



AVONBANK PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET

MINING

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the general mining approach for Avonbank?

WIM Resource Pty Ltd (WIM) will use industry standard mining equipment and practices to mine Avonbank in a progressive sequence. This is known as a **moving hole** mining method.

One benefit to a moving hole approach is the ability for WIM to rehabilitate progressively and return the land to its pre-existing land use within 24-36 months of mining.

What equipment will be used to mine?

WIM will use standard earth moving equipment, including excavators, bull dozers, trucks and scrapers.



GLOSSARY

Box cut – a single rectangular cut made into the earth to allow safe and secure access to the ore.

Overburden – material between the top and subsoil, and the ore.

Ore – material that contains valuable minerals.

Tailings – material that contains non valuable mineral.

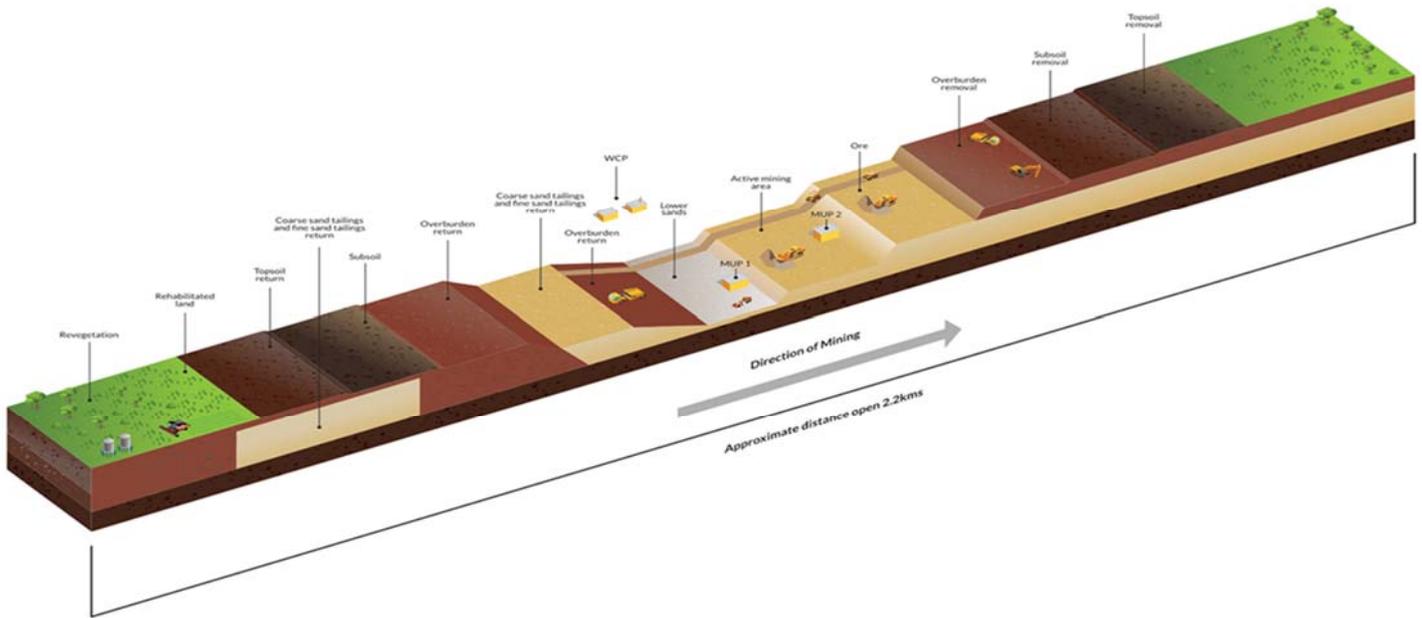
Wet Concentrator Plant – a processing plant that uses spirals for wet gravity separation.

Tailings Storage Facility – a dam used to store tailings

How exactly will a strip of land be mined?

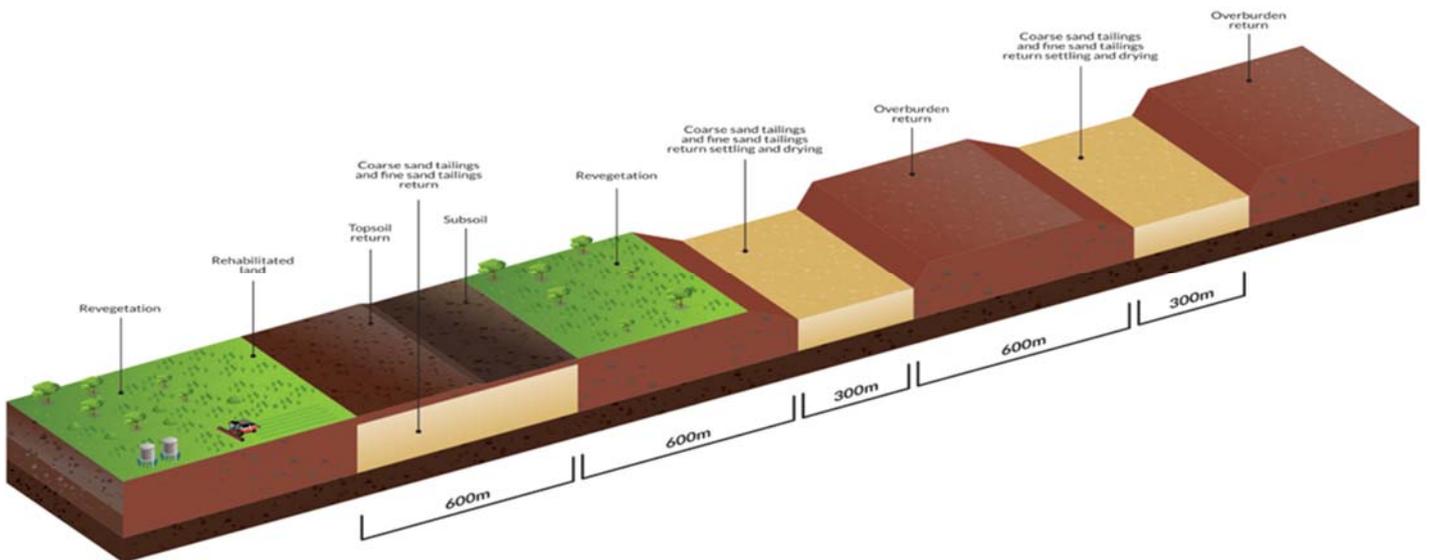
The mine sequence is based on a moving hole mining approach, that is aimed at reducing material handling and rehabilitation of the land as fast as possible.

- ◆ Top- and sub-soils will be removed
- ◆ Overburden will be removed
- ◆ Ore will be mined and fed into in-pit mining units
- ◆ Material will be pumped to a Wet Concentrator Plant (WCP), where light minerals are separated from heavy minerals as tailings
- ◆ The tailings will be pumped back to the mine void
- ◆ Overburden will be replaced, followed by sub- and topsoil
- ◆ A crop will be planted



What are the dimensions of the moving hole?

The moving hole from overburden stripping to overburden backfill will be 400m wide 25-30m deep and approximately 1,200m long.



Will there be overburden stockpiles?

During the start of the mine and when WIM moves north of the Wimmera Highway, there will be two overburden stockpiles that will enable the mining of a starter box cut mine void. One will be established in Year 1 and placed back to the pit in Year 7-8. The second stockpile will be established in Year 6 and be returned to the pit in Year 31.

During normal operations, there will not be overburden stockpiles, all overburden will be direct returned to the mine path.

How will the topsoil and subsoil be managed?

Detailed soil studies and test pit trials have already been undertaken to determine the typical characteristics and average depths of the topsoil and subsoil units. The topsoil and subsoil will be stripped and stockpiled individually, 'like on like', so it can be returned to the level it came from during rehabilitation. This is important to preserve the integrity of the upper soil units and to support crop growth once rehabilitated.



Avonbank Test pit – soil science briefing for the earthworks team

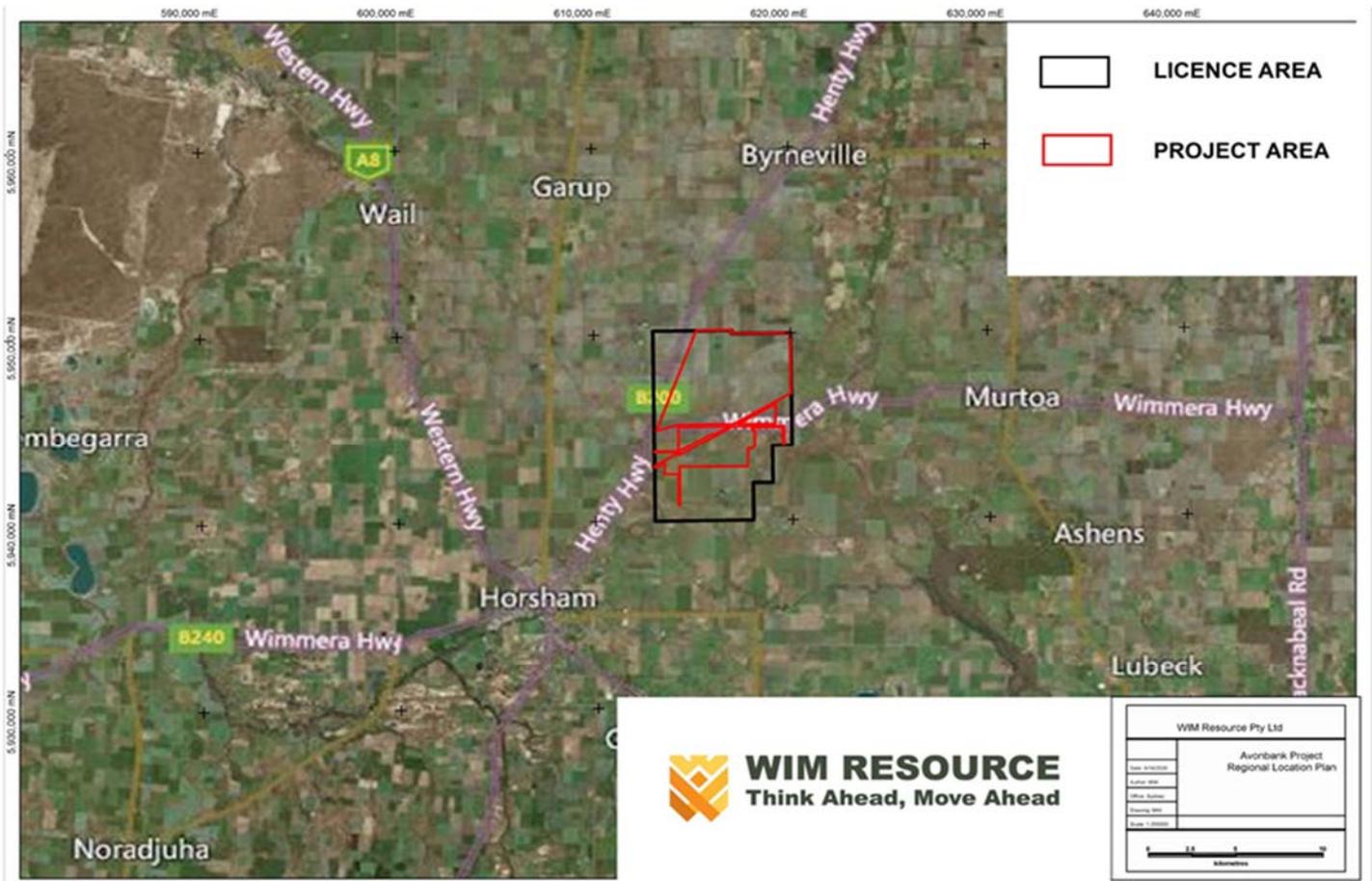
How much material will be mined each month?

WIM proposes stripping approximately 1 million/bcm of overburden and 0.5 million/bcm of ore per month. Topsoil and subsoil will be approximately 20,000bcm per month.

Will there be any above ground Tailings Storage Facilities (TSFs)?

No. As an alternate approach WIM has designed Avonbank to avoid tailing into an above ground TSF. All tailings will be tailed back into the open mine void.

WIM has undertaken a detailed mining study and studied the various options for tailings storage. One option was for an above ground TSF. This option was deemed a high-risk option and would have disturbed more ground. WIM has established a mine plan to enable storage of tailings in the mine void. The two overburden stockpiles in Year 1 and Year 7 help make room for the tailings cells in the mine void.



The Avonbank Project area.

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://australianminerals.gov.au/home>

Australian Government Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources

www.industry.gov.au