6 Primary Standoff Distance / Zone

6.1 Primary Standoff Distance / Zone

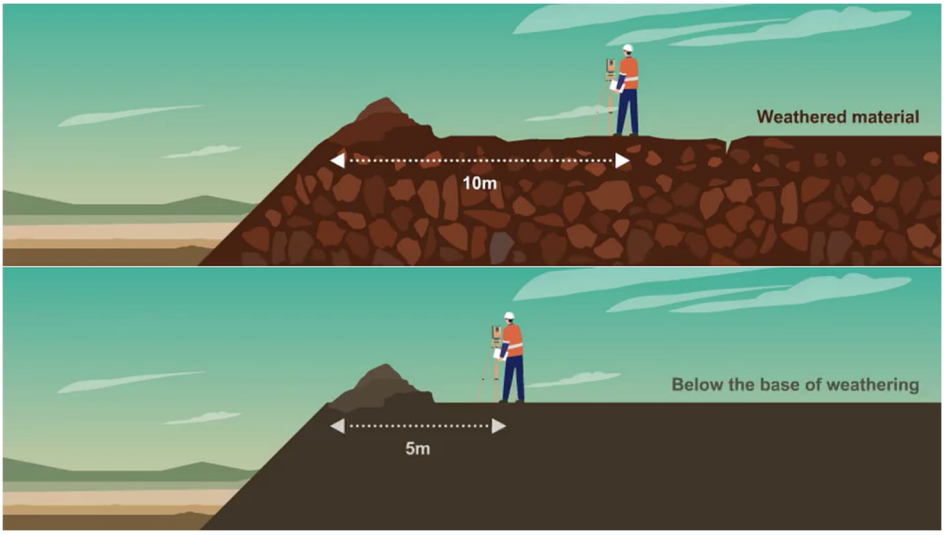
The standoff distances are:

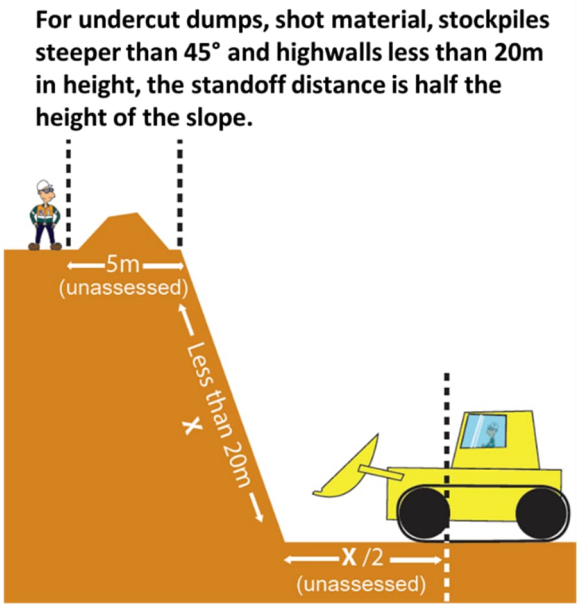
At the crest:

- Five metres (5m) back from the crest;
- Ten metres (10m) back from the crest at BOW levels.

At the toe:

- For any height of undercut dumps, shot material and stockpiles steeper than 45°, and highwalls less than 20m in height, the standoff distance is half the height of the slope.
- For all standard slopes less then 20m in height, the standoff distance is half the height of the slope.
- For all 45° softwalls and standard dumps greater than 20m in height, the standoff distance is 10m.
- For highwall or endwall 75° hardwall slopes greater than 20m and less than 40m the standoff distance is ten metres (10m)
- For highwall or endwall 75° hardwalls or over steepened softwalls (>45°) with continuous slopes greater than 40m the standoff distance is fifteen metres (15m)



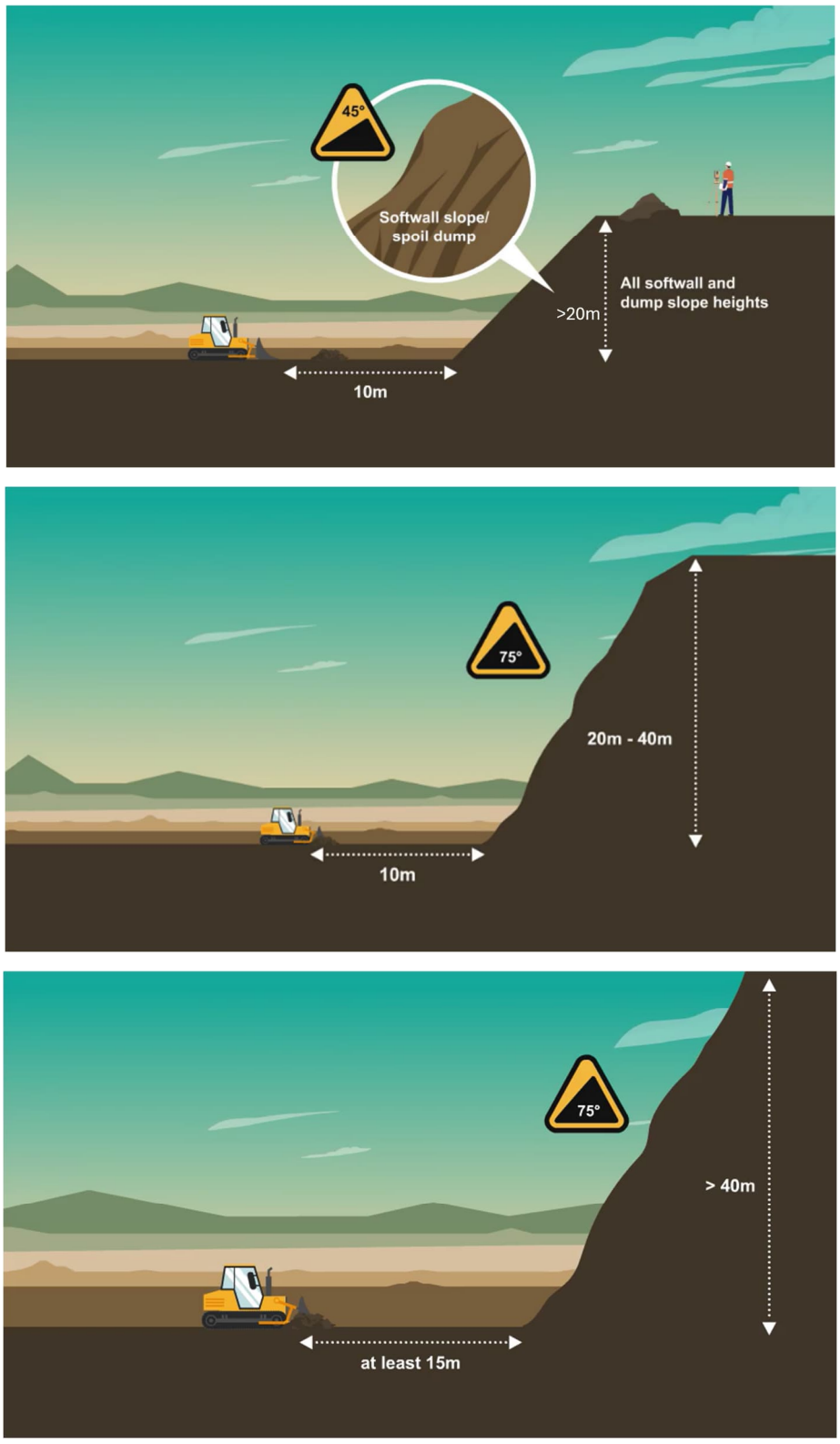


Note: Not to Scale

Many slope conditions require more specific management. This is determined by assessing the slope using MACs Geotechnical

Operations Checklist (MAC-PRD-FRM-028). Section 7.3 outlines the additional controls necessary when a highwall is in proximity to a Geotechnical Hazard.

Note that active dig faces and tip heads will operate as per site specific work instructions and procedures but all personnel should consider potential geotechnical hazards with crests and slopes in all mining operations. For circumstances where mining activities are occurring near the slope crest additional controls will be required at the slope toe. Persons working above should assess and install appropriate controls below the slope including restricting access to the slope toe and to establish suitable bunding.



Note: Not to Scale

6.2 Specified Standoff Distance Zones

Specific standoffs or exclusion zones may be needed to control hazards from certain highwalls, endwalls or dumps based on JHAs or specific geotechnical or operational considerations. Specified standoff distances associated with the hazard management process is detailed in MAC-STE-MTP-036 Geotechnical Ground Control TARP and summarised in Section 7.3 of this document.

6.3 Bunding Requirements

Primary standoff distances from the crest of a slope must be delineated by a bund with a minimum height of the radius of the largest vehicle trafficking the area.

Primary standoff distances at the toe from highwall/undercut dump/blasted material/stockpile must be delineated with a grader rill as a minimum.

Additional standoffs, referred to as ‘Primary Access Controls’ in MAC-STE-MTP-036 Geotechnical Ground Control TARP, should be delineated with an earth bund typically 2m high. Exclusion zones must be delineated by a hard barrier.

Document Reference - MAC-STE-STD-149