



Rehab started at Drayton mine site

DRAYTON open cut coal mine, closed in late 2016, is undergoing a 'make-over' with the site's new owners Malabar Coal completing 90 hectares of rehabilitation during 2018.

This is good news, as the former owners Anglo American, were according to their Mine Operation Plan to undertake 106ha of rehabilitation in 2017.

However as stated in the mine's Annual Environmental Management Report 2017 no new rehabilitation was completed in 2017 which raises questions about the regulatory supervision on rehab work.

Since buying the old Drayton site in February 2018 Malabar Coal, owners of the adjoining Spur Hill Coal Project have begun rehabilitation works.

The company hopes to gain approval for an underground mine covering Drayton South tenement using the existing coal handling infrastructure located at Dray-

ton. They have also renamed the Drayton mine to Maxwell Infrastructure.

Malabar Chairman Wayne Seabrook said the rehabilitation is a priority for the local underground mining company.

"It's a pleasure to stand on site and watch the transformation take place first hand, from the shaping of landforms to the seeding of

pasture and woodland areas for future generations."

"But the public don't often have the opportunity to get this view. Many of our neighbours have lived in the area for generations and I know they are eager to see the mine rehabilitated to a high standard. "Since having access to the mine site we've had around 30 people working on site to rehabilitate the land. "While there is still work ahead of us, we're on track to create a post-mining landscape that is compatible with its surroundings and capable of sustaining pro-

ductive land use."

The company working on technical studies to support a development application for the Maxwell Solar Project – a proposed solar farm on a portion of the rehabilitated site. Working at capacity, the solar farm would generate enough energy to power about 10,000 local homes.



Rehab work at Drayton