

# Community update

## Anglesea



Welcome to Alcoa's regular community update where we share the latest information about the Anglesea mine and power station including ongoing opportunities for the community to be engaged in our activities.

As 2021 comes to a close, I am pleased to share some highlights from the activities we've undertaken this year to deliver a safe, stable and sustainable landform.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank the community for their continued interest in our work. Although we haven't been able to hold our bi-monthly CCN meetings since February 2020, our regular Community Updates have continued, and we have appreciated the ongoing feedback and engagement.

### 2021 highlights

During 2021 we have continued to progress the remediation of the former mine and power station sites. Considering the ongoing challenges experienced with the pandemic, much has been achieved and most importantly in a safe and environmentally compliant way, including:

- The completion of nine surface water drains around the mine crest.
- The completion of sixteen additional groundwater monitoring wells around the periphery of the mine.
- The commencement of the groundwater pumping test in May to inform the long-term mine void water filling strategy, and completion of stage one of the test in December.
- The continued establishment of the topsoil subsoil vegetation on the western slopes of the mine, and the grasslands on the southern slopes.
- The implementation of an ongoing monitoring and maintenance program in the mine for earthworks and revegetation including stability monitoring, erosion repairs and extensive weed management.
- The submission of the environment assessment report for the power station site to EPA Victoria in April confirming no unacceptable or imminent risks to human health or the environment.
- The approval from EPA Victoria for the onsite landfill capping design.
- Ongoing community engagement via monthly Community Updates and the production of the mine rehabilitation video.

### Mine void water filling strategy

An approved long term strategy to fill the mine with water is required to finalise the Anglesea Mine Rehabilitation and Closure Plan and remains a key enabler for the Eden Project Anglesea concept.

In May we commenced a 12-month pumping test to investigate the use of groundwater to support the filling strategy.

As always, we are committed to keeping you informed about our ongoing activities and giving you the opportunity to provide us with your feedback.

Please continue to reach out to us on [angleseaps@alcoa.com.au](mailto:angleseaps@alcoa.com.au) or visit [alcoa.com.au/anglesea](http://alcoa.com.au/anglesea) with your feedback or questions. We hope to restart our Community Consultation Network meetings in early 2022.

On behalf of the Alcoa team, I wish you a safe, healthy and happy festive season and new year.

Best wishes,

Warren Sharp  
Anglesea Site Asset Manager

The outcomes of the test will determine if a sustainable extraction rate can be established and inform decisions about the potential use of groundwater in the longer term.

The test is underpinned by a comprehensive monitoring plan, with a high level of oversight by a co-regulator technical working group.

During the test a total of 1.5 gigalitres of groundwater will be extracted from the Upper Easter View Formation aquifer. This is less than half the historical annual extraction rate for the power station over 46 years of operation and is significantly less than our current licence limit of 4 gigalitres per year.

### Stage one completed

The pumping test reached a significant milestone this month, with the first six-month period successfully completed on 8 December.

The test has progressed well and in accordance with licence conditions.

Since the test commenced, a total of 671.9ML of groundwater has been extracted and pumped into the mine. The waterbody has risen by 3.0 metres to RL-17.62m and is now 15.4% of the estimated full volume.

We are pleased with the progress to date, and are now collating, analysing and validating the collected data to determine a sustainable pumping rate.

This data will also facilitate the calibration of the updated Anglesea Groundwater Model being developed in conjunction with Barwon Water.

The updated groundwater model is being independently peer reviewed and will further inform a proposed long-term licence amendment.

Stage two of the test, to commence when the required analysis and regulatory assessments have been completed, will provide additional confidence to the community, and further validation of the updated groundwater model.

For further information and monthly updates, visit [alcoa.com.au/anglesea](http://alcoa.com.au/anglesea).



Eden Project Anglesea's Water Concept – a wondrous centrepiece rising from the waterbody.

### An update from the Eden Project

Since you last heard from me, the Eden Project has been through perhaps the most significant and exciting period in our history.

In June, we were privileged to welcome the G7 world leaders and five members of the royal family to Eden as part of their Cornish summit – an event that saw us grab global headlines as some of the most recognisable faces in the world toured our Biomes.

Then in October we set up the Eden Project Pavilion at the COP26 climate conference in Glasgow, telling the Eden story to delegates from around the world, making new friends along the way and using the Pavilion as a backdrop for the announcement of our first South American Eden in Colombia.

These two major events bookended a period that saw us open the first Eden-curated content outside Cornwall in Terra, the Sustainability Pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai and saw the construction of our project in Qingdao in China reach a major milestone as the main arch of its Storm Forest Biome was completed. Our project in Morecambe in the north of England continues apace with the submission of a planning application.

Many of us have been eagerly waiting for the results of the pump test in the former mine at Anglesea... none more so than the team at Eden. While we await the final results, the early signs are looking positive. In the meantime, we value our continued engagement with the local community, Alcoa and Invest Victoria to assist in progressing the Eden Project in Anglesea during 2022.

Thank you to all our Australian friends for your continued support during 2021. We wish you all a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and sincere commiserations on your impending defeat in the Ashes!

Best wishes,  
David Harland,  
CEO Eden Project International

**eden project**

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