



AVONBANK PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET

REHABILITATION

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

OVERVIEW

WIM Resource Pty Ltd (WIM) will best practice mining and rehabilitation methods during the mining operations. WIM proposes to use a moving hole mining method that will support an efficient mining operation and will return the land to its previous landform and land use as fast as possible.

Topsoil and subsoil units will be stripped and stockpiled separately, to prevent mixing and ensure the integrity of these upper soils units is maintained. WIM anticipates that within 24-36 months of mining commencing on a piece of land it will be fully rehabilitated and returning to crop.

How will the topsoil be protected and stored?

Following detailed pre-mining soils studies the precise strip depths of the topsoil and subsoil will be determined by WIM's soil scientist (figure 2).

- ◆ The mining method will also ensure that the topsoil is stripped carefully and stockpiled separately to preserve its integrity.
- ◆ Subsoil will also be stripped separately and stockpiled 'like on like' on subsoil, so that it is not mixed with the topsoil unit (figure 3).

How will WIM rehabilitate the land?

- Step 1** The tailings are deposited back into the mining void and then dried out sufficiently.
- Step 2** WIM will use standard earth moving equipment to then place the overburden back into the mining cell.
- Step 3** Once the overburden is placed over, then the top- and subsoil units will be placed over, with the addition of soil ameliorants.
- Step 4** The seeding of a crop and subsequent monitoring.

GLOSSARY

Topsoil - the upper most fertile and layer that influences crop growth.

Subsoil – the second soil layer than underlines the topsoil, which is also important for crop growth.

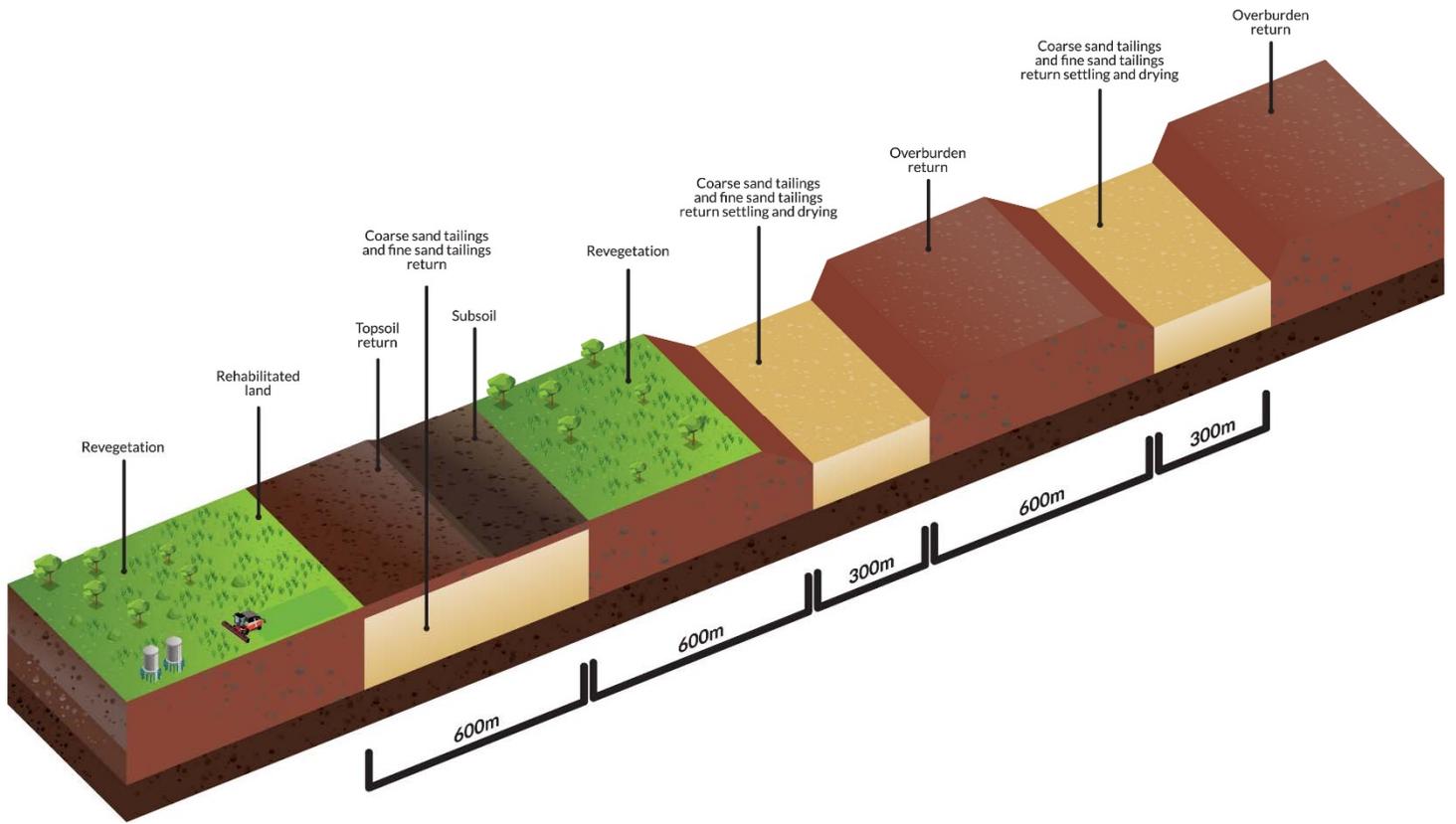


Figure 1: Box cut (moving hole) rehabilitation process



Figure 2: team briefing on soil samples



Figure 3: removing topsoil

What is the anticipated timeline for rehabilitation for a block of land?

WIM will progressively rehabilitate the land as it is mined. WIM envisages it will take 24-36 months to strip, mine and then rehabilitate back to farming land.

What do you mean by 'continual rehabilitation' or a 'moving hole'?

Once a box cut (moving hole) is opened up and is being mined, the material from in front is directly returned to the back of the hole, meaning the backfill can continually be rehabilitated (figure 1 above).

Who manages the land after rehabilitation?

WIM will manage the land once rehabilitated, in conjunction with landholders, dependent on individual arrangements with specific landowners. Following a period of post-mining monitoring, the land will be returned to the landowner.

What happens if the crop yield is lower than before mining – will I be compensated?

Yes. WIM will aim to rehabilitate the land, so that the crop yield is the equivalent before mining commenced. In some instances, the crop yield may be improved via improvements to the drainage of the paddock and/or soils characteristics.

If WIM does not own the paddock and the parties have entered into a compensation agreement, the Mining Act provides for compensation for many factors, including loss of agricultural production.

What happens to the 'starter box cut' overburden stockpiles?

The starter box cut overburden stockpiles are described in the Mining Information Sheet. Both the starter overburden stockpiles will be placed back into the pit and rehabilitated back to farming land.

How does WIM make sure the soils keep their integrity?

WIM has undertaken test work on the soils to gauge the depth of the topsoils and subsoils. The soils will be stripped and stockpiled separately to ensure all the upper layers of soil retain their original levels.

What happens to the in-pit tailings cells?

The in-pit tailings cells are left to dry until they form a safe and stable land form (figure 4). Once a suitable strength has been reached, they will be capped with a minimum of 3m of overburden, subsoil and topsoil. They will then be returned to farming land.



Figure 4: Avonbank Tailings placed into the test pit void, after wet gravity processing



Figure 5: Avonbank overburden being dozer-pushed over the dry tailings

CONTACT

For more information on WIM's approach to mining, please contact free call 1800 959 298.

Information on the Avonbank Project may also be found on the website www.wimresource.com.au.

For more information from state and federal government bodies regarding mining in Australia, please visit:

Victoria State Government Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions
<https://earthresources.vic.gov.au/>

Australian Minerals Resources
<http://australiaminerals.gov.au/home>

Australian Government Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources
www.industry.gov.au