



# Tailing Storage Facility Policy Statement

## Our commitment

At BHP, our purpose is to bring people and resources together to build a better world. One way we do this is by focusing on the safety and integrity of all tailings storage facilities (TSFs) across BHP operated and closed assets to protect people, the environment and communities where we operate.

We are focused on materially reducing TSF failure risk. We collaborate extensively across the resources industry to reduce risk, share lessons learned, establish partnerships to improve performance and enhance resilience by sharing and implementation of leading practices.

We welcome the global commitment to raise the industry standard in relation to TSF stewardship throughout the life cycle of TSFs. We commit to the 2020 Global Industry Standard on Tailings Management (GISTM) and will implement the requirements outlined within the six key topic areas across our assets throughout the life cycle of TSFs from design to post-closure. This commitment includes conformance with the GISTM and meeting the International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM) determined timelines<sup>1</sup>.

We also commit to the ICMM Position Statements, including the ICMM Tailings Governance Framework. These documents are the basis for BHP's approach to TSF stewardship.

## Our approach

This Policy Statement outlines a consistent global approach to establish and embed relevant TSF management standards, systems and accountabilities in our processes.

## Governance and risk management

BHP's Board oversees the Company's material risks, which includes TSF failure risks. The Board's Sustainability Committee assists the Board with overseeing and monitoring health, safety, environment and community matters including TSF risk management and the Board's Risk and Audit Committee assists the Board with oversight of the Group's systems of risk management.

We have appointed Accountable Executives (AEs) who are direct reports of the BHP Chief Executive Officer and are held accountable through scheduled reporting to and standing meetings with the BHP Board's Sustainability Committee, as outlined in the AE Terms of Reference.

Front line employees manage the day-to-day operations and safety at site, while connected via regular communication to the relevant AE. There are three key roles that are mandated across all operated assets: Dam Owner, Responsible Tailings Facility Engineer and Engineer of Record.

BHP operates to one Risk Framework for all risks, including TSF failure risks at our assets. We use key risk indicators, set by senior management, to help monitor performance against BHP's risk appetite. Our Risk Framework requires the pursuit of risk reduction actions to eliminate or reduce exposure to TSF failure risks until they are within BHP's risk appetite. Our approach to TSF failure risk management is also supported by the BHP Tailings Management System and the tailings storage facilities standard and associated guidance. Overseen by BHP AEs, these further requirements are regularly reviewed to ensure sufficient resources are allocated to achieve objectives and continuous improvement is maintained in management practices.

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<sup>1</sup> As part of ICMM membership requirements, implementation of the GISTM across prioritised sites by 5 August 2023 and implementation of the GISTM across all BHP operated and closed assets by August 2025. Prioritised BHP operated and closed assets are those facilities

classified as 'Extreme' or 'Very high' by the GISTM or the Canadian Dam Association classification guidance. These timelines reflect the agreed upon timelines from ICMM, and also apply to conformance or detailed plans towards conformance of the GISTM.

## **Transparency and disclosure**

We commit to detailed, transparent and integrated disclosure regarding TSF management and will work with industry partners to make sure effective disclosure standards are consistently applied to inform better TSF stewardship and enhanced resilience of the community and environment. We also commit to engage with affected and interested stakeholders on TSF related matters.

## **Emergency preparedness and response and mechanisms for recovery**

We understand and acknowledge the need for transparent and proactive engagement with stakeholders on emergency preparedness and response in relation to TSF failure risk. We commit to work with local communities and broader stakeholders to establish and maintain TSF Emergency Preparedness and Response Plans.

If a failure were to occur, we commit to collaborate with stakeholders to provide immediate response and aid and will work to minimise the impacts to people and the environment. We will engage to assess, plan and respond to medium and long-term social, environmental, and local economic impacts and enable the participation of affected people. We will also facilitate the monitoring and public reporting of outcomes and reconstruction, restoration and recovery plans.

Approved by the Board of BHP Group Limited on: 15 June 2023

## **Application**

This BHP policy applies to all BHP operated and closed assets, to new operations or major projects that are operated by BHP, and to any mergers or acquisitions, which have resulted or will result in a site being wholly owned by or operated by BHP.

Where our other policies or local laws or regulations in relation to tailings management require a higher standard than the GISTM or any other applicable standard, we will apply that higher standard in that jurisdiction. We commit to provide adequate evidence to stakeholders regarding conformance to applicable standards and we welcome continued dialogue on the process of industry regulation.

In addition, while BHP's non-operated joint ventures (NOJVs) are independently controlled and have their own operating and management standards, we advocate for the adoption of the GISTM by the NOJVs. We will provide them with support in relation to TSF management (within the limits of the relevant joint venture agreements).

## **Policy review**

This Policy Statement will be reviewed not less frequently than annually.