

# COMMUNITY UPDATE



Tuesday, 15 February 2011

## MAIN DRAIN LAND MOVEMENT

***The purpose of this community update is to provide further information in relation to our operational response to the recent land movement in a non-operational area of Hazelwood mine.***

A regular and comprehensive land monitoring program is being undertaken on the northern boundary of Hazelwood mine.

This program is intended to monitor for potential further land movement after movement was detected in the area of the Morwell Main Drain following heavy rainfall last week. This drain runs just inside the mine's northern boundary adjacent to the south side of Morwell Township.

After this land movement, small cracks appeared in the vicinity including the westbound lanes of the adjacent Princes Freeway. The freeway runs between the township and the mine and was built in the mid 1980s, well after coal mining activity had finished in this part of the mine.

We are working closely with the Dept of Primary Industries (DPI), Victoria Police, VicRoads and Latrobe City Council to resolve the situation. As a result of consultations and inspections involving these agencies, a decision was taken by Victoria Police last Thursday to close the Princes Freeway until further notice.

The DPI and VicRoads are conducting a full geological assessment and monitoring the area on the mine's northern boundary, extending approximately 150 metres under the Princes Freeway. In conjunction with this monitoring program being conducted by VicRoads and DPI, we are monitoring in our area and are working with VicRoads, Latrobe City Council, DPI and Victoria Police so that a complete solution can be developed under the direction of the regulator DPI.

The area in question has not been mined for 30 to 40 years and is located some three kilometres from the current operational face in an area previously known as Morwell Open Cut. We do not anticipate that this land movement will have any adverse impact on coal excavation or power generation at Hazelwood power station.

We do understand the potential for frustration within the local community and we will continue to work closely with all relevant authorities to support their efforts and achieve a successful and early resolution to the current situation.

Any decision to reopen the Princes Freeway will be made by Victoria Police based on their assessment of the future safety and integrity of the road infrastructure. DPI have provided their Customer Service telephone number - 13 61 86 - for all public enquiries.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT NEIL LAWSON ON 0407 842 285**