

ABOUT CLEAN TEQ SUNRISE

The Clean TeQ Sunrise project in Central West NSW is one of the largest, highest grade nickel, cobalt and scandium deposits in the world.

Clean TeQ Sunrise will help meet growing demand for the raw materials required for next generation batteries and lightweight aluminium alloys.

Overview

The Development Consent for the Clean TeQ Sunrise project was granted in 2001. It has been modified a number of times to approve design changes that make mining and processing operations as efficient as possible.

The Development Consent requires Clean TeQ Sunrise to prepare a *Biodiversity management plan and revegetation strategy* (BMP-RS) and a *Rehabilitation management plan* (RMP). Together they describe the process Clean TeQ Sunrise will use to:

- Manage and enhance biodiversity by protecting remnant vegetation and fauna habitat
- Rehabilitate disturbed areas so that they are safe, stable and non-polluting
- Progressively revegetate rehabilitated areas.

The BMP-RS was prepared in consultation with the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) and approved by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE). The current BMP-RS is available at www.cleanteq.com

The RMP was prepared in consultation with Lachlan, Parkes and Forbes Shires. We also consulted the OEH and Department of Industry – Land and Water and the RMP was approved by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE). The current RMP is available at www.cleanteq.com

Remnant vegetation

Remnant vegetation includes trees, shrubs, herbs and grasses that were established before European settlement and have never been cleared. It provides habitat for animals unique to the area and supports broader catchment values. Whenever possible, revegetated areas will be linked to remnant vegetation to enhance biodiversity.

Pre-clearing surveys

Clean TeQ Sunrise's *Vegetation clearance protocol* applies to disturbance of any ground within the project area. It requires pre-clearance surveys to be done within two weeks of clearing commencing.

The surveys make a detailed record of the locations of animals, habitat and vegetation. Based on the survey, the environment and operational teams work together to develop a detailed plan to minimise and manage impacts to native animals during clearing.

Managing native animals and plants during clearing

Clearance areas are kept as small as practical. Disturbance of native animals is minimised by clearing between late summer and late autumn whenever possible and clearing non-habitat trees first. Habitat trees are lowered slowly using machinery, left overnight with exit holes facing up so that native animals can leave, then inspected before being moved the next day.

During all clearing operations, a qualified person monitors native animals to make sure they either leave the area of their own accord or are caught and relocated as required by Clean TeQ Sunrise's *Fauna rescue strategy*. Fauna escape routes will be built into excavated areas. Any excavations that will be open for an extended period of time are fenced off or covered and inspected twice daily (e.g. trenches).

We manage impacts on vegetation by stockpiling soil and collecting and propagating seeds for use during rehabilitation and progressive revegetation.

Planning and managing rehabilitation and revegetation

The guiding principle for rehabilitation is to leave disturbed areas safe, stable and non-polluting following revegetation.

Clean TeQ Sunrise is required to revegetate, as native woodland, a minimum of two hectares for every hectare permanently cleared on the mine site. For every tree removed on the pipeline route, two local native trees must be planted. Stable landforms built from overburden, and infrastructure areas, are planned to be revegetated as native woodland.

To meet these requirements, Clean TeQ Sunrise's revegetation strategy estimates 503ha of native vegetation is expected to be cleared over the life of the mine and has designated 1006ha for revegetation. Revegetation is planned to be done progressively as work on cleared land finishes, and to maintain or improve the quality of existing vegetation in the area.

Other land management requirements

We are also required to manage the risk of bushfire by maintaining tracks and reducing fuel burden on the mining lease. Like other landholders, we are also required to monitor and control weeds, feral animals and erosion.

Making information available

Biodiversity and revegetation management performance will be included in the Annual Review submitted to the DPIE and published on our website.

Incident management

The DPE and other relevant agencies must be notified of incidents when Clean TeQ Sunrise becomes aware of them. In the event of an incident Clean TeQ Sunrise will take the actions outlined in the contingency plan in the BMP-RS and RMP.

Within seven days of the incident, a detailed report must be provided to the Secretary. The report will validate the monitoring information as well as provide a detailed description of the incident, the cause, action taken to date and reasonable and feasible options to resolve the incident.

Reporting biodiversity and revegetation concerns to Clean TeQ Sunrise

If you are concerned about biodiversity and revegetation management, please ring 1800 952 277 or email community@cleanteq.com. We are committed to resolving concerns as soon as possible.