

# ANGLESEA POWER STATION COMMUNITY CONSULTATION NETWORK

## OCTOBER 2017 MEETING SNAPSHOT

**Meeting purpose:** A CCN meeting was held on 9 October to provide an opportunity for CCN attendees to discuss the site's decommissioning and rehabilitation and the ongoing community engagement processes for the future of the Alcoa site.



### Introduction

The meeting was independently facilitated by Jen Lilburn. 28 people attended, including representatives from community, local and state government, local authorities and Alcoa.

FIGURE 1

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## Environmental Health and Safety

**Warren Sharp (Anglesea and Point Henry Site Asset Manager)** reported that there had been no first aid injuries or environmental non-compliances since the last meeting. There have been two instances of unauthorised vehicle access at Coalmine Road. Warren presented the outcomes of the Clean Up Notice Quarterly Report for the period June-August 2017. Alcoa applied to the EPA for a two year extension to the Clean Up Notice completion date. EPA approval was granted and the revised completion date is now September 2019. Clean Up Notices are publicly available on the EPA website at [https://portal.epa.vic.gov.au/irj/portal/anonymous?NavigationTarget=ROLES://portal\\_content/epa\\_content/epa\\_roles/epa.vic.gov.au.anonrole/epa.vic.gov.au.searchanon&trans\\_type=Z005](https://portal.epa.vic.gov.au/irj/portal/anonymous?NavigationTarget=ROLES://portal_content/epa_content/epa_roles/epa.vic.gov.au.anonrole/epa.vic.gov.au.searchanon&trans_type=Z005)

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## Environmental Audit

Warren introduced **Darryl Strudwick (Environmental Auditor, AECOM)** who was appointed by the EPA in March 2016 to oversee the environmental auditing process at the power station. Darryl explained that auditors must be truly independent and focus on the site objectives, remaining removed from the actual remediation method or works. Environmental audits must also include the consideration of offsite impacts and the auditor's opinion as to the suitability of the site for future uses, rather than merely checking over and relying on the work of others. Once the auditor is satisfied and can reach his/her own conclusion as to the site's condition and its suitability for its intended purpose, he/she prepares an Audit Report attaching either a Certificate of Environmental Audit or a Statement of Environmental Audit.

If members of the community have concerns during the auditing process, they can report those concerns through the EPA Hotline (1300 EPA VIC) and those reports will be passed onto Darryl.

## Mine Sump Water

The water level as at 3 October was 25.9 metres below sea level and is rising as predicted. The pH of the mine sump was 3.8. A community member requested that future reporting include the water body volume present as a percentage of the total final volume.

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## Decommissioning and Rehabilitation

**Dean Schmidt (Project Engineer)** reported that the cooling tower, workshops, tanks, water treatment plant and crushers have been demolished (as indicated in yellow in Figure 2). Asbestos is still being removed from the 7-storey power station, expected to be complete by the end of 2017, after which the building and the chimney will be demolished (date in 2018 tbc).

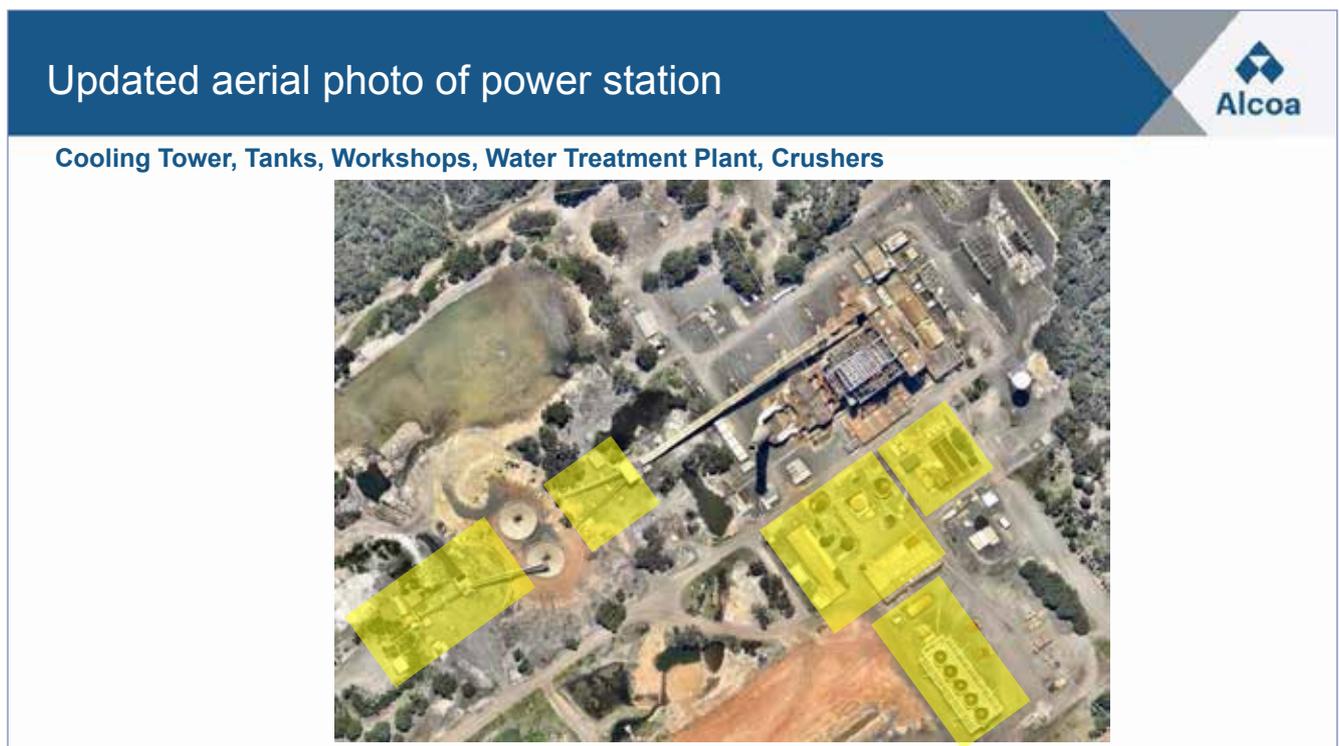


FIGURE 2

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## Mine Rehabilitation and Closure Plan Update

**Chris Rolland (Mine Rehabilitation Supervisor)** reported that the draft Mine Rehabilitation and Closure Plan was submitted to DEDJTR in late September for review. In early October, Alcoa lodged a Controlled Action referral submission to the federal Department of the Environment and Energy under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBC)* for the south wall vegetation removal works. The Cultural Heritage Management Plan is expected to be submitted to the Registered Aboriginal Party during October. The Rehabilitation and Closure Plan can't be approved until the EPBC and Cultural Heritage approval processes are completed.

Chris outlined the earthworks underway involving the movement of coal contaminated material from the higher reaches of the mine area into the lower reaches of where the water body will inundate. Vegetation trials have commenced on a one hectare site with a 1 in 5 slope. Caustic soda was added to the mine sump and water sampling will be undertaken to determine the effects of that addition on pH levels.

## Community Engagement

Warren advised that consultants have been engaged to commence the freehold master planning process with the intention of having a draft concept master plan for all of Alcoa's freehold blocks available for community feedback in December 2017. A similar community engagement process to that run for the Mine Rehabilitation and Closure Plan will be employed for this planning process. Alcoa expects that the draft plan will input as a submission to the Anglesea Futures broader land strategy process.

Alcoa is looking to extend the lease for the Anglesea bike park into the middle of next year, by which time the master planning process for Alcoa's freehold parcels should be well advanced. Keith Baillie (Chief Executive Officer, Surf Coast Shire) advised that Council has a keen interest in seeking a long term resolution for the Anglesea bike park. Keith explained the statutory planning process for these freehold parcels and is currently seeking clarity on SCS's role and responsibilities in that process.

Questions/comments regarding the powerlines and easement between the power station and Point Henry included: are the power lines likely to remain? Will the community consultation process include discussions on this issue? Shelterbelts on rural properties are highly valued and are currently being jeopardised by lines people continuing to trim vegetation within the easement.

Warren confirmed that Alcoa no longer needs the existing transmission lines between Point Henry and the power station and it is possible that, if no reason for their retention is identified, they will be eventually removed. However, until a decision is reached, Alcoa has an obligation to maintain the infrastructure and easements for structural integrity and potential fire risk purposes. Once Alcoa has made a decision, Warren will first write directly to every landowner on the transmission line to advise them of the decision. It was noted that a 10km section between Forest Road and the Coombes Road roundabout needs to be retained as it provides power to Lorne via Powercor (Powercor has a lease until 2019).

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## Agency Update

**Keith Baillie (SCS)** encouraged the Anglesea community, through the Anglesea Futures and Alcoa planning processes, to use this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to be aspirational and bold and create something that can make a strong and significant contribution to the region.

**Jared Scott (Barwon Water)** advised that Barwon Water will finish pumping water from the Anglesea River into the previous Ash Pond No 1 by the end of the week.

**Lisa Opray (DELWP)** advised that the Anglesea Futures Land Use Scenario Discussion Paper was released for public comment in August and closed on 11 September. It is still available at [https://engage.vic.gov.au/application/files/1015/0355/7299/Anglesea\\_Futures\\_-\\_Land\\_Use\\_Scenarios\\_-\\_Discussion\\_Paper\\_version\\_2\\_web\\_final.pdf](https://engage.vic.gov.au/application/files/1015/0355/7299/Anglesea_Futures_-_Land_Use_Scenarios_-_Discussion_Paper_version_2_web_final.pdf). As part of developing the draft Land Use Plan, DELWP will commence discussions with Alcoa regarding the consideration of possible land exchanges between the Victorian Government and Alcoa. Land exchanges are highly regulated and will only be done in the public interest. Questions or queries in relation to potential land exchanges can be directed to [anglesea.futures@delwp.vic.gov.au](mailto:anglesea.futures@delwp.vic.gov.au). A date for the next Anglesea Futures meeting has not been set.

**Duncan Pendrigh (DEDJTR)** confirmed that ERR had received the draft Rehabilitation and Closure Plan and, together with DELWP and EPA, will undertake a preliminary assessment of the Plan and respond to Alcoa by early November. Alcoa will address any issues in the ERR response and, once they have EPBC Act and Cultural Heritage approvals, will submit a Final Rehabilitation and Closure Plan to ERR for formal assessment. Following submission of the Final Plan, ERR must formally assess the Final Plan within 28 days. If changes are required, this timeline may be extended. A December 2017 deadline of approval is possible, although it is dependent on completion of the aforementioned steps.

**NEXT MEETING: Monday 11 December 2017, 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 9 October. For a full account of discussions at the meeting, email [angleseaps@alcoa.com.au](mailto: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](http://www.alcoa.com.au/anglesea)