

ANGLESEA POWER STATION COMMUNITY CONSULTATION NETWORK

AUGUST 2017 MEETING SNAPSHOT

Meeting purpose: A CCN meeting was held on 14 August 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. 30 people attended, including representatives from community, local and state government, local authorities and Alcoa.

Environmental Health and Safety

Warren Sharp (Anglesea and Point Henry Site Asset Manager) reported that there had been two first aid injuries, no environmental non-compliances and 9 security incidents since the last meeting. Warren presented the outcomes of the Clean Up Notice Quarterly Report for the period March-May 2017 (to be available at <http://www.alcoa.com/australia/en/anglesea/news-reports.asp>).

Mine Sump Water

The water level as at 1 August was 26.6 metres below sea level and is rising as predicted. The pH of the mine sump was 4.3.

Decommissioning and Rehabilitation

Dean Schmidt (Project Engineer) reported that the cooling tower, workshops, tanks (except for elevated water tower), office buildings, primary and secondary crusher have been demolished. Works to demolish the water treatment plant are currently underway. Asbestos is currently being removed, after which, the main power station structure will be demolished. All demolition works are expected to be complete by April 2018. The chimney will be demolished late 2017/early 2018 (date to be confirmed). Environmental remediation works as required under the EPA Clean Up Notice will then commence and may take 2-3 years to complete.



FIGURE 1

Mine Rehabilitation and Closure Plan Update

Chris Rolland (Mine Rehabilitation Supervisor) reported that the three technical reports (geotechnical, hydrological and revegetation) and peer review reports are close to finalisation. An independently facilitated risk workshop involving all of the technical consultants was recently conducted. The draft Mine Rehabilitation and Closure Plan is expected to be submitted to DEDJTR (ERR) in coming weeks. Alcoa is preparing a Controlled Action submission to the federal Department of the *Environment and Energy under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act* for the area between the Current Coalmine Road and Messmate Track. Cultural heritage field work is scheduled for early September.

Whilst awaiting approval of the Mine Rehabilitation and Closure Plan Alcoa will undertake earthworks approved in the current Work Plan including covering the coal impregnated overburden and the ash that has been moved into the mine with approximately 1 metre of earth to prevent contact with the eventual water body. Alcoa will also move some overburden from the northern embankment of the mine and place it against the only exposed coal in the west wall.

Given that the batter will be too steep to accommodate a traditional native heathy woodland in the southern area of the mine, Alcoa will plant native grasses to achieve the required immediate 80% grass cover. This approach is being tested through vegetation trials. Embankment compaction trials were undertaken to test the embankment design. All the grassland species used will be indigenous, including wallaby grass. All the topsoil is being reclaimed and the under storey mulched and re-used on the fire services dam, the haul roads and other areas around the waterbody. Alcoa is proposing that the grassland will remain long term with some scattered trees.

Ecology Australia has prepared the vegetation studies. DEDJTR will ultimately need to sign off on the attainment of the closure objectives and criteria, vegetation being one of those. It could take 5-10 years to determine whether the vegetation objectives and criteria have been met.

Alcoa was requested to consider a long term aspirational target of a return to heathy woodland for the southern area of the mine.

Agency Update

Angeline Charles (DELWP) advised that the Anglesea Futures Scenario Building Workshop (for the Anglesea Futures Land Use Plan) was held on Sunday 20 August and an Open House held on Sunday 27 August will enable the community to view the scenarios for the Anglesea Futures study area and talk to the project team. An online forum (<https://engage.vic.gov.au/angleseafutures>) to gather comments on scenario preferences will be open until 11 September.

Rowan Mackenzie (Surf Coast Shire) reported that the Anglesea River was opened artificially on 14 August. The next meeting of the Anglesea River Community Working Group will occur in August, at which the purpose and future direction of the Group will be reviewed. Council is hosting a workshop for a small working group to discuss potential renewable energy options for the Anglesea area, including the Anglesea Futures Study Area, as part of Anglesea Futures discussions.

Beiha Yanez (DEDJTR) reported that ERR is continuing its monthly regulatory compliance inspections, with no issues presenting as a result of these inspections to date. Upon receipt of the Mine Rehabilitation and Closure Plan, ERR's approvals team will co-ordinate both an internal and external review.

Community Engagement

Kate Betts (Senior Advisor Communications & Engagement, Alcoa) presented the outcomes of the Phase Three stakeholder engagement process undertaken in June, specifically aimed at gathering feedback on the Mine Rehabilitation and Closure Plan. The summary report is available at <https://engage-anglesea.alcoa.com.au/18030/documents/60977>

Over 50% of respondents stated that all five guiding principles had been appropriately applied in the Plan. Common themes of support (82%) included the protection and restoration of the environment; the management of water quality in the water body; and the way it allows for a variety of future land uses. Concerns (9%) included the Plan's impact on surrounding vegetation; the lack of certainty regarding the water body's water quality; and a lack of sufficient information available during the consultation period to enable adequate assessment of the Plan.



FIGURE 2

Kate thanked the community for their participation in the engagement process to date and advised that Alcoa will seek further community input on the future of the power station freehold land, late in 2017/early 2018.

A number of comments/concerns relating to the future of the freehold parcels were raised including: confusion within the community as to the level of intended consultation regarding the freehold parcels and whether that consultation will include all freehold parcels or just the power station freehold. Once Alcoa determines these details, this needs to be clearly communicated to the community; the suggestion that the Fraser Ave (with a vegetation protection overlay over it) and bike park lease blocks should be considered differently to the other freehold blocks because of their specific attributes and management arrangements respectively; and similar to what has been demonstrated by Alcoa to date in terms of the mine and power station closure and rehabilitation process, a request for Alcoa to commit to an open, honest, consultative and transparent approach in its decisions about the future of all the freehold land.

**NEXT MEETING: Monday 9 October 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 14 August. 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