

Rehabilitation review of waste landforms at Southern Cross Operations

Abstract:

Southern Cross Operations encompasses 82,059 hectares, 222 tenements, ~56 pits and ~103 waste landforms. As one of the oldest mining regions in Western Australia, rehabilitation has been ongoing for many decades, and with varied success. The presentation will examine the rehabilitation and revegetation success (or otherwise) at Southern Cross Operations, with a particular focus on the visual, vegetation and erosion aspects.

The review will incorporate a desktop review of the rehabilitation methods, slope type, depth of topsoil and records of seed mixes used. This will be further verified through inspections of selected waste dumps and comparison of the quality of rehabilitation and revegetation. The conclusion will incorporate the findings of the most successful rehabilitation and revegetation methodologies for the Southern Cross Operations.

In addition, a review of the historical criteria for rehabilitation acceptance by the regulators will be reviewed, and challenges of bringing up historic waste rock dump rehabilitation to the currently required standards.