



CURRAWONG

RESOURCES

ACN 601 745 724

INFORMATION SHEET – WATER USE

Some drilling methods require the use of water.

For diamond drilling, water is used to lubricate and stabilise the drill hole as well as cool the drill bit due to friction whilst drilling. In some drill holes groundwater may also be intersected in the drilling process, which can aid the diamond drilling and supplement the water requirement.

For percussion drilling groundwater can also be encountered, just as water borers aim to do, in which case the water can aid the return of the drill cuttings to surface as it drills through rock.

If extra water is required it will be sourced from available water supplies located nearby, which require permission from the local authorities. These sources of water are usually managed by the local Catchment Authority, such as Coliban Water or Melbourne Water, as well as the local government council such as the various Shires.

The drilling method that requires the most water use is diamond drilling. As an example, a diamond drilling rig on average uses approximately 2000 to 4000 litres of water per day depending upon ground conditions. Most of this added water is lost into the groundwater table through cracks and fractures in the rock. In some cases, the groundwater present is sufficient to keep the drill turning. Excess water that returns to surface is captured and recycled back down the drill hole to minimise water consumption. Tanks are used to capture the water that is returned to surface and these act as a buffer in the water supply cycle, thus the process is fully self-contained.

The water used in the drilling process is returned to its source – the groundwater table. All drilling additives are fully biodegradable and environmentally friendly to prevent contamination of aquifers as per Currawong's *Exploration Licence* requirements and *DEDJTR Code of Practice for Mineral Exploration* recommended practice.

More information: Code of Practice for Mineral Exploration, Part C – 10 & 11.
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