# **ALCOA ANGLESEA** COMMUNITY CONSULTATION NETWORK

## FEBRUARY 2019 MEETING SNAPSHOT

Meeting purpose: A CCN meeting was held on 11 February 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. 41 people attended, including representatives from community, local and state government, local authorities and Alcoa.

FIGURE 1

## Environmental Health and Safety

**Nicci Marris** (EHS Manager, Alcoa) reported that there had been no injuries, three security incidences, and no environmental non-compliances since the last meeting. Security, particularly around the Coalmine Road site, is a constant challenge for Alcoa and Nicci requested that CCN members reinforce the risks of unauthorised entry through their community networks.

## Fire Risk Mitigation

**Warren Sharp** (Anglesea and Point Henry Site Asset Manager reminded meeting attendees of the fire risk mitigation measures in place at the site. Approximately 700 of the 850 metres x 10-15 metres of exposed coal that couldn't be covered when the operation shut down in 2015 have now been covered, with the remaining portion scheduled in the next four weeks.

## Mine Sump Water

The water level at 5 February was sitting at approximately 7.3% of the proposed eventual total volume with a pH of 3.1.

## Decommissioning and Rehabilitation

## Power Station Activity Update

Warren presented an updated decommissioning and rehabilitation timeline for the power station site (Figure 2). The brown coloured rows relate to the power station demolition and removal works. All power station material was removed by the end of January 2019 and the underground piping, cabling and concrete will be removed over the next 2-3 months. The asbestos landfill capping design process (shown in yellow) has commenced and, once the design is determined, will be brought to a future CCN meeting. The National Environment Protection Measure (NEPM) Site Assessment Planning, Assessment and Implementation tasks (shown in green) refer to the comprehensive assessment of the power station site to determine if there are any potential environmental risks that Alcoa may have created from its operations on the land. The tasks shown in blue relate to the Freehold Master Plan and Alcoa is currently considering its next steps in relation to future land use, particularly in the context of the Anglesea Futures Land Use Plan.

## Power Station Activities: Current forecast, February 2019

	2017		2018				2019					20	20		2021				Future
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Power Station Demolition Works																			
Power Station Induced Felling																			
Power Station Material Removal																			
Power Station Underground Services & Misc																			
Onsite Asbestos Landfill Capping																			
Anglesea-Pt Henry Transmission Line Removal																			
NEPM Environmental Site Assessment Planning																			
NEPM Detailed Environmental Site Assessment																			
NEPM Develop Remediation Action Plan TBC																			
NEPM Implement Remediation Action Plan TBC																			====> TB(
Draft Concept Freehold Master Plan Engagement																			
Concept Freehold Master Plan Submission to DELWP																			
Anglesea Futures Land Plan Published																			
Determine Freehold Plan Next Steps																			
Potential Rezoning Application Process																			
Further Community Engagement																			

#### FIGURE 2

Reassurance asbestos monitoring, undertaken through the demolition and material recovery process did not detect any asbestos fibres above the the *Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017* asbestos exposure standard. All of the monitoring reports are available on Alcoa's website at:

https://www.alcoa.com/australia/en/news/releases.asp?id=2018/10/anglesea-power-station-safely-felled-as-part-of-alcoa-ofaustralias-decommissioning-of-the-anglesea-power-station-and-min&year=y2018

### Transmission Line Removal

Warren advised that 32 of the 98 towers have been removed along Alcoa's 40 km transmission line that runs between Point Henry and Anglesea, in addition to the first five transmission towers removed along Powerline Track.

### Draft Mine Rehabilitation and Closure Plan Update

Warren presented an updated rehabilitation and closure timeline for the mine site (Figure 3 overleaf). The draft Mine Rehabilitation and Closure Plan (submitted to DEDJTR late 2017) remains under review, the main outstanding issue being the proposal to re-divert Salt Creek to enable the mine sump to be filled more quickly.

The west wall and south wall earthworks (shown in orange) are currently being undertaken as approved under the Work Plan Variation (March 2018). These re-profiling and rehabilitation works, together with works to the east wall, will provide a safe and stable environment and are due for completion by mid-2020.

## Mine Closure Activities: Current forecast, February 2019

	2017		2018				2019				2020				2021				Future
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Complete Draft Mine Rehab & Closure Plan Engagement																			
ubmit Mine Draft Rehab and Closure Plan																			
Vork Plan Variation Approval																			
PBC/CHMP/Native Vegetation Approval																			
Vest Wall Vegetation Removal																			
/arious Topsoil and Minor Rehab Earthworks																			
Vest Wall Major Earthworks																			
Vest Wall Topsoil Rehabilitation																			
outh Wall Vegetation Removal																			
Coal Mine Road Relocation																			
outh Wall Major Earthworks																			
ast Wall Earthworks																			
outh Wall Native Grass Treatment																			
inalise Water Strategy																			
Jpdate Mine Rehab and Closure Plan TBC																			
ubmit Mine Rehab and Closure Plan TBC																			
inal Mine Rehab and Closure Plan Approval TBC																			
mplement Water Strategy and Other Works TBC																			====> TB
Aonitor and Manage Completed Works																			====> TB

#### FIGURE 3

Alcoa is hopeful that a decision on the water filling strategy will be made by mid-2019 following which the Mine Rehabilitation and Closure Plan will be finalised and submitted for approval (shown in green). The bottom row, shown in yellow, represents a future monitoring program including water quality, erosion, fire risk etc.

**Chris Rolland** (Mine Rehabilitation Supervisor) updated the meeting on draft Mine Rehabilitation and Closure Plan activities. The west and south-west slope reprofiling earthworks are underway with approximately 2.83 million cubic metres of earth to be moved during the project.

The Coalmine Road relocation design works are also underway due to be completed by mid-2019. Alcoa is part of a Working Party comprising all the relevant agencies (DELWP, SCS, Parks Victoria, Barwon Water) to finalise the road design. Alcoa is responsible for the works relating to the realignment of Coalmine Road. The long term management, use and responsibility of the road will be determined by DELWP/SCS/Parks Victoria in the future.

## Anglesea Bike Park

In response to questions, Warren advised that Alcoa understands the variety of opinions and community sentiment regarding the Bike Park but considers that there may be an alternative use for the bike park site, although it does not want to see the end of the bike park and supports its relocation to another site. Alcoa hasn't made any long term decisions regarding the bike park site yet but reserves the right to make the decision in its own time. There are many factors to consider in making such a decision, not only the views of the community, but also the views of other landowners and stakeholders as well as further advice from its land planning consultants.

A community member from the Anglesea Bike Park Committee, made some comments including:

- the Bike Park Committee of Management has advocated that the site be brought into public ownership, desiring that this would be achieved through the purchase of the existing site, not the bike park's relocation.
- Alcoa has never explained why it won't agree to save the bike park nor why it has refused Surf Coast Shire's offer to purchase the existing site
- During the study of alternative bike park locations commissioned by the Shire, the existing site didn't score the highest of the possible locations due to its security of land tenure
- The Committee has never advocated for something bigger but has a Master Plan indicating site improvements over time to enable it to become a better facility

- Alcoa never contacted the Committee of Management to advise that the lease would be renewed and the Committee learned of its renewal in June 2018 via a newspaper article.
- There is an overwhelming community plea for the bike park to be retained at its current site, as evidenced by the 6,000 person petition
- It is agreed and acknowledged that the bike park wouldn't be there were it not for Alcoa. The Committee considers that the best way to honour the commitment that Alcoa made in those early days would be to save it for the future

Warren stated that, whilst he respected the Committee's views, he was disappointed with the use of the phrase 'the bulldozers are moving in' as he had met with two key members of the Bike Park Committee, including the community member who made the statement tonight, in June 2018 and at that meeting Warren advised that the lease would be extended by Alcoa.

## Chimney Stack Update

In response to questions regarding the chimney stack, Warren advised that, whilst Alcoa's original intention was to demolish the chimney stack, there was enough feedback received through Alcoa's community consultation process that supported its retention/re-purposing e.g. a lookout, public art etc. This has resulted in Alcoa retaining the structure in the short term as, once the decision is made to take it down, that decision can't be reversed. Alcoa was not under an EPA obligation to remove the power station, the chimney and all other infrastructure as those structures are on Alcoa's freehold land. Alcoa is however obliged to undertake any activities in a manner that is safe and protects the environment, as well as ensuring that any remaining structures are safe. As such, the decision whether to remove the chimney ultimately rests with Alcoa, given that it is located on Alcoa's freehold private land.

## Freehold Concept Master Plan

In response to questions, Warren advised that Alcoa believes that its Freehold Master Plan is fundamentally sound, although he understands that some people don't agree with it. Should Alcoa wish to rezone any parcels of its freehold land, it would need to go through Council's planning process, just as any private landowner would. The planning process has a community consultation component and Alcoa is not presuming that rezoning proposals will be successful. Alcoa will update the CCN on the timeframe for detailed decisions relating to the Freehold Master Planning process, including the chimney stack, bike park and uses of freehold land.

### Anglesea River

Barwon Water, Surf Coast Shire and Corangamite Catchment Management Authority advised that the Anglesea River's current water level is 1.11 metres and plans are underway to release water from the storage pond (leased from Alcoa) into the river to maintain water levels. Whilst impacts on tourism is a concern, the primary focus is river health and avoiding the activation of acid sulphate soils. Surf Coast Shire is about to commence a study, with state government funding, to enable it to better inform the community as to the human health risks at various pH levels. Council will update the CCN on the outcomes of this study. Alcoa has no jurisdication over the management of the river.

#### NEXT MEETING: Monday 29 April 2019, 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 11 February. For a full account of discussions at the meeting, email <u>angleseaps@alcoa.com.au</u> 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 <u>www.alcoa.com.au/anglesea</u>