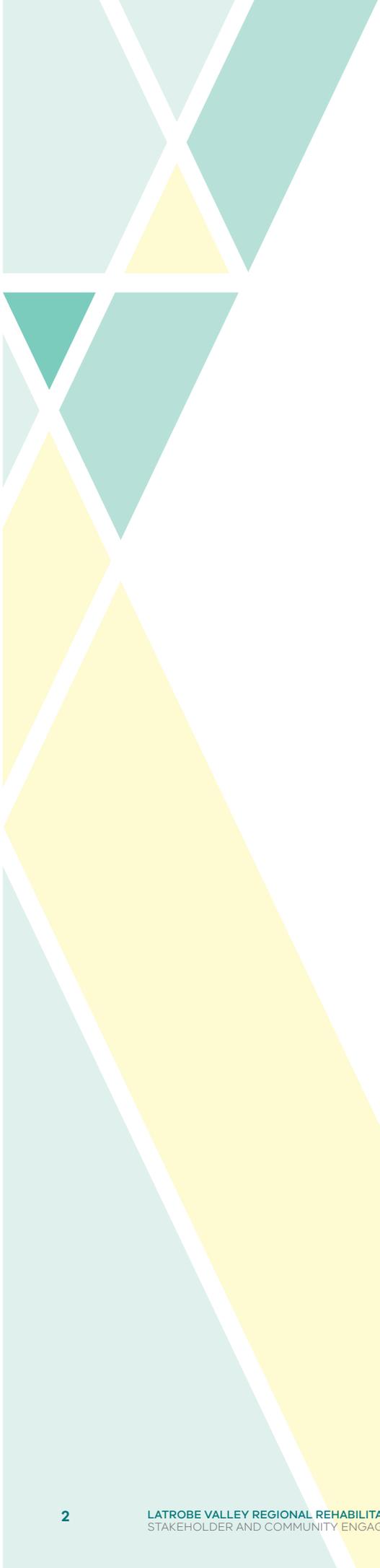
This publication is published  
in PDF and Word formats on  
[www.economicdevelopment.vic.gov.au](http://www.economicdevelopment.vic.gov.au)





# Contents

01	Introduction	2
02	Developing the Regional Rehabilitation Strategy – our commitment to engagement	7
03	Our engagement approach	9
04	Key messages	11
05	Key stakeholders	13
06	Engagement tools	15
07	Review and evaluation	21



# 01

The purpose of the Stakeholder and Community Engagement Strategy is to guide the stakeholder and community engagement program that will underpin the development of the Latrobe Valley Regional Rehabilitation Strategy.

Please note, where “strategy” is used throughout the document it refers to the Latrobe Valley Regional Rehabilitation Strategy.

## Introduction

### 1.1. THE LATROBE VALLEY REGIONAL REHABILITATION STRATEGY

The Hazelwood mine fire burnt for 45 days in February and March 2014 and had a significant impact on Morwell and the Latrobe Valley. It raised serious questions about health impacts, the emergency response and the long-term safety of the Latrobe Valley coal mines.

The Victorian Government implemented a two-part independent inquiry to thoroughly investigate the cause and effects of the mine fire, improvements to the health of the Latrobe Valley community and the options for the rehabilitation of the coal mines.

In response to the Hazelwood Mine Fire Inquiry findings, the Government released a detailed implementation plan that included a commitment to develop a Regional Rehabilitation Strategy for the Latrobe Valley's three brown coal mines. The strategy will be designed in consultation with mine owners, key stakeholders and the community, and will be in place by June 2020.

## 1.2. THE OUTCOME FOR THE COMMUNITY

The Government's implementation plan committed to the Latrobe Valley Regional Rehabilitation Strategy setting: *"a safe, stable and sustainable landform for the Latrobe Valley Coal Mine voids and surrounding areas, providing assurance to the community"*<sup>1</sup>.

## 1.3. THE 'PIT LAKES' REHABILITATION OPTION

Based on the current evidence, the Hazelwood Mine Fire Board of Inquiry concluded that individual pit lakes or partial pit lakes appear to be the most viable option for the rehabilitation of the mine voids, if the landform can be made safe and stable and the water can be sourced without significant impact on the surrounding environment.

A program of technical investigations will be undertaken as part of the Latrobe Valley Regional Rehabilitation Strategy to determine if the pit lakes option can deliver a safe, stable and sustainable rehabilitation solution.

Based on the findings of the Board of Inquiry, the Regional Rehabilitation Strategy will consider the pit lakes, or partial pit lakes as a basis for the strategy. The strategy will also consider the potential future land use options for the rehabilitated mine voids and surrounding areas.

## 1.4. OUR ASPIRATION FOR THE STRATEGY

The Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (DEDJTR) with support from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) will deliver the strategy. They, in consultation with the mine owners and key stakeholders, have commenced the process of identifying what a safe, stable and sustainable landform could look like, as outlined in the box to the right.

The Latrobe Valley Regional Rehabilitation Strategy will develop a vision for the future use of the mine voids and surrounding area that:

- Creates a healthy environment that's fit for its future use and supports regional opportunities
- Creates a place the communities of the Latrobe Valley and Victoria value
- Can be managed and maintained into the future.

The vision will be supported by a delivery framework.

The future use of the land will be designed in consultation with the community and mine owners and will be founded on what emerges from the research to be technically and economically possible.

## 1.5. DEFINING SAFE, STABLE AND SUSTAINABLE

At this early point in the development of the Regional Rehabilitation Strategy, there are significant gaps in understanding what's possible in terms of stabilising and filling the mine voids. The following definitions of 'safe', 'stable' and 'sustainable' have been developed to begin a dialogue on what the rehabilitation solution should seek to achieve. The definitions and understanding of the rehabilitation risk level may change over time.

### Safe

The risk of fire, ground collapse, water pollution, poor air quality or physical harm is as low as reasonably practicable.

### Stable

The rehabilitated area should only experience tolerable movement (some movement in the ground will always occur) and should not represent a risk to the community, environment or public infrastructure. Long term deformations will need to be accommodated within the tolerable strain thresholds for each site.

### Sustainable

The mine voids and surrounding area represent:

1. A healthy environment that is suited to its intended future use
2. A place that is valued by the Latrobe Valley and all of Victoria and reflects and builds on the history and heritage of the area
3. A future use that can be managed and maintained in perpetuity.

The Latrobe Valley Regional Rehabilitation Strategy must also be cognisant of potential future uses of the brown coal resource and opportunities to prevent resource sterilisation through rehabilitation.

<sup>1</sup> Hazelwood Mine Fire Inquiry: Victorian Government Implementation Plan June 2016, pg. 75

## 1.6. THE CHALLENGES

There are significant challenges associated with developing a Regional Rehabilitation Strategy for the Latrobe Valley's coal mines at this time. Major challenges include:

### Timeframes

Taking the community and other key stakeholders on a four-year journey through the development of the strategy is a long time and will require significant commitment from all involved.

A significant challenge will be developing a strategy for the future use of the area that won't start to be realised until the first mine closes (Hazelwood at the end of March 2017) and will be implemented progressively over decades until the last mine is closed.

ENGIE, owner and operator of the Hazelwood Coal Mine is required to rehabilitate the Hazelwood Mine in accordance with its obligations under the *Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) Act 1990*. It is currently undertaking rehabilitation planning for the Hazelwood Mine after it ceased operating on 31 March 2017.

The Latrobe Valley Regional Rehabilitation Strategy is, as its name suggests, a Regional Rehabilitation Strategy that will consider the knowledge gaps associated with the pit lakes rehabilitation option highlighted by the Board of Inquiry on a regional scale, including issues associated with interconnectivity.

It is not the role of the LVRRS to produce individual rehabilitation plans for each of the three Latrobe Valley coal mines.

The LVRRS will support a regional integrated approach to mine rehabilitation planning, considering the future possible needs of the other mine operators and stakeholders.

The LVRRS Project Team will work closely with ENGIE, AGL and EnergyAustralia to progressively share information obtained from the technical studies undertaken as part of the LVRRS to help inform their individual mine rehabilitation planning.

### Different scenarios

No one can predict the future, but we can plan for it using potential scenarios. The Regional Rehabilitation Strategy must consider, and be able to adapt to a range of different scenarios that could occur – from the early closure of a mine (e.g. the early closure of Hazelwood at the end of March 2017) and what this will mean for rehabilitation, to the delayed final closure of one or more mines.

To address the complexity of the different sequences of events, the strategy will be based on the timeframes outlined in the existing mine closure plans, while clearly outlining how early or late closures can be accommodated in the strategy.

### Technical unknowns

The Hazelwood Mine Fire Inquiry highlighted a number of technical uncertainties about the regional viability and consequences of using water to fill the mine voids.

These uncertainties must be addressed through the technical investigations that underpin the strategy, before the final land form and its potential future use can be known.

## THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Robust community and stakeholder engagement will be a key part of getting to the right solution for the regional rehabilitation of the Latrobe Valley's coal mines. Given the significant questions to be answered, it will be important that all stakeholders are engaged in an open and honest dialogue about what's possible.

Then, once we know what's attainable, the Latrobe Valley community and other key stakeholders will play a significant role in discussions about the future use of the land.

## 1.7. KEY ELEMENTS OF THE STRATEGY

Key elements of the strategy development include:

- **Technical investigations and analysis:** a program of technical investigations to address key knowledge gaps for mine rehabilitation, including geotechnical stability (the Regional Geotechnical Study) and water availability and water related impacts (the Regional Water Study) for the partial and full pit lakes options. The program will also make recommendations about post closure monitoring.
- **Consultation:** The outcomes of the stakeholder and community engagement program that will run for the duration of the strategy development.
- **Rigorous oversight:** A Latrobe Valley Mine Rehabilitation Advisory Committee was established in December 2016 and a Mine Rehabilitation Commissioner will be in place by mid-2017 to oversee the development and implementation of the rehabilitation strategy.

## SECURING A FUTURE FOR THE LATROBE VALLEY

To secure the best outcome for the Latrobe Valley and Victoria, the Regional Rehabilitation Strategy will be integrated with the significant program of work being undertaken in response to the Mine Fire Inquiry and the transitioning of the Latrobe Valley away from an economy based largely on coal fired power generation towards a broad based, resilient and vibrant economic future.

On 3 November 2016, ENGIE and Mitsui, owners and operators of the Hazelwood Coal Mine and Power Station in the Latrobe Valley announced their intentions to close the Hazelwood asset. On 31 March 2017, the Hazelwood Coal Mine and Power Station permanently ceased operating. The closure of Hazelwood has only heightened the need for a coordinated approach to mine rehabilitation from all stakeholders involved.

## The parties involved:

### Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (DEDJTR)

DEDJTR is responsible for overall delivery of the Latrobe Valley Regional Rehabilitation Strategy as part of the Government's response to the Hazelwood Mine Fire Inquiry.

### Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP)

DELWP is supporting DEDJTR to deliver the project, including a key role in leading the water technical studies and land use issues.

### Earth Resources Regulation (within DEDJTR)

Earth Resources Regulation is responsible for the regulation of Victoria's brown coal mines under the *Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) Act 1990* – this includes the assessment and approval of mine rehabilitation plans.

### Environment Protection Authority (EPA)

The Environment Protection Authority is responsible for the administration of the *Environment Protection Act 1970*. Under this act, the EPA regulates the noise levels, dust, emissions and discharged water quality.

### Worksafe Victoria

Worksafe Victoria regulates Occupational Health and Safety in workplaces across Victoria. It's obligations are prescribed in several Acts of Parliament including the *Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004*, the *Accident Compensation Act 1985*, the *Workplace Injury Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2013*, the *Dangerous Goods Act 1995* and the *Equipment (Public Safety) Act 1994*.

### Mine owners

The three mine owners (AGL, ENGIE and EnergyAustralia) are responsible for developing and implementing individual mine rehabilitation plans.

The mine owners have already invested significant time and money in progressive rehabilitation of areas of the mine voids that are no longer being actively mined. They are also investing in research to inform planning for future rehabilitation.

### Latrobe Valley Authority

As part of the Government's response to the closure of the Hazelwood Power Station and Coal Mine on 31 March 2017, the Victorian Government has committed \$20 million to fund the establishment of the Latrobe Valley Authority to lead the Government's response and oversee the \$266 million of investment to promote economic development in the Latrobe Valley .

## 1.8. MAP OF THE PROJECT AREA

The *Hazelwood Mine Fire Inquiry: Victorian Government Implementation Plan June 2016* committed the Latrobe Valley Regional Rehabilitation Strategy to setting "a safe, stable and sustainable landform for the Latrobe Valley Coal Mine voids and surrounding areas, providing assurance to the community".<sup>2</sup>

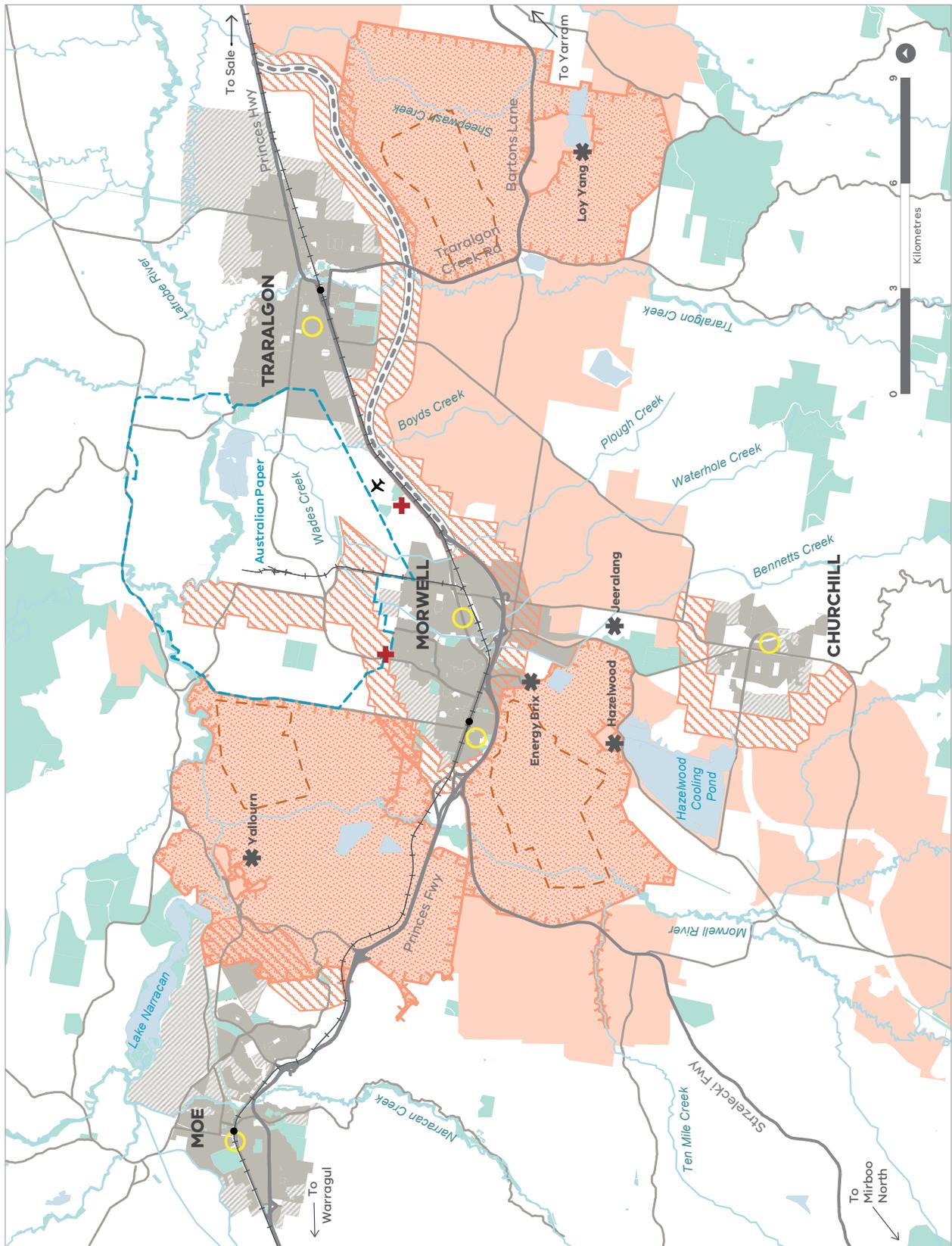
In making a decision about the viability of the pit lakes or partial pit lakes, the Latrobe Valley Regional Rehabilitation Strategy will take into account:

- Potential surface and ground water impacts
- Potential impacts on the environment
- Potential impacts on people and/or infrastructure
- Geotechnical considerations of stability and safety
- The communities' preferences for the future use of the land, based on what is technically and economically possible.

---

<sup>2</sup> *Hazelwood Mine Fire Inquiry: Victorian Government Implementation Plan June 2016*, pg. 75

Latrobe Valley Regional Rehabilitation Strategy context map



# 02

## Developing the Regional Rehabilitation Strategy – our commitment to engagement

The development of the Latrobe Valley Regional Rehabilitation Strategy is a key part of the Victorian Government's response to the Hazelwood Mine Fire Inquiry. Preparation of the strategy will be underpinned by thorough and genuine engagement through each phase of the strategy development process with the community and key stakeholders.

## 2.1. WHY ENGAGEMENT IS IMPORTANT

Open and transparent engagement is critical to the development of the Latrobe Valley Regional Rehabilitation Strategy because:

### **Engagement with the community, the mine owners and an array of key stakeholders is needed to build confidence in the strategy and its implementation**

- Stakeholders need to be informed early and openly and given opportunities to participate in the strategy development
- Different stakeholders need the opportunity to understand each other's perspectives and expectations
- We need to build people's technical understanding of the water and ground stability issues, to enable them to participate in the dialogue about what's possible
- We believe any trade-offs that need to be made should be informed by those who are most affected.

### **It will be important that the final rehabilitation solution is supported at a local level, from:**

- Community
- Local business and industry
- Local government
- Mine owners
- Other government departments and agencies.

### **We will develop a better, more achievable strategy if stakeholders understand and have contributed to the discussion about how to resolve key issues including:**

- The complexities and constraints, technical challenges and trade-offs
- The timeframe for delivery and the significant milestones that should be met along the way
- The potential for change and how this should be accommodated in the final strategy.

## 2.2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT<sup>3</sup>

The following principles underpin all our community engagement activity and will ensure that Latrobe Valley communities are at the centre of our decision making.

### **1. Working as one**

We will collaborate and work as a single team demonstrating a whole of Victorian Government approach.<sup>4</sup>

### **2. Listening**

We will actively listen to the needs, aspirations and opinions of all within the Latrobe Valley communities. We will create opportunities for communities to share their ideas, put forward their views and provide their feedback. We will be open to the views of communities to inform and influence our decision making and the way we work.

### **3. Access**

We will provide opportunities for everyone in the Latrobe Valley communities to access and understand information. We will use engagement processes that meet the needs of the diverse range of groups and individuals in the communities. We will aim to provide information in a language and a format that is easy to understand and appropriate for all community members.

### **4. Consulting in ways that are meaningful**

We will aim to ensure that our communications and engagement activities are well timed. Wherever possible we will reach out to community members at times and locations that are convenient to them. We will work to deliver consultation in a way that is meaningful and we will work across departments and agencies to collaborate and co-ordinate engagement activities where possible.

### **5. Feedback**

We will provide feedback to communities on how contributions have influenced decisions and affected implementation which will demonstrate the value of their participation. We will be clear about the timeframes for engagement and communicate when feedback is expected.

### **6. Diversity**

We will encourage a diverse cross section of the community to attend each engagement activity. We respect the needs, aspirations and opinions of all within the Latrobe Valley communities.

### **7. Evaluation and Improvement**

To ensure our engagement is effective, we will measure our success on an ongoing basis. We will seek feedback from communities and each other on how our approach to engagement can be improved.

### **8. Working locally**

Where possible, we will use locally trusted/respected staff to manage our community engagement. In some communities trusted relationships already exist and we will work with local people to identify and build on these strengths.

<sup>3</sup> *These principles were endorsed by the Hazelwood Mine Fire Inquiry Implementation Interdepartmental Committee on 17 August 2016. They are designed to guide the development, implementation and continual improvement of engagement processes used by Victorian Government departments and agencies as part of delivering actions under the Hazelwood Mine Fire Inquiry: Victorian Government Implementation Plan June 2016 and other related place based programs.*

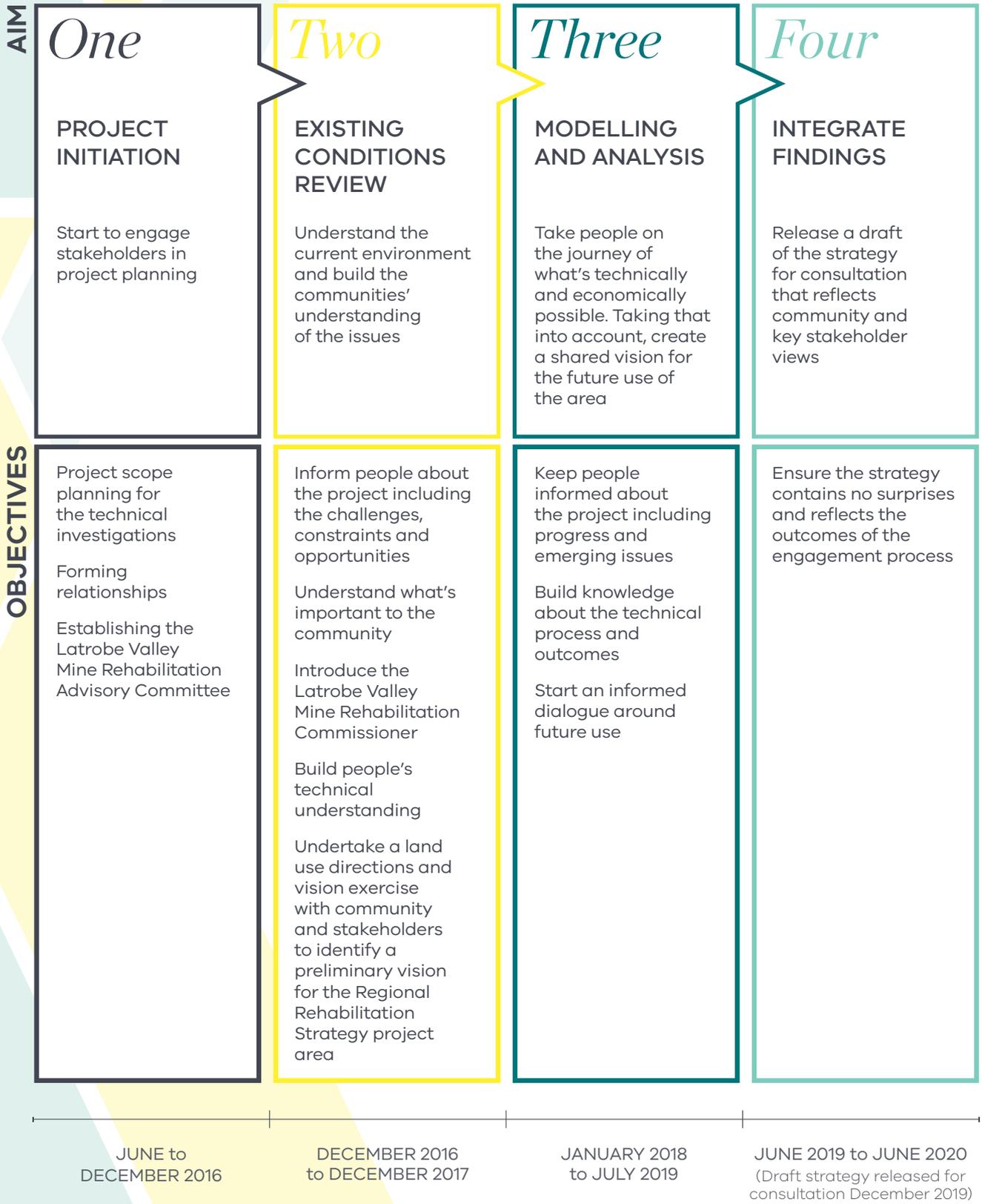
<sup>4</sup> *Including the Latrobe Valley Authority.*

# 03

## Our engagement approach

The development of the Latrobe Valley Regional Rehabilitation Strategy is a complex project, underpinned by a significant program of technical investigations.

The approach we will use to involve key stakeholders and the community in the four-year journey to completion of the strategy, gathering their input and feedback at key points along the way, is outlined in the four stage diagram over the page.



# 04

## Key messages

Key messages assist in providing information in a consistent way to the community and stakeholders. The messages will be updated as the project develops. Some messages will be relevant throughout, while other messages specific to a particular project stage will be developed as required.

- Based on the findings of the Hazelwood Mine Fire Inquiry the pit lake is currently the most viable rehabilitation option.
- The Latrobe Valley Regional Rehabilitation Strategy (LVRRS) will examine key knowledge gaps to confirm the viability of the pit lake rehabilitation options for the Latrobe Valley's three brown coal mine voids.
- The development of the Latrobe Valley Regional Rehabilitation Strategy is a key commitment of the Andrews Government in response to the findings of the reopened Hazelwood Mine Fire Inquiry conducted during 2015/16.
- The Latrobe Valley Regional Rehabilitation Strategy will be an important part of informing a vision for the future use of the coal mine voids and surrounding area.
- There are many uncertainties about the regional impacts of the proposed pit lakes. Significant studies will be undertaken to determine if the pit lakes option can deliver a safe, stable and sustainable rehabilitation solution.
- Studies will help understand any potential impact on water availability and security for the region's towns farms and environment.
- There are three key areas of focus for the studies to be undertaken as part of the preparation of the LVRRS. These are:
  - regional land stability (geotechnical) studies
  - regional water studies
  - cumulative impact assessment studies.
- Consultation will assist the community and key stakeholders in understanding the water and ground stability issues associated with the pit lake options.
- Consultation will also enable people to participate in an informed discussion about the viability of the pit lake options and the potential future use of the land and contribute to the development of the LVRRS.
- There will be many opportunities for information sharing and consultation with the community and other key stakeholders as information becomes available through the technical investigations and analysis.
- The LVRRS supports a regional, integrated approach to mine rehabilitation planning across all three Latrobe Valley coal mines. Where possible the LVRRS will provide information to support closure and rehabilitation planning for the Hazelwood Mine.
- It is not the role of the LVRRS to define the closure requirements for the Hazelwood Mine. Those requirements are set out in ENGIE's Work Plan in accordance with its obligations under the *Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) Act 1990*.
- A draft of the Latrobe Valley Regional Rehabilitation Strategy will be exhibited for public comment in late 2019. The final LVRRS will be available in 2020.

# 05

## Key stakeholders

### 5.1. OUR FOCUS

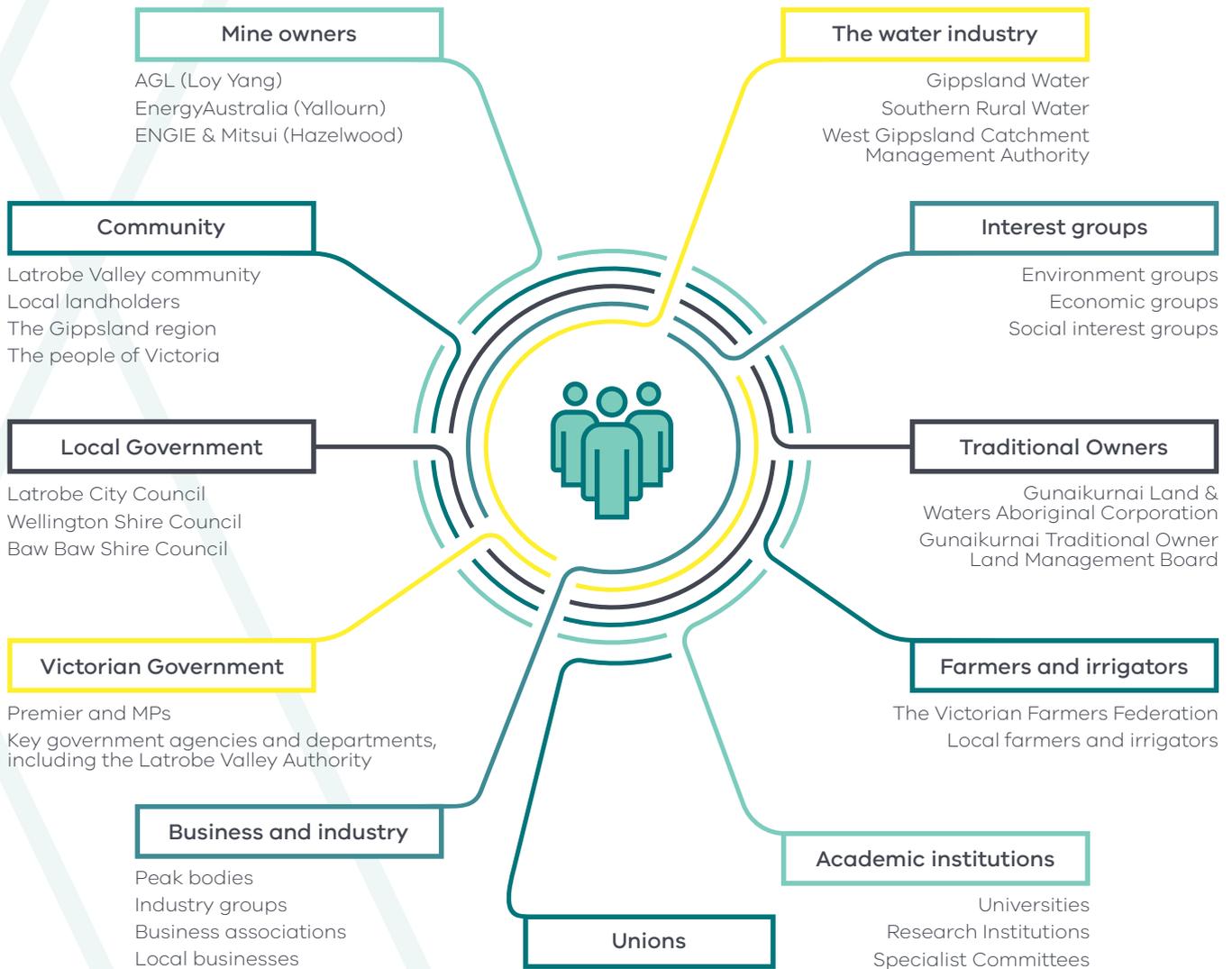
The focus of our engagement program is:

**Local** – recognizing first that it’s the people of the Latrobe Valley who have the most to gain or lose from the rehabilitation of the Latrobe Valley’s coal mines.

**Regional** – the effective rehabilitation of the coal mines and the need to ensure water is used responsibly, means that the region is an important focus for the development of the Regional Rehabilitation Strategy.

**Victorian** – understanding that all Victorians have an interest in ensuring that the mines are rehabilitated responsibly.

## LATROBE VALLEY REGIONAL REHABILITATION STRATEGY – KEY STAKEHOLDERS



# 06

## Engagement tools

## STAGE 1 – PROJECT INITIATION, JUNE – DECEMBER 2016

AIM: To identify and start to engage stakeholders in project planning

Engagement objectives	Engagement methods and tools	Correlating technical work program
<i>Project scope planning</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Established a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between DEDJTR and DELWP</li> <li>Scoping workshops with key industry stakeholders</li> <li>Developing the Stakeholder and Community Engagement Strategy (this document)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish MOU between DEDJTR and DELWP</li> <li>Prepare an overarching Community and Stakeholder Engagement Strategy</li> <li>Appoint independent peer reviewers</li> </ul>
<i>Forming relationships with a wide range of stakeholders</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Briefings</li> <li>Meetings</li> <li>Planning the engagement program in consultation with key stakeholders, including the Latrobe Valley Authority</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct workshops to develop project scope and methodology in consultation with the mine owners</li> <li>Establish the Latrobe Valley Mine Rehabilitation Advisory Committee</li> <li>Review Stage 1 project outputs and confirm Stage 2 work plan</li> </ul>
<i>Establishing the Latrobe Valley Mine Rehabilitation Advisory Committee</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish Terms of Reference (ToR)</li> <li>Seek expressions of interest for community members</li> <li>Announce the Committee establishment and make-up</li> <li>Publish details on website (member bios and Terms of Reference)</li> </ul>	

## STAGE 2 – EXISTING CONDITIONS REVIEW, DECEMBER 2016 – DECEMBER 2017

**AIM: To understand the current environment and build the communities' understanding of the water and stability issues**

Engagement objectives	Engagement methods and tools	Correlating technical work program
<p><i>Inform people about the project:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Objectives</li> <li>• Timeframes</li> <li>• Process</li> <li>• Challenges, constraints and opportunities</li> </ul>	<p>Collateral:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Website</li> <li>• Fact sheets</li> <li>• Community newsletters</li> </ul> <p>Media:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Announcements and briefings</li> <li>• Interviews and responses</li> </ul> <p>Community engagement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Latrobe Valley Mine Rehabilitation Advisory Committee</li> <li>• Targeted briefings to key stakeholders</li> <li>• Briefings to local groups/schools</li> <li>• Community conversations/ Technical Panel Q&amp;A event</li> <li>• 'Pop ups' at local events</li> </ul> <p>Stakeholder engagement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Latrobe Valley Mine Rehabilitation Advisory Committee</li> <li>• Meetings and briefings</li> <li>• Requests for information and review of technical outputs (e.g. from West Gippsland CMA and water authorities around water use and assets)</li> <li>• Independent Peer Review</li> <li>• Specialist workshops with key stakeholders</li> <li>• Online and social media</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review current mine rehabilitation strategies to identify water requirements for mine closure and restoration</li> <li>• Establish the Latrobe Valley Mine Rehabilitation Commissioner</li> <li>• Review existing Latrobe Valley coal mine and power station water entitlements and licences (ground and surface water)</li> <li>• Report on existing water use, water availability, aquatic ecosystems and water quality to provide baseline data and inform the works program</li> <li>• Brief the Latrobe Valley Mine Rehabilitation Commissioner on the current and future work program</li> <li>• Conduct annual progress review and produce a report</li> <li>• Assess possible impacts on water availability due to climate change and climate variability (not including possible additional water demand for mine closures) to be used in the modelling on water availability and potential impacts</li> <li>• Review Stage 2 project outputs and confirm Stage 3 work plan</li> </ul>

## STAGE 2 – EXISTING CONDITIONS REVIEW, DECEMBER 2016 – DECEMBER 2017

**AIM:** To understand the current environment and build the communities' understanding of the water and stability issues

Engagement objectives	Engagement methods and tools	Correlating technical work program
<p><i>Understand what's important to the community:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>About the area</i></li> <li>• <i>About the history</i></li> <li>• <i>About the future</i></li> <li>• <i>About the rehabilitation of the mines</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Baseline survey of the community seeking to understand:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– What does the community value about the local area?</li> <li>– What does the community think is important in terms of the rehabilitation of the LV coal mines?</li> <li>– How does the community define safe, stable and sustainable?</li> <li>– How much does the community understand about some of the issues associated with the rehabilitation of the coal mines?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Survey conducted through:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Market research</li> <li>– Focus groups/Community values workshops</li> <li>– Surveys</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>See previous page</p>
<p><i>Introduce the Commissioner (July 2017)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Website</li> <li>• Q &amp; A panel discussion</li> <li>• Annual Progress Report (July 2017)</li> </ul>	
<p><i>Build people's technical understanding</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workshops on special interest topics</li> <li>• Specialist workshops with technical stakeholders</li> <li>• School/university packs and presentations</li> <li>• Animation – highlighting research objectives for pit lakes</li> <li>• Technical Panel Q&amp;A event</li> <li>• Briefings and meetings with key stakeholders</li> <li>• 'Pop ups' at local events</li> </ul>	
<p><i>Land use visioning exercise:</i></p> <p><i>Identify key values for land use criteria for consideration of end uses</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workshops on preferred directions, land use constraints and beneficial use opportunities</li> <li>• Briefings and meetings with key stakeholders</li> <li>• Online and social media</li> </ul>	

### STAGE 3 – MODELLING AND ANALYSIS, JANUARY 2018 – JULY 2019

**AIM: To take people on the journey of what's technically and economically possible and then taking that into account, create a shared vision for the future end use of the area**

Engagement objectives	Potential methods and tools	Correlating technical work program
<p><i>Keep people informed about the project including progress and emerging issues</i></p>	<p>Collateral:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updates to website</li> <li>• Fact sheets</li> <li>• Community newsletters</li> <li>• Reports</li> <li>• Model – 3D physical model or interactive online model to give sense of scale</li> </ul> <p>Media:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Announcements and briefings</li> <li>• Interviews and responses</li> </ul> <p>Community engagement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Latrobe Valley Mine Rehabilitation Advisory Committee</li> <li>• Pop-ups at local events</li> <li>• Briefings to key stakeholders</li> <li>• Briefings to local groups/schools</li> <li>• Online and social media</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrate findings and outcomes from parallel studies related to mine rehabilitation including the Batter Stability Project, MRSDA review and local and state land planning policy review</li> <li>• Deliver a regional geotechnical study including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Investigation of potential water demands for pit lakes fill scenarios</li> <li>– Investigation of regional ground stability and associated potential impacts on land use, communities and infrastructure</li> <li>– Monitoring: outline likely requirements for long-term geotechnical monitoring</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Deliver a regional water study on the viability of pit lakes filling options and impacts, including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Potential water availability and use of regional water resources</li> <li>– Analysis of potential alternative sources of water to those currently available to the LV coal mines including a high-level technical and financial assessment</li> <li>– Potential water quality impacts in pit lakes, groundwater and off-site surface waters</li> <li>– Potential impacts on aquatic ecosystems and downstream users</li> <li>– The scope of likely requirements for long-term regional groundwater monitoring</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><i>Build understanding and confidence in the technical process and outcomes</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Latrobe Valley Mine Rehabilitation Advisory Committee – workshops on special interest topics</li> <li>• Specialist workshops with technical stakeholders, eg. water</li> <li>• School/university packs and presentations</li> <li>• Website and collateral</li> <li>• Community conversations (Q&amp;A event)</li> <li>• Briefings and meetings with key stakeholders</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Potential water availability and use of regional water resources</li> <li>– Analysis of potential alternative sources of water to those currently available to the LV coal mines including a high-level technical and financial assessment</li> <li>– Potential water quality impacts in pit lakes, groundwater and off-site surface waters</li> <li>– Potential impacts on aquatic ecosystems and downstream users</li> <li>– The scope of likely requirements for long-term regional groundwater monitoring</li> </ul>
<p><i>Start an informed dialogue around future use</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Co-design process or Citizens Jury (where community have shared decision making on future use, taking into account what's technically and economically possible)</li> <li>• Focus groups and workshops</li> <li>• Public displays</li> <li>• Surveys</li> <li>• Interactive online website and pin-point map</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review stage 3 project outputs and confirm Stage 4 work plan</li> <li>• Conduct annual progress review and produce a report</li> </ul>

**STAGE 4 – INTEGRATE FINDINGS, JUNE 2019 – JUNE 2020 (NOTE: DRAFT STRATEGY FOR CONSULTATION DEC 2019)**

**AIM: Release a draft of the strategy for consultation that reflects community and key stakeholder views**

Engagement objectives	Potential methods and tools	Correlating technical work program
<p><i>Release draft for consultation</i></p>	<p>Collateral:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updates to website</li> <li>• Fact sheets</li> <li>• Community newsletters</li> </ul> <p>Media:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Launch event in the Latrobe Valley</li> <li>• Announcements and briefings</li> <li>• Interviews and responses</li> </ul> <p>Community engagement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submissions</li> <li>• Public displays</li> <li>• Briefings to key stakeholders</li> <li>• Briefings to local groups/schools</li> <li>• Online and social media</li> </ul>	<p>Review and identify policy, administrative or legislative mechanisms necessary to implement the Latrobe Valley Regional Rehabilitation Strategy and require the Latrobe Valley coal mine licence holders to comply</p> <p>Review of the Latrobe Valley coal mine and power generators water entitlements and licenses that may be required to implement and comply with the Latrobe Valley Regional Rehabilitation Strategy</p> <p>Release draft assessment of potential impacts at a regional scale for consultation</p> <p>Release draft integrated regional scale mine rehabilitation Strategy for consultation</p> <p>Assess potential impacts at a regional scale</p> <p>Deliver an integrated regional scale mine rehabilitation strategy</p>

# 07

## Review and evaluation

This Stakeholder and Community Engagement Strategy which underpins the preparation of the Latrobe Valley Regional Rehabilitation Strategy will be reviewed and updated on a regular basis.

It's proposed that effectiveness of engagement and communication will be monitored and measured in a number of ways:

- Community understanding and level of awareness of the project
- Strong participation in engagement activities
- Strong participation and desire for involvement demonstrated by registrations for email updates, follows on social media and visits to the project website
- Feedback on the engagement approach as measured by survey
- Reach to vulnerable groups and individuals as measured by survey of individuals, organisations who support them, and local government channels.

The effectiveness of the consultation program will be evaluated on an ongoing basis, using a range of mechanisms including:

- Surveys (for example: feedback forms at engagement events)
- Anecdotal feedback to be recorded by the LVRRS project team.

Feedback on the engagement program will be published in the Annual LVRRS Progress Report.

The initial Progress Report, which will be published in mid-2017, will provide an overview of the key achievements during the first year of the LVRRS project and the key tasks for the upcoming 12 months. Progress reports will be completed and published on an annual basis

## 7.1. STRATEGIC GUIDANCE

Government legislation and policies provide guidance around the need for community engagement. This Stakeholder and Community Engagement Strategy that will underpin the preparation of the Latrobe Valley Regional Rehabilitation Strategy has been developed in accordance with the principles outlined in the following documents:

- ***Victorian Government Accessible Communications Guidelines:*** ensure communications materials are presented in ways that allows the information to reach all Victorians.
- ***Victorian Government Communications Guidelines:*** provides frameworks to ensure communications activities by Victorian Government entities are effective, well managed and responsive to the diverse needs of the Victorian community.
- ***Victorian Auditor-General's Office Public Participation in Government decision-making:*** provides a high level framework for the public sector to use when deciding how best to involve the public in government decision-making and implementation.
- ***DELWP community charter:*** describes how DELWP will work with communities and stakeholders to support liveable, inclusive and sustainable communities and thriving natural environments.



