

ALCOA ANGLESEA COMMUNITY CONSULTATION NETWORK

OCTOBER 2018 MEETING SNAPSHOT

Meeting purpose: A CCN meeting was held on 8 October to provide an opportunity for CCN attendees to discuss the site's decommissioning and rehabilitation and the ongoing community engagement processes.



Introduction

The meeting was independently facilitated by Jen Lilburn. 50 people attended, including representatives from community, local and state government, local authorities and Alcoa.

FIGURE 1

Power Station Demolition

Warren Sharp (Anglesea and Point Henry Site Asset Manager) advised that the power station was successfully felled at 1:15pm on Wednesday 3 October.

Power Station Structure successfully felled



[LINK TO VIDEO 1](#) [LINK TO VIDEO 2](#)

- ✓ The demolition activity was completed safely – no injuries and all explosives detonated.
- ✓ The structure was successfully felled (as per expected outcome) by the principal contractor.
- ✓ The activity was compliant with both the EPA and WorkSafe regulatory requirements.
- ✓ The wind was SSW direction. Dust plume tracked away from the township.
- ✓ The 1:15pm event time was within the publicised time (12:00 – 4:00 pm Wed 3 October).
- ✓ Air monitoring was in place and results were made publicly available on the day of the event.
- Alcoa thanks supporting agencies: (Parks Victoria, Vic Police, CFA & SES).



FIGURE 2

In summarising the key aspects of the event Warren advised that the 550m exclusion zone was in place and the dust plume tracked to the north, away from the township (blue line on Figure 3).

Asbestos monitoring was undertaken at 7 locations (yellow dots in Figure 3). A dust monitoring station was located at the DELWP office opposite the primary school (brown dot on Figure 3). Following the event, asbestos monitoring was undertaken in a semi-circle between the power station and the township (green dots on Figure 3).

An occupational hygienist from Environmental Health Solutions (EHS) was engaged as an independent

consultant to monitor dust and asbestos during the event. Dust monitoring commenced six days prior to the event and continued for 48 hours following the event. Several dust traces were monitored including PM2.5 and PM10. The results indicate that there was no measurable increase in dust at the monitoring location generated by the demolition, nor were there any airborne asbestos fibres detected above the detection limit. These **results were posted to Alcoa's website** and emailed out to Alcoa's community database.

Warren advised the communication process undertaken for the demolition activity, making some improvements to that used for the first demolition attempt in May, including weekly advertisements in the Surf Coast Times, a letter drop to residents/businesses and 2 community drop-in sessions with representatives from Alcoa, the principal contractor, the explosives sub-contractor, EPA and Worksafe in attendance. The two drop-in community sessions attracted 16 community attendees, the majority of whom were seeking information and did not express any specific concerns.

In response to questions regarding the planned ongoing asbestos monitoring Warren said that whilst Alcoa believes that seven days of asbestos monitoring is adequate, he agreed to the continuation of asbestos monitoring to provide reassurance to the community until the demolition works of the power station structure are completed, at the four green dots on Figure 3.

In response to a question asked, Warren confirmed that the chimney stack is to be retained in the short term, pending consideration as to its potential to be re-purposed. A number of concerns and comments regarding the consultation process associated with the chimney stack were raised including:

- *Alcoa's withholding of information on the numbers both for and against the stack's retention infers that it has something to hide, introduces a lack of trust and generates a sense amongst some community members that the consultation process was a waste of time.*
- *What would the stack be re-purposed for? Would it become a liability for someone else such as government, once Alcoa has left the site? Who would be responsible for managing and maintaining it?*
- *It appears logical to retain the stack in the short term to allow time for everyone to understand the arguments for both and against its retention. It doesn't need to become a big issue.*

In response, Warren advised that whilst Alcoa's original intention was to also demolish it, there was substantial feedback received through Alcoa's two-year community consultation process that both supported its demolition and also its retention/re-purposing. If no genuine interest or opportunity to re-purpose the structure is put forward, Alcoa will remove it in the future (possibly 1-2 years). Given that the stack is on private land, any eventual sale of that land and the associated asset would be to a reputable organisation that has the capacity to take on that liability; Alcoa doesn't anticipate the government taking on any liability. Alcoa does not intend to release the numbers received during the consultation process for and against the stack's retention as releasing the numbers could support either position but won't add any value to the discussion. Engineering assessments of the chimney stack have confirmed that the demolition event had no impact on the structural integrity of the chimney stack. The stack is concrete and steel and does not contain asbestos. If the decision is made to demolish it, Alcoa will run a similar process to that used to demolish the power station.

A community member representing Surf Coast Air Action (SCAA), raised concerns including:

- *The CFMEU stated that it was impossible to remove all of the asbestos from a structure of this nature, was scathing of the methodology and of the role of the regulators. SCAA believes that this should have prompted a full, independent and transparent re-assessment of the asbestos remaining in the structure, the proposed demolition methodology and the risks to the Anglesea community*
- *Alcoa should immediately release all expert technical reports, monitoring data, risks assessments, asbestos clearance certificates and any engineering assessments undertaken of the impact of two explosions close to the asbestos dump and the smoke stack*
- *The process should be regulator-led with community safety as the paramount priority*

Key aspects



- 550m exclusion zone – red circle
- Asbestos monitoring points (at sentry locations) – yellow dots
- Alcoa, WorkSafe & EPA viewing point – blue dot
- Dust plume direction, visually confirmed as SSW – blue line
- Dust monitoring – brown dot
- Post demolition activity asbestos monitoring locations – green dots



FIGURE 3

- *The only way to properly understand the risks to the Anglesea community is through a judicial inquiry where there will be the power to subpoena witnesses and documents.*
- *The community is entitled to proper monitoring until the cleanup works have finished and there is absolute certainty that all of the asbestos has been removed.*

In response to questions to regulators as to whether they were comfortable with the process and the matter of transparency, **Michael Coffey** (Head of Hazardous Industries and Industry Practice, WorkSafe Victoria) advised that the role of WorkSafe Victoria is to ensure that Alcoa's duties are in accordance with the Occupational Health and Safety Act and the process met the legislative requirements. Whilst he acknowledged and accepted the community concerns regarding transparency, these are matters for Alcoa as the duty holder under the Act. **Carolyn Francis** (Manager, South West, EPA Victoria) advised that the EPA also has legislative restrictions on the sharing of information. Under the Section 30A approval, the EPA included a condition that the monitoring data was published on the day of the second demolition event. The locations of the monitoring points were determined following consultation with the EPA and were primarily aimed at providing certainty for the township area.

Environmental Site Assessment

Alcoa applied to EPA Victoria for an extension to the deadline for completion of the environmental site assessment from 30 September 2019 to 30 September 2020 and was granted this extension on 25 September 2018. The extension was driven by Barwon Water's continued use of Alcoa's water storage ponds to assist in the management of the Anglesea River during summer, and the delay of the power station demolition works.

Decommissioning and Rehabilitation

Power Station Activity Update

Dean Schmidt (Project Engineer) advised that Industrial Demolition Services will remove the felled material over the next 3 – 6 months.

Transmission Line Removal

Dean advised that Beon Energy Solutions has been appointed as the principal contractor to undertake the removal of the 40km section of Alcoa owned transmission line infrastructure that runs between Anglesea and Point Henry. The process is expected to take approximately 18 months with the first section being removed in Armstrong Creek. .

Draft Mine Rehabilitation and Closure Plan Update

Warren updated the meeting on the draft Mine Rehabilitation and Closure Plan activities including that permission from DELWP has not yet been received to divert Salt Creek into the water body in the future. Other updates included that grasslands trial is progressing well, the Coalmine Road relocation preliminary design is underway for review with DELWP/SCS, and preparations for the west and south-west wall re-sloping are underway. Warren confirmed that Salt Creek is not flowing.

Freehold Concept Master Plan

In answering questions regarding the future use of Alcoa's freehold land, Warren advised that Alcoa has been approached by parties with a variety of ideas regarding future developments. Like the community, Alcoa is waiting for the release of the Anglesea Futures Land Use Plan but is not interested in having any discussions with parties that are not consistent with the vision contained within its Freehold Concept Master Plan which was subject to two years of community consultation. If any discussions reach a point where they are substantial and it is in the community's interest to be made aware of them, Alcoa will do so at an appropriate time.

Warren will speak to senior management regarding a request to donate the Bike Park land. However, he stated that Alcoa's vision is that both it and the Fraser Ave parcel remain in private ownership. Alcoa would consider itself to be a good corporate citizen and that its presence in Anglesea has had benefits both ways.

Post meeting note: Donna Burns, DELWP, advised that the Anglesea Futures Land Use Plan has since been released and can be found on the [Engage Victoria website](#).

**NEXT MEETING: Monday 10 December 2018, 6pm at the Senior Citizens Club, McMillan St, Anglesea
ALL WELCOME**

The purpose of this document is to give community and other stakeholders a summary of what took place at the CCN meeting on Monday 8 October. For a full account of discussions at the meeting, email angleseaps@alcoa.com.au requesting a copy of the minutes.

The CCN, established in 2001, provides advice and feedback on issues relevant to Alcoa and assists it to be responsive to the needs and concerns of the community. For further information about Alcoa and any of the topics in this snapshot, visit www.alcoa.com.au/anglesea