

PETRA MINERALS PTY LTD

Petra is an exploration company operating in Central Victoria, including North of Creswick.

GEOLOGY & HISTORIC MINING

The historic photo (Fig. 1) shows the mining operation that was carried out on the site 125 years ago. It depicts the extraordinary efforts and scale of operations that have since not been repeated. The miners dug to the gold-bearing buried river gravels beneath the basalt plains, known as 'deep leads'. At the site, the basalt is 95m thick and the buried rivers range from 20 to 40m.



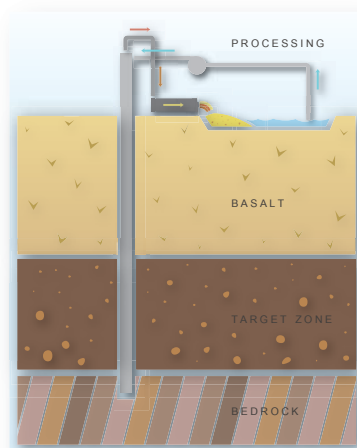
Fig. 1

EXPLORATION PROCESS

Petra will be evaluating a new, less intrusive method for bulk sampling of the buried river gravels via a series of drill holes.

The trial is limited to three locations on the site.

Petra has engaged a local drilling contractor to drill the holes. The holes will be drilled in the same manner that water bores are drilled and using standard drilling equipment. For the purposes of this programme, additional pumps will be used and attached to the drill rig.



The programme will run over the next 1 – 3 months. During certain phases of the programme it will be necessary to operate on a 24 hour basis (inclusive of weekends).

Approval for the drilling program was granted by the Department of Primary Industries (DPI). As part of this approval process detailed studies on flora and fauna, surface water, groundwater, ground stability, Aboriginal Heritage, European Heritage, safety, noise and dust was conducted. The following Authorities were consulted; Department of Sustainability and Environment, Goulburn-Murray Water, Environmental Protection Authority and WorkSafe Victoria.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Our continued community engagement process includes personal contact, information sheets, signage, letters to residents, website and email updates. Our aim is to inform the surrounding residents and land users of our programme and to understand any specific concerns.

Petra welcomes the opportunity to discuss any questions you may have relating to this programme. If you require any further information, please don't hesitate to contact Fiona Makin on 0402 209 505.

ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

Detailed studies undertaken by consultants as part of the approval process identified that there should be no impact to the environment or community as part of this project, monitoring will however be undertaken to ensure this is the case.

During the 24 hour trial equipment may create some noise that may be heard by passers-by or some neighbours. Whilst noise monitoring will undertake to assess the level of noise, we ask you to contact us on the 24 hour number if you have any concerns.

The drilling process is conducted in a cased borehole so as not to cause any transfer of water between the varying groundwater aquifers. Water is very carefully managed on site. This is to ensure there is no pollution of surface water and groundwater. The trial process being carried out operates in a closed water system – this means any water removed from the hole is returned back down the hole, resulting in no loss of water from the aquifer.

Petra has engaged external consultants to monitor and analyse parameters including; dust, noise, groundwater levels, groundwater quality, surface water quality and ground surface levels prior to, during and after this trial project. If you have questions, please contact our community liaison officer Fiona Makin on 0402 209 505.