

CSG Drilling Mud Management

Background

Management of drilling mud generated from the Coal Seam Gas (CSG) industry in Australia has historically consisted of three options -

- ▶ Disposal to landfill
- ▶ Use as fill material for the reinstatement of drill pits on-site
- ▶ Disposal to compost facilities

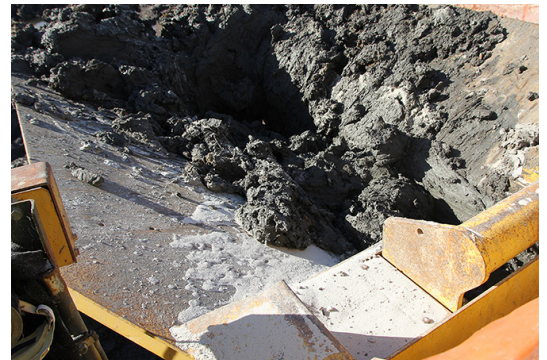
Disposal to landfill is not a sustainable practice and is the lowest level on the waste hierarchy. Use of drilling mud as fill material to reinstate drill pits on-site may be a cost effective option, but it does not meet community expectations and can be a potential source of on-going liability. Disposal to compost facilities has environmental benefits and meets the expectations of the community, but this can be economically limited due to transport distances and disposal costs.

The McMahon Services Solution

An alternative option to manage these types of drilling muds is a combination approach whereby drilling muds can be treated to either be re-used on-site, or nearby in centralised areas. The re-use of these drilling muds include the following treatment processes -

- ▶ Combined with organic materials to form a growing medium on drill well sites, or over large areas such as turkey nest dam sites, or other impacted areas
- ▶ Geotechnical improvement for reinstatement in excavations and pits
- ▶ Combined with reagents to limit potential harm to the environment, such as minimising salt toxicity, reducing hydrocarbon levels and pH adjustment, to then either be used for land remediation and/or plant growth
- ▶ Integration into civil construction materials such as road base

McMahon Services has the ability and expertise to manage these drilling muds in a cost effective and sustainable manner through state-of-the-art plant and equipment, technically focussed personnel, and a wealth of experience working in remote areas under difficult conditions.



McMahon Services are a specialist remediation contractor providing the plant, equipment and expertise to manage drilling mud.

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Value Adding

McMahon Services also delivers comprehensive solutions for the remediation of wider drill well sites and surrounding impacted areas, including -

- ▶ Investigative site assessment
- ▶ Treatment and/or management of drilling muds
- ▶ Remediation of well sites and other impacted areas
- ▶ Revegetation and landscaping
- ▶ "Sign-off" from environmental consultants - Auditors

Details of state-of-the-art plant and equipment, key personnel and relevant past experience can be provided upon request.

