



Metro Tunnel Project team installing rock anchors

Underground Structures

In some locations in the CBD, the ground conditions require strengthening of the surrounding rock and soil prior to excavation.

Underground support structures, also known as rock anchors or soil nails, will be installed at required locations during construction of the Metro Tunnel Project.

The underground support structures stabilise and secure the area to enable construction to be undertaken safely.

A pre-drilled hole is filled with grout material. The anchor is then inserted into the grouted hole and is tensioned to the appropriate specifications of the particular job to ensure stability of the underground excavation.

The underground support structures are installed from within the shafts, tunnels and caverns as excavation progresses. The rock anchors and rock bolts are required for the temporary support of the excavations and will remain in the ground, but are not relied upon for permanent support.

The use of underground support structures will not physically impact buildings or infrastructure during Metro Tunnel Project works.

All works will be undertaken in accordance with the Metro Tunnel Environmental Performance Requirements.

Notification of upcoming works will be provided by the Metro Tunnel Project prior to works being undertaken.

What is a rock anchor?

A rock anchor is steel rod or cable which is grouted in a pre-drilled hole to provide restraint to a retaining wall or underground excavation.

Rock anchors are used commonly to support retaining walls and underground excavations.

Rock anchors do not provide any long term support to the underground structure.

More information

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