BORAL

Building something great

Proposed pit extension

Wollert Quarry

Boral is seeking approval to extend the extraction area at Wollert Quarry. This page explains what is proposed, why it matters, and how we manage our impacts on the surrounding community.

What is proposed?

All quarries need approval to operate via a licence known as a "work authority". When this work authority needs to be varied, this is done via a "work plan variation". Boral is applying to extend the existing extraction pit shell. To do this, Boral has submitted a work plan variation to the State Government.

The proposed work plan variation would allow quarrying to continue deeper and wider within the Boral property boundary.

Location

The extension sits entirely within Boral's property boundary at Wollert.

What changes?

The quarry pit would be extended by 2.33 hectares to the east of the current pit.

Why it is needed?

Melbourne's north is growing rapidly. The extension supports ongoing supply of local construction materials.

Approval required

A work plan variation and planning permit from the State Government is required before any extended extraction can begin.

Site map

The figure below shows the Boral property boundary, the current approved extraction area, and the proposed extension area.

Figure 1 Pit Extent and Proposed Extension

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How is it approved?

Any extension to quarry operations in Victoria requires a formal planning approval process. This involves independent technical assessments, a period of public notification, and a decision by the relevant State authority.

To achieve approval of a work plan variation, Boral requires approval from both Resources Victoria and the Department of Transport and Planning.

The timeframe for this is below.

Jan 2025	Nov 2025	Jan 2026	Aug 26
Work plan variation submitted to Resources Victoria for assessment	Work plan variation endorsed	Planning permit submitted to Dept of Transport & Planning (DTP)	Public notification

Have your say

Community feedback is an important part of the planning process. The planning permit for the work plan variation is currently on public exhibition.

If you have questions or would like to make a submission, contact us using the details below or visit community@boral.com.au to find out how to formally lodge feedback.

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Environmental management

Wollert Quarry

Boral takes its environmental responsibilities seriously. This page explains how we manage dust, noise and water at Wollert Quarry, and what happens to the land when quarrying is complete.

Community reference group

The site operates a community reference group, who meets minimum twice a year. The community reference group provides a clear and open way for local residents to share their views, stay informed about quarry activities, and build trust through regular, transparent updates on environmental management and operations.

You can view the meeting minutes: boral.com.au/locations/boral-quarries-wollert

Water cart

A 25,000 litre water cart keeps roads and unsealed surfaces damp. Non-toxic polymers are added to the water to help it last longer.

Stockpile sprinklers

An automatic water sprinkler system activates on priority stockpiles to suppress dust at the source.

Bag house filter

The final crushing and screening area uses a dry dust extraction system that captures airborne particles from crushers, screens and conveyor points.

Wheel wash

A wheel wash at the site exit reduces mud and dust being carried onto public roads by trucks leaving the site.

Covered Conveyors

Conveyors are fully covered. Fine water sprays are fitted at transfer points where material changes direction.

Crusher enclosure

The primary crusher feed hopper is roofed and enclosed on three sides, with directional water sprays to reduce dust during tipping.

Covered loads

All loads leaving the site are fully covered and materials do not extend above truck sidewalls.

Speed limits

Appropriate speed limits are enforced on unsealed internal roads to reduce dust lift-off from vehicles.

Figure 2 Dust monitor locations

Dust management

Dust is reviewed every day. At the start of each shift, operators check the weather forecast and adjust activities accordingly. Dry, windy conditions increase the risk of dust affecting the surrounding area, so on those days additional controls are applied.

The main sources of dust at the site are haul roads, the crushing plant and stockpile areas. Boral uses a combination of engineering controls and operational measures to keep dust to a minimum.

Four real-time dust monitoring (Marked with yellow pin labelled RTDM) stations are located around the quarry. They measure fine particles (PM10 and PM2.5) continuously, allowing the team to respond immediately if dust levels approach EPA limits.

Our 5 ambient air monitors (Marked with red pins labelled STN) measures monthly dust fallout in the surrounding environment, helping us understand dust levels at the quarry boundary.

Real-time dust monitors measures dust levels continuously, allowing us to respond in real time to any site activities causing dust.

Environmental management
Wollert Quarry

Noise management

Noise is managed through a range of controls, including limiting noisy activities to daytime hours, reducing early morning operations, and managing the operation of mobile plant (such as reducing speeds for earthmoving equipment and noise cancelling for reverse beepers) to minimise noise generation.

Boral has implemented a range of noise mitigation measures and adjusted site operations to reduce potential impacts on surrounding properties.

Some of the noise mitigation that the site has implemented includes:

- Boral Wollert Quarry has a noise wall that surrounds the primary crusher and reduces noise significantly (pictured below). The 12-metre-high noise enclosure has been installed around the primary crusher to reduce operational noise. Built with heavy duty steel panels designed to block sound, the enclosure has significantly reduced noise levels and is helping minimise impacts on the surrounding community.
- Sound-reducing curtains have been installed around the secondary crusher and Screen 1 to help contain noise from crushing and screening activities.
- These specialised curtains are designed to block and absorb sound, reducing the amount of operational noise that travels beyond the site.
- This improvement helps minimise noise impacts on nearby residents and the surrounding community.
- Traditional reversing beepers have been replaced with quieter broadband reverse alarms, which maintain site safety while reducing the amount of noise that carries into the surrounding community.
- Reduced speed limits for heavy vehicles help lower overall operational noise by minimising engine revving, tyre noise and braking, helping to reduce impacts on the surrounding community.
- Earth bunds (Large landscaped mounds of earth) act as noise barriers, helping to reduce the amount of sound that travels from the site to surrounding properties.

Independent specialist assessments confirm that noise from the proposed quarry expansion is expected to comply with EPA Victoria requirements.

Regular noise monitoring is conducted during operations. This allows the team to identify any issues early and make adjustments before they become a problem for neighbours.

Environmental management
Wollert Quarry

Water management

Wollert Quarry operates as a closed water system. All stormwater that falls within the quarry boundary is captured and reused on site. There is no stormwater discharge to a waterway.

Captured water is stored in an on-site holding dam and reused in the aggregate production process, for dust suppression on haul roads and for other operational needs. This reduces the site's reliance on external water sources.

During very heavy rainfall, a secondary sediment basin may receive overflow. Any overflow is contained within adjacent paddock areas on the Boral property and does not reach a waterway. More detail is set out in the Surface Water Management Plan, available on request.

44ml

water reused on site each year.

That's the equivalent of 18 Olympic pools!

0

Discharges to waterways

Rainfall within quarry boundary → Captured in holding dam → Reused in production, dust suppression and road watering

Figure 3 Surface Water Management

Rehabilitation — what happens after quarrying

Rehabilitation is planned from the start of quarrying, not at the end. Exhausted extraction areas are progressively filled and restored as quarrying advances to new areas.

How the site is rehabilitated

Approved clean fill material (dirt/soil) is placed in engineered layers with compaction and moisture conditioning to achieve a stable landform. The clean fill is placed on the pit floor and graded and compacted to a design that is safe and stable and will achieve the open space end use.

The rehabilitated site will include native Grassy Woodland vegetation, potential wetland areas and habitat for local flora and fauna. All quarry infrastructure will be removed.

Pit floor at RL135	Benches at RL160 & RL190	Slopes graded 1:3	Native grassy woodland	Potential wetland areas

Once rehabilitation is complete, the land will be handed to the City of Whittlesea as a council-managed asset alongside Quarry Hills Regional Park. The aim is to deliver lasting environmental, landscape and community asset.

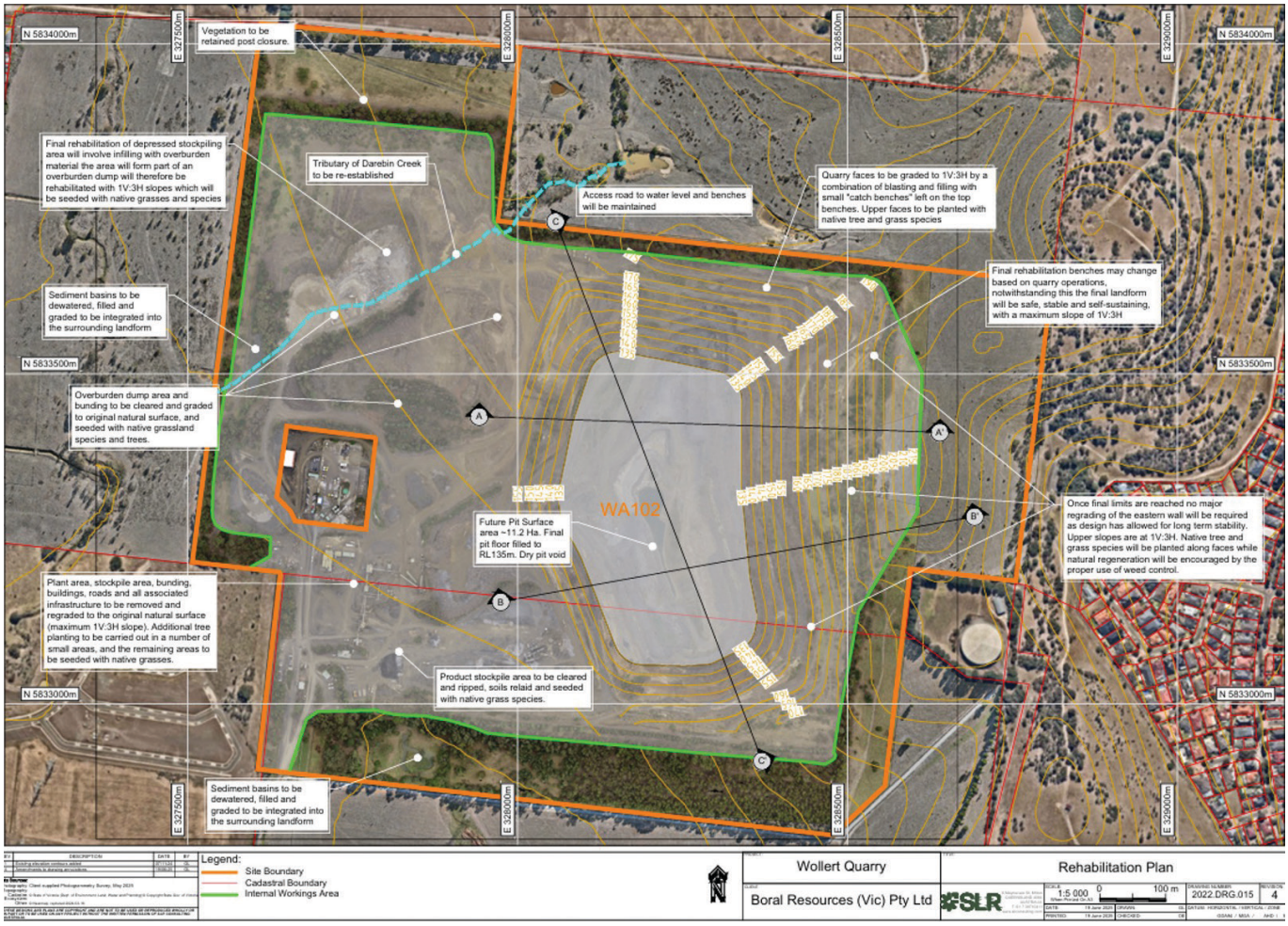

Figure 4 Site Rehabilitation Plan

Questions about our environmental management?

Contact our community liaison team via boral.com.au or email us at community@boral.com.au.