



BLASTING

Blasting is an essential part of the mining cycle. Blasting is the process of fracturing material by the use of a calculated amount of explosive in drill holes so that a predetermined volume of material is broken.

Good blast design and execution are essential to successful mining operations. Improper or poor practices in blasting can have a severely negative impact on the economics of a mine.

At New Acland Mine, most rocks require blasting prior to excavation.

Blasting means/involves synchronized/concurrent multiple blasts from a pattern of drill holes across an area.

New Hope Group will manage any possible effects from blasting by adopting the following measures;

- » A qualified professional with suitable experience will always be responsible for the Project's blast management.
- » All surrounding residences / neighbours will be notified of blasts 48hrs before a blast
- » Field data (including weather forecast) will be used to best determine blast conditions and the type of preparation for each blast.
- » Delays will be used between concurrent blasts in order to address any issue resulting from a single blast
- » Another blast will not occur until such time an issue is resolved.

- » In the event there is an issue with a single blast the drilling depth, diameter, back fill and space between blast drill holes, will be adjusted to minimise/resolve the previous unfavourable outcome.
- » In the event of a blast issue, the maximum instantaneous charge of subsequent blasts will be reduced using delays, reduction of hole diameter, etc. (i.e. until the blast issue is resolved).
- » Blast events will only be conducted during favourable weather conditions.
- » The monitoring of blasts on neighbouring properties will be ongoing.
- » All new near neighbours surrounding the Project area will be proactively invited to join the blast notification contact list.
- » All blast complaints will be investigated in a timely manner to determine the extent of the issue.

Where appropriate, blast monitoring will be conducted at the affected residence, and as required, blast mitigation solutions will be investigated and implemented by agreement.

NEW HOPE WILL IMPLEMENT ITS NOISE AND VIBRATION MANAGEMENT PLAN TO MINIMISE THE RISK OF NOISE COMPLAINTS FROM NEARBY SENSITIVE RECEPTORS TO THE REVISED PROJECT.

The NVMP will be formally reviewed on an annual basis and updated as required.

The NVMP may also be updated based on the findings of internal and third party audit processes, based on the outcomes of a complaint investigation or following a regulatory inspection (i.e. as corrective actions).

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection will be advised of all significant revisions of the NVMP.

The NVMP will be subject to audit by the DEHP during Compliance Inspections and other site inspections.

