

FAQS

HAZELWOOD POWER STATION



DEMOLITION

ASBESTOS REMOVAL AND STORAGE

Is asbestos removed from the Power Station before demolition occurs?

The intention of ENGIE Hazelwood is to remove all asbestos material progressively from structures prior to the demolition. The appointed demolition contractor will develop a plan to remove identified asbestos material.

Can you explain the asbestos removal process?

During the demolition process, we will have several removal processes in place. Determining the removal technique is based on many factors including, but not limited to, risk, type, volume and condition of material.

The two key types on site will be for the removal of friable or non-friable asbestos.

Friable asbestos:

The friable, or A Class, removal technique for large areas consists of encapsulating the identified removal zone in a controlled environment known as 'a bubble'. A wet removal technique inside this bubble is then undertaken. This work space is inspected and monitored throughout the entire process by the independent occupational hygienist. On completion of the work, an inspection of the entire area is undertaken by the independent occupational hygienist to ensure all material has been removed correctly. Once the material has been removed, an inspection of the entire enclosure is undertaken by the hygienist before air monitoring is undertaken within the enclosure to ensure the air is fibre free, after which the bubble can then be dismantled.

Non-friable asbestos:

Non-friable, or B Class, removal is undertaken in an open-air environment. The material is wet down and sealed, then carefully removed and wrapped in a sealed plastic envelope. If the area is larger than 10 square metres, a visual clearance inspection by the independent occupational hygienist is undertaken.

What happens to the asbestos once it's removed?

The asbestos waste is safely wrapped and packaged then loaded on to a truck before it is transported to the onsite asbestos containment area by a licensed asbestos removalist. Only approved waste can be disposed into the asbestos containment area.

How do we know this work will be done safely?

The principal demolition contractor will appoint a hygienist to ensure asbestos removal is undertaken correctly, as per the Asbestos Management Control Plan (AMCP) and the Demolition Asbestos Management Plan (DAMP). The AMCP and its techniques will also be monitored by the contractor and the independent hygienist. Once finalised, both the AMCP and the DAMP will need to be endorsed by WorkSafe Victoria prior to the start of the demolition process.

The licensed asbestos removalists will hold both a Class A and Class B licence. Licensed removalists will work within the compliances under Victorian legislation. Some of these compliances include:

- notification to WorkSafe of each removal area, meeting required timelines
- nomination and appointment of a supervisor for each asbestos removal area
- development of a control plan
- availability on site of demonstrated proof of training for each employee





What are the preparatory works that are being undertaken to have the asbestos containment area ready to receive waste?

The preparation works currently underway to prepare ENGIE Hazelwood’s asbestos containment area include formation earthworks to meet the strict engineering design. This is key to ensuring the safe handling of sealed asbestos material can be achieved at all times. All preparation work will be completed, ready to accept waste by April 2019. ENGIE Hazelwood will be appointing a licensed landfill operator to manage the waste stream.

The ENGIE Hazelwood asbestos containment area licence has been amended through Environment Protection Authority (EPA) to accept asbestos waste from the Energy Brix Australia Corporation (EBAC) site. ENGIE’s previous asbestos landfill licence did not allow ENGIE to accept asbestos waste from other sites.

How do we know that asbestos fibres won’t escape into the air?

An extensive air monitoring program will be undertaken during the removal of asbestos to evaluate the effectiveness of the removal controls in place. WorkSafe Victoria has very strict protocols to ensure that all controls are in place and effective.

Will there be an onsite testing laboratory or will asbestos fibre results have to be sent away for analysis?

All asbestos analysis will be conducted on site at ENGIE Hazelwood by a National Association of Testing Authorities’ (NATA) accredited laboratory managed and operated by the hygienist.