

---

# **NEWPORT POWER STATION ASH PONDS, DYKE AND SPILLWAY**



Newport Power Station  
Williamstown April 2003 Ash  
Pitt Walls 003



Newport Power Station  
Williamstown April 2003 Ash  
Ponds 001



Newport Power Station  
Williamstown April 2003 Ash  
Ponds Spillway 002



Newport Power Station  
Williamstown April 2003 Dead  
Dog Bay Eel Trap 004

---

## **Location**

100 THE STRAND NEWPORT, HOBSONS BAY CITY

## **Municipality**

HOBSONS BAY CITY

## **Level of significance**

Heritage Inventory Site

## **Heritage Inventory (HI) Number**

H7822-0390

## **Heritage Listing**

Interpretation  
of Site

The date of the two ash-pits is uncertain. There are still holes in the seawall in this area, which could be attributed to fisher's cubbyholes. The site is of historical significance for its relation to early power generation for the suburban rail system, supply to the Melbourne Electrical Supply Company and the Melbourne City Council until SEC operations commenced in 1924. The site is of archaeological significance for its potential to provide evidence relating to electricity generation activities and possible eeling in the bay.

Hermes  
Number

23873

Property  
Number

## History

The Newport Power Station was built at the mouth of the Yarra River between 1913 and 1918, and was constructed to supply energy for the electrification of the suburban rail system. It also supplied electricity to the Melbourne Electrical Supply Company and the Melbourne City Council, until the SEC began operations in 1924. A second station, Newport B was built alongside, and both stations effectively operated as one. Further additions were added in 1949, when a Fuel Supply Depot (coal briquette dump) was established on former swampland. Use of the dump was discontinued in the early 1970's (Butler, 2000:43). Located at top end of Dead Dog Bay, two stone faced embankments, a spillway and two ash ponds are shown in a 1975 plan (BLC#17), and were used by the Newport Power Station to dump the ash from the power station furnaces. Somerville (per comms) recounts that locals would make "cubbyholes" in the seawall (at the top of the bay under where the ash pits retaining walls are) for shelter from the elements when eeling.

*This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.*

*For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>*