

MINING REHABILITATION ADVISORY PANEL

COMMUNIQUE – 1/2024

A summary of the

Mining Rehabilitation Advisory Panel's Meeting on Thursday 28 March 2024

1. Mining Rehabilitation Fund ten-year legislative review

Under the *Mining Rehabilitation Fund Act 2012* (MRF Act), the Minister for Mines and Petroleum is required to undertake an independent 10-year review into the operation of the MRF Act. Marsden Jacob Associates was engaged by the WA Government to conduct the public consultation and statutory review of the MRF Act to determine whether the Act remains effective. The review identified that the MRF continues to function well as a targeted approach to minimising the environmental, social and financial risk of abandoned mines to the State. DEMIRS will be meeting with the Panel again soon to discuss some of the recommendations made in the report.

2. Collieries project

A geotechnical desktop investigation relating to subsidence issues in the Collie Basin and more broadly is currently being scoped to improve understanding and options relating to coal mining related subsidence remediation, this will include recommended options to be explored at the Scottish Colliery in the vicinity of Bacon St (Collie Burn).

3. Safer Shafts for Towns project

Recent stakeholder engagement with the Yalgoo Primary School and Shire of Yalgoo has been well received including meeting with elders. Yalgoo will be the first town to have the Safer Shafts for Towns project activities underway. The Emerald Reward shaft (located 200m from the primary school) was fenced to address concerns from the Yalgoo community after being declared abandoned in 2019. This project will reassess the shaft and propose a more long term and sustainable solution.

4. Donnybrook Shafts project

Between 1897 and 1903 an area located in the Boyanup State Forest approximately 2km south of Donnybrook within the Gnaala Karla Booja language region was prospected and mined for gold. Final monitoring of rehabilitated shafts occurred in November 2023, approximately 12 months after completion of shaft rehabilitation. The majority of expected settlement has likely occurred and the backfill within the features can be considered to be stable with no further monitoring required.

5. Congratulations on AMP Nomination

The AMP nomination under the Best Practice in Procurement category for the Ellendale Deconstruction contract was shortlisted as a finalist, with award winners announced on 7 December 2023. The nomination covered the development of the unique to the AMP tender templates and process, the challenges encountered during the contract execution and the impact of the works undertaken.

Renee Young Chairperson