



Sustainable Technology

## Slurry Walls

Of the several methods of creating cut-off barriers using slurry trenching techniques, Menard has successfully concentrated on the Soil Bentonite method. This method makes use of a long arm hydraulic excavator to excavate the trench under bentonite slurry, as seen above at the Tempe Tip site and which method is practical to excavation depths in the order of 25 metres. Greater excavation depths can be accommodated, when the excavator is supplemented by clamshell excavation, as seen over the page at the former BHP site in Newcastle.



The cut-off is created by backfilling the trench excavation following the mixing of the excavated soil with added soil components to create a backfill material with an appropriate particle size grading. These additional soil components generally comprise of fine particle soils, such as clays or in the absence of a source of clay, bentonite may be used. Once the trench excavation has progressed sufficiently, the backfill material is placed into the beginning of the trench and then placement continues as the backfilling progresses along the trench in pursuit of the continuing excavation.



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