

EL 28 /1988 Annual Report 2010:

Appendix 5, Environmental Rehabilitation

Environmental rehabilitation during the 2010 reporting period on EL 28 / 1988 was completed on the access track and drill pad of diamond drill hole B012, the only drilling conducted on the tenement. The drilling was completed in February 2010 and the sites were immediately rehabilitated. Drilling of B012 was a helicopter supported program with access to the drill pad via a small walking track. The photos below were taken in November and show that the vegetation has commenced re-establishing itself.



Access track to drill site. View is to the NE heading up the hill away from the drill site. Understory vegetation in this area is dominated by bracken fern. Although the track is still open, the bracken fern in many places is beginning to enclose the path.



The drill site of B012 has also been re-established with bracken fern. As pictured (white circle in centre) the collar has been lined and capped with pvc. The drill site was inspected and found to be clear of rubbish and all drilling related fluids and materials.

A site visit in November 2010 was designed to follow up and check the progress of the vegetation rehabilitation of a 2009 drilling program within EL 28 /1988. It was documented in a drilling proposal report to MRT dated 31st August, 2009 that water was pooling around the A223 collar. Specifically, the site visit in November 2010, noted the amount of water discharge and Fe oxide flocculent accumulations from the historic drill hole was much less than it had been in August of the previous year.

It is the authors' opinion that most of the water pooling around A223 is surface water and is not directly related to the drill hole. The area is flattened out and slightly recessed allowing ponding of surface waters. The water then adjoins a much larger catchment of surface water runoff before discharging to the valley below. No additional mitigation work is considered warranted.

The following pictures were taken during the August and November site inspections.



Area near where drill hole collar A223 pictured in August 2009. Note the large amount of surface water and Fe oxide flocculent. The large amount of water is surface runoff from up gradient catchment area after persistent winter rains. Picture is viewing towards the south east.



Drill site A223 showing surface water accumulating in the flat recessed area of the drill collar. Minor Fe oxide flocculent has accumulated around the collar but is dissipated by other surface water runoff. Photo taken in November 2010. View is to the west. The drill hole collar was buried during top soil replacement as part of the environmental rehabilitation. Compare this image with the picture taken in August (winter) 2009. It is evident that most of the water is derived from surface runoff and is not a direct result of the drill hole.



View looking west from the drill site of A223. There is minimal water leaving the site. The water adjoins and is diluted into a much larger catchment area before entering into the valley below and eventually running into the ocean.



View to North along 2009 drilling vehicle access track. Islands of vegetation have been established and are seen to be spreading out into the other parts of the track. Germination by smaller native plants within the disturbed soil are encouraging signs that the rehabilitation process is well advanced.