

ANGLESEA POWER STATION COMMUNITY CONSULTATION NETWORK

FEBRUARY 2017 MEETING SNAPSHOT

Meeting purpose: A CCN meeting was held on 13 February 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. 31 people attended, including representatives from community, local and state government, local authorities and Alcoa.

Anglesea Heath Handback

On 2 February 2017, approximately 6,500 hectares of Alcoa-leased Anglesea Heath was handed back to the State for addition to the Great Otway National Park. This was possible due to the early surrender of the land by Alcoa - the lease was due to expire in 2061. This was a significant milestone for both Alcoa and the Victorian Government and honours a 2015 election commitment. New regulations were developed for this parcel of land to provide Parks Victoria with the tools to effectively manage it.

The future use of a further 110 hectares, just south of the Anglesea Landfill, will be the subject of further consultation through the Anglesea Futures meetings, including the potential for active recreational uses. The area handed back to the Crown represents 89% of Alcoa's former leased area. Alcoa will continue to lease approximately 800 hectares of Crown land (as shown in green in Figure 2) to fulfil its rehabilitation obligations. This area largely comprises the mine, power station and the corridor along the transmission line.

Anglesea Heath – Early surrender of land

2 February 2017

- The Great Otway National Park will increase in size by more than 6,510 hectares, when the environmentally important Anglesea Heath is added to the park thanks to the early surrender of land by Alcoa.
- Alcoa's long-standing relationship with the DELWP, Parks Victoria, ANGAIR and the Anglesea Heath Consultative Committee has ensured the management and protection of the Anglesea Heath's conservation values over many years.
- Alcoa is pleased that those values, and the Heath, will continue to be enjoyed by the people of Victoria, and especially the Anglesea community, for generations to come.
- Alcoa will continue to lease 787 hectares of Crown land to complete obligations for the revised Mine Closure Plan, due for submission to Earth Resources Regulation in May 2017.

[Link to DELWP video](#)

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FIGURE 1

Land Map

- Heath handback effective 2 February 2017
- Lease and Freehold
- Department responsibilities
 - DEDJTR Earth Resources (Mine)
 - EPA (Powerstation)
 - DELWP (Land)
- Areas of significance

This map indicates approximate boundaries for informational purposes.

FIGURE 2

Fire Risk Mitigation

Warren Sharp (Anglesea and Point Henry Site Asset Manager) reminded attendees about the ongoing fire risk mitigation activities occurring onsite. A cross-departmental fire audit was conducted in January, the results of which are expected shortly. In addition, an EnergySafe Victoria review of Alcoa's electrical system (including with respect to bushfire safety) is scheduled shortly. It was clarified that the 6,500 hectares of Anglesea Heath handed back to the State is now included in Parks Victoria's bushfire responsibility for the Great Otway National Park.

Mine Sump Water

The mine sump water is currently pH 4.3 having come down since the completion of ash pond dredging activity, as expected. The water level is currently at 28.8 metres below sea level (RL refers to 'Relative Level', which is essentially sea level). Alcoa's modelling predicts an eventual water level of approximately +7 metres RL. If left to fill only from rainwater and groundwater inputs, the lake would take about 20-25 years to reach this desired level.

However, should Salt Creek be diverted into the lake, and presuming average rainfall, Alcoa anticipates the desired level can be reached in approximately 5 years. Alcoa intends to actively manage the water quality in the lake with the objective of reaching a reasonable water quality (targeting a pH of approximately 5). Technical studies are being undertaken to determine if Salt Creek could be a permanent feed into the lake accompanied by an engineered discharge back to the River. These proposals would then be subject to approval through the Revised Mine Closure Plan.

Decommissioning and Rehabilitation

Dean Schmidt (Project Engineer) provided an update on the activities that have taken place since the last CCN meeting. One of the highlights during this period was the removal of the old stator which was transported to Ringwood late on a Saturday night in January (bottom photo in Figure 3). With two prime movers pulling and one prime mover pushing, the length of the whole assembly was approximately 50 metres. The transportation was supervised by Vic Roads and went well, without incident.

Activity Update




- Commercial tender process for power station decommissioning ongoing.
- Ash Pond No 1 removal of residual ash as planned to the mine in progress.
- Old stator (160 tonnes) removed from site.
- Changes to the front entrance / carpark in preparation for decommissioning activities.
- Victoria Police Special Operations Group training.
- Submission made to commence short term mine sump water quality management activity (lime and caustic).




FIGURE 3

Geotechnical Study Update

Chris Rolland (Mine Rehabilitation Supervisor) provided an update on the cultural heritage assessment process, a key input into the revised Mine Closure Plan. A Cultural Heritage Management Plan is required prior to any disturbance or potential disturbance to vegetation. Terra Culture (a consultancy) has been engaged to undertake the cultural heritage assessment, working closely with the Registered Aboriginal Party, the Wathaurung Aboriginal Corporation.

Cultural Heritage Management Plan - Update 

- Work awarded to Terra Culture.
- Sites of cultural significance will be identified to determine a strategy to manage where required.
- An assessment of the areas that will be potentially impacted by the mine remediation.
- Work involves onsite evaluation.
- CHMP requires approval by Aboriginal Affairs Victoria.
- Note: Vegetation assessment will identify any potential vegetation impacts associated with mine remediation.



■ Area potentially impacted by the mine remediation

Figure 4 shows the area included in the assessment, that is, the potential footprint increase of rehabilitation works.

It is possible that there will be some artefacts in this area which will need to be managed.

An attendee asked about the long term future management and maintenance responsibility for Coalmine Road, given that it may be considered by some people in the community to be an alternative bypass or escape route from bushfire. Lisa Opray (DELWP) suggested that this issue could be discussed at the next Anglesea Futures meeting in March.

Community Engagement

Warren reminded attendees as to progress along the broad community engagement timeline. The technical studies timeline will be extended until March and a high level concept for the revised Mine Closure Plan is likely to be produced in March-April when community feedback will be actively sought on this concept. Alcoa is hopeful that the Draft Closure Plan can be submitted to Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (DEDJTR) in May-June 2017 for endorsement. Alcoa expects to engage with the community about the future use of the power station freehold land in approximately September 2017.

Agency Update

Bessie Abbott (DEDJTR) reported on the continuing monthly regulatory compliance inspections with WorkSafe Victoria. DEDJTR Closure and Rehabilitation Guidelines for the Mining and Extractive Industries have been drafted and, although not yet out for comment, have been provided to Alcoa to assist them to ensure that the Closure Plan covers requirements. It is expected that Alcoa's experience at this site will inform the Guidelines. DEDJTR hopes to have the Guidelines finalised in 2017. In clarifying the approvals process, Bessie stressed that, whilst it is the lead regulator in the Closure Plan approvals process, approval can't be granted without consultation from other government agencies.

Surf Coast Shire (SCS) reported that the next Anglesea River Working Group meeting will be held in coming weeks. The next meeting of the Anglesea Futures is intended for March 2017 – see <http://www.delwp.vic.gov.au/parks-forests-and-crown-land/anglesea-futures>.

Tom Scarborough (Corangamite Catchment Management Authority) reported that the estuary is currently sitting at approximately 1.4m Australian Height Datum (AHD) and that, in conjunction with DELWP and Barwon Water, is attempting to maintain the level at about 1.3m AHD. Barwon Water will discharge water from the leased storage pond, when required, to maintain that level. To date, Barwon Water has released 20 megalitres into the River. The River is currently sitting at approximately 4-5pH.

Next meeting: Monday 10 April 2017, 6pm at the Senior Citizens Club, McMillan St, Anglesea

The purpose of this document is to give community and other stakeholders a summary of what took place at the CCN meeting on Monday 13 February. 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, to assist it becoming more 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.