

New documents are available  
on our website!



A team prepares to fly gear up to the grizzly deck, as part of the preparations for installing the foam plug.



A vent duct custom-designed to be used underground at the Pike River Mine crated up in Australia, ready to be shipped.

## Preparations underway for installing foam plug

A drill rig is being set up on the "grizzly" deck up on the hill above the mine, and pumping gear is being installed on the ventshaft, in preparation for installing the "foam plug".

Safety of our underground team remains our paramount principle, and the use of the foam barrier is a key safety measure in our Gas Management and Ventilation Plan. On our website is a [letter](#) notifying WorkSafe about the installation of the foam plug, and their [response](#) that they have no issues with our planned installation.

The foam plug, or remote ventilation control device is being installed outbye (portal / entrance side) of the roof fall starting next week. This entails pumping an expanding foam substance down a borehole adjacent to the roof fall. The foam hardens up and forms a barrier which allows fresh air to be circulated up the mine drift to that point - and the other (mine workings) side will be full of nitrogen. It can be cut away. When we re-enter the 2.3km drift past the 170m barrier and proceed up, reaching the foam plug near the end, we will do our best to remove that foam barrier and undertake further investigation, depending on the conditions and atmosphere of the mine drift at that stage. We estimate the foam will cover the width of the drift (about five metres), from floor to roof and a distance of between 10 and 15 metres from one end to the other, so between five and seven metres either side of where the borehole sits in the drift.

The latest set of weekly briefings to the Minister Responsible for Pike River Re-entry Hon Andrew Little have been uploaded to the website, check out the [Documents](#) section.

## What else is happening?

The Agency had a Level 3 simulated emergency exercise recently, with both mine site and Greymouth office staff involved, emergency services and New Zealand Mines Rescue.



Agency office staff debrief following a recent emergency exercise.

Fresh off the printing press, this year's Annual Report is available from the office in Greymouth, or download from our [website](#).

[Frequently Asked Questions](#) are available on the Te Kāhui Whakamana Rua Tekau mā Iwa - Pike River Recovery Agency website.

If you want to ask something specific, email us at [info@pikeriverrecovery.govt.nz](mailto:info@pikeriverrecovery.govt.nz). Please direct any media queries to [media@pikeriverrecovery.govt.nz](mailto:media@pikeriverrecovery.govt.nz).

Ngā mihi

The Pike River Recovery Agency team



Some of the team at a morning meeting, discussing what activities are to happen on site that day, who is assigned, and any health and safety considerations.



Email: [info@pikeriverrecovery.govt.nz](mailto:info@pikeriverrecovery.govt.nz)

Phone: +64 3 966 9210

Write: PO Box 414, Greymouth 7840

Fax: +64 3 966 9230

Physical address: Unit 3, 36-46 Tainui Street, Greymouth 7805

[Tweet](#)

[Forward](#)

[Preferences](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)