

# Bulla Spoils Facility

Community update: August 2022



**BULLA**  
SPOILS FACILITY  
PART OF THE SUNBURY ECO-HUB

Hi-Quality Group's Bulla Spoils Facility, at 570 Sunbury Road, has been taking soil from the West Gate Tunnel Project (WGTP) tunnel boring machines (TBMs) since March, and we'd like to give you the latest update from the site, and answer your questions.



## Achieving major milestones

About 12 months ago, we started major construction on the purpose-built Bulla Spoils Facility. In March, we finished the key parts that enabled us to begin accepting soil and as of August we have now completed all construction at the Facility.

The Facility includes 59 engineered holding bays where material is first placed when it arrives on site, three pre-treatment ponds, a purpose-built water treatment plant that removes any contaminants and returns the water to safe drinking levels, and an approximately 25-hectare containment cell with multi-layer lining to safely store remaining soil.

This Facility is a tailored solution for one of Australia's biggest infrastructure projects and has used industry-leading technology to protect the local communities, and surrounding areas. We're proud to see it come to life and want to thank our specialist teams for the hard work, and the community for their patience.

In April, the WGTP's second TBM, Vida, started operations. With both TBMs now operating there has been a gradual increase in soil delivered to our Facility. Trucks continue operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week, following the primary approved route which has been used since March.

## Doing more to keep the roads clean

With the volume of activity taking place along Sunbury Road, we know the cleanliness has been a real concern for residents in recent months.

While Major Roads Projects Victoria (MRPV) upgrades Sunbury Road, they are conducting regular cleaning along the entire road, aiming to make it safe and clean for all road users. We've also worked with the surrounding projects, the West Gate Tunnel Project and EPA Victoria to improve our on-site processes and prevent material leaving the Facility as much as possible.

Since operations began, trucks have always been required to travel through a wheel-wash before exiting the Facility. We have since made improvements to this process to further minimise our impact on road users.

## The upgraded cleaning process includes:

1. A dedicated scrape-down area to remove excess material from the inside of the trucks.
2. A high-pressure hose and water cannon system to wash down external areas on the trucks.
3. Requiring all trucks to go through a longer and more thorough wheel wash.

The West Gate Tunnel Project builder, CPB John Holland Joint Venture, has also extended controls on trucks leaving the site in Yarraville to ensure all locks and seals are in place and completed a driver education program to help drivers be more aware of what can cause spills.

The trucks transporting soil are covered and sealed at the back by a compression seal, with tail gate and grain locks to prevent leakage before embarking on their journey. All trucks must meet EPA Victoria requirements, be fully assessed for road worthiness and compliance with noise and emission limits and follow approved truck routes between Yarraville and Hi-Quality's facility.





Lance Ingrams, Regional Manager – Victoria, walking through the holding bays during construction.

## Broadening our role in the community

For many years, Hi-Quality has been active in helping our neighbours, local groups and businesses, and emergency services on a range of activities and donations. We are now building on this to broaden our role in the local areas.

Over the last couple of months we have:

- Welcomed a local student to our new Student Placement Program, which helps young people learn the ropes of construction and waste management, including environmental, engineering, cleaning, and heavy machinery. We encourage schools or students looking for placement to reach out and we look forward to welcoming more students on-site in the future.
- Supplied and delivered materials to the Oaklands Ride Disabled Association to enable the upgrade of their carpark and driveway ahead of a delegates visit for the Melbourne Cup Carnival in November.
- Started discussions on how we can further support projects funded through the West Gate Tunnel Project's Sunbury & Bulla Neighbourhood Fund either through financial or material donations.

If you're interested in the Fund, learn more at [westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/sunbury-bulla-fund](http://westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/sunbury-bulla-fund)

## More opportunities to have your say

Building on the work we have done with community representatives through the Community Dialogue, we are planning a series of community forums for anyone interested in learning more about the Facility or ask any questions. If you have suggestions for topics to discuss at the next forum in October, get in touch.

## Testing shows low PFAS levels

Our facility has been built to ensure a conservative approach and has measures in place to ensure people and the environment are kept safe. The amount of PFAS detected in soil that has gone to the facility so far has been at the very low level expected before tunnelling began. It is expected that more PFAS will be detected in soil as tunnelling continues.

## How can I find out more?

As always, our phone hotline, email, and online engagement hub are open and we encourage anyone with questions to reach out.

- Give us a call: 03 9021 0678
- Send us an email: [getintouch@hiqualitysunbury.com.au](mailto:getintouch@hiqualitysunbury.com.au)
- Read more: [www.hiqualityecohub.com.au](http://www.hiqualityecohub.com.au)
- Sign up for updates or ask us a question: [www.hiqualitysunbury.com.au](http://www.hiqualitysunbury.com.au)



You can also learn about the site at [hiqualityecohub.com.au](http://hiqualityecohub.com.au)



Find out more about the West Gate Tunnel project at [westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au](http://westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au)