Guideline 4: Rehabilitation GIS Portal – Overview and Access

Regulatory framework

Rehabilitation is a critical element of mining operations in NSW and is principally regulated under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and the Mining Act 1992.

Before commencing mining operations, development consent is required from the relevant consent authority under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979. The Final Land Use, which includes the final landforms and rehabilitation requirements, is assessed and approved as part of the development consent. These requirements of the development consent are regulated by either the local council (for non-State significant development) or the Planning Services Division within the Department of Planning and Environment (for State significant development).

Following the grant of development consent, a mining lease, which provides the right to mine, may be granted under the Mining Act 1992. Rehabilitation conditions, which are consistent with the development consent, are attached to all mining leases. The Resources Regulator, also within the Department of Planning and Environment, is responsible for the regulation of mining operations (including rehabilitation) carried out under a mining lease granted under the Mining Act 1992.

Background

Lease holders have an obligation to provide rehabilitation spatial information (maps) within the various plans or reports required by the mining lease conditions. These reports/plans are currently identified as the Mining Operations Plan and Annual Environmental Management Report. Under the Operational Rehabilitation Reforms now proposed, these plans/reports will transition to, and ultimately be replaced by, the Rehabilitation Management Plan and the Annual Rehabilitation Report and Forward Program.

The Department has developed the Rehabilitation GIS Portal to streamline the collection of rehabilitation geographical information system (GIS) spatial data from lease holders. The Rehabilitation GIS Portal is an online application which can be accessed via the internet following account registration and approval. This will allow for collection of the rehabilitation spatial data into a centralised geodatabase which will be utilised for monitoring and regulation of the rehabilitation of mining activities.

From early 2019, the Rehabilitation GIS Portal will be available for lease holders to submit rehabilitation spatial information associated with the plans and reports noted above. Spatial information submitted to the Rehabilitation GIS Portal will ultimately replace the requirement to supply this information (as a hard copy) within rehabilitation plans or reports required by the Department under the mining lease conditions.
Purpose

The purpose of this Guideline is to provide an overview of the Rehabilitation GIS Portal and information to facilitate account registration and access.

Portal functions

The Rehabilitation GIS Portal has been developed to provide a secure portal (or web application) to allow mining lease holders and the Department to submit spatial information and review the data submitted within the web application’s map viewer. Spatial data provided in a GIS format will facilitate further functions that are not easily achieved by reviewing data in hard copy or PDF format. These functions include (but are not limited) to the following:

- two options are available for the submission of spatial data including uploading pre-prepared data files or online (onscreen) tracing within the portal
- online validation of data to facilitate submission
- records and maintains all submissions logged within the portal which can also be subsequently downloaded
- current and previous data submissions can be reviewed within map viewer
- allows for the calculation of Rehabilitation Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
- facilitates online tracing for data submission. This includes uploading field collected waypoints and the use of aerial imagery as a basemap.

The Rehabilitation GIS Portal contains online guidance material (how-to videos) covering the functions identified above.

Computer Environment Information

The Rehabilitation GIS Portal is designed to utilise marketplace standard web browsers which are compatible with HTML5 developed sites. The recommended environment is a Microsoft based computer, with a modern, and up to date operating system (at least Windows 7) with the following browsers:

- Internet Explorer: version 11 or greater
- Google Chrome: version 56 or greater
- Edge: version 39 or greater (Windows 10 or higher)
- Firefox: version 55 or greater.

Portal access and account registration

The Rehabilitation GIS Portal will be able to be accessed at the following web address:
minerehabilitationportal.nsw.gov.au

Representatives from each mine are required to register their details via the ‘Create Account’ section link at the bottom of the initial login page. Each mine should select appropriate representatives who will be responsible for uploading and reviewing the required rehabilitation spatial data.
Representatives should use official company domain name email addresses when requesting registration. Registration of an account also requires an email confirmation step before account verification can proceed.

Consultants acting on behalf of lease holders can apply for registration, however, delays may be experienced as the Department will refer to the lease holder to confirm respective permissions for these consultants to access the Rehabilitation GIS Portal on their behalf.

The registered account details need to be verified by the Department before the Rehabilitation GIS Portal can be accessed. Depending on demand, this may take a few days. In some circumstances, the Department may choose to contact you to verify the details of your account registration before proceeding. Users will be informed by email notification once their account has been approved and the Rehabilitation GIS Portal can then be accessed via the login page.

For further information on the spatial data requirements, please refer to Guideline 5: Mine Rehabilitation Portal - Spatial Data (GIS) Guidelines.