

sulphur dioxide update

An update Alcoa Anglesea's sulphur dioxide (SO₂) performance

Alcoa Anglesea continues to monitor and work on SO₂ management as part of the daily operation of the power station. SO₂ is created when the Anglesea brown coal is burnt in the power station as the coal contains sulphur.

The Air Quality Control System (AQCS), previously referred to in this newsletter as the Early Warning Modelling Tool, is currently being commissioned.

In recent months, the AQCS has been localised to the power station with procedures and operational manuals written, and the Power Station operators have been trained in its use.

There have been two instances this year where the one hour average ground level concentration for SO₂ in Anglesea has been exceeded. The conditions that contributed to these events were markedly different but both involved wind. The first instance was at 8am-9am at Camp Rd and was due to gale force hot northerly wind conditions on January 29th. The second event was at 7am-8am on March 19th at Eumeralla Scout Camp and was due to 'recirculating' wind conditions, where conflicting winds over the ocean pushed the plume back towards the Scout Camp ambient monitoring station.

These events were disappointing given our management success in 2008 where there were no instances where the one hour average for SO₂ was exceeded. However, we see the AQCS as part of our ongoing commitment to continually improve in SO₂ management and believe after its commissioned the station will be in an even more proactive position to anticipate and mitigate these events in the future.

For further information on the Sulphur Dioxide Management Project, please visit our website at www.alcoa.com.au/anglesea or contact Community Relations Officer, Anthea Doran on 03 5263 4249.

global financial crisis hits home

Due to the falling price of aluminium on the London Metals Exchange, the world economy generally and fluctuations in the Australian dollar, Alcoa has had to adapt and continues to fight hard to keep its businesses in Australia healthy. At a local level, there have been many cost saving initiatives undertaken and everyone on site has responded well to the challenge of "doing more with less". Sadly, there have also been restructuring activities at all three of Alcoa's Victorian sites. It has been difficult and sad to say goodbye to many well liked and admired colleagues who left Anglesea Power Station throughout September. Despite the significant changes that have taken place we continue to see our potential, we work hard and we are doing all we can to position our business for future success.

get involved

There are many ways in which you can learn more about Alcoa Anglesea's operations, including:

- discussing a matter directly with our Community Relations Officer (see below);
- joining the Community Consultation Network which meets every two months to discuss matters of interest to Alcoa Anglesea and the local community;
- registering to receive Community Consultation Network meeting minutes;
- registering to receive Alcoa Anglesea's electronic monthly Environmental Report which details our overall environmental performance;
- visiting our website: www.alcoa.com.au/anglesea
- registering to have a presentation at your next community group forum; or
- taking a tour of Alcoa Anglesea to learn more about our operations.

Contact Community Relations Officer, Anthea Doran, for more information on 03 5263 4249 or via angleseaps@alcoa.com.au



alcoa anglesea news

EDITION 6 - ISSUE 2, 2009

Welcome to the sixth edition of Alcoa Anglesea News. This is the second edition for 2009. Due to a major project and staff movements within our business we have not produced an edition of Alcoa Anglesea News since March. We apologise for this and intend to produce these newsletters quarterly in 2010.

Throughout April and May this year we undertook our 4 yearly major maintenance shutdown project. This 27 day, \$36.9 million project involved shutting down the power station so we could perform a staggering 86,000 hours of labour and was a huge success – delivered on time, under budget and most importantly, with no lost work time due to safety incidents.

We have had some noteworthy personnel changes in recent months. I took over as Power Station Manager in July and Anthea Doran returned as Community Relations Officer, also in July.

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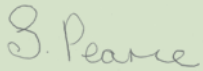
australia's aluminium

The global financial crisis continues to present challenges to Alcoa's operations around the world, including its Australian businesses. This has had an impact at Alcoa Anglesea and along with having a range of efficiency projects underway, our employee base has decreased by about 15% as a result of restructuring, retirements and redundancies.

We continue to work hard to manage our sulphur dioxide (SO₂) emissions and we are in the process of commissioning the new Air Quality Control System (AQCS).

Everyone at Alcoa Anglesea remains dedicated to re-positioning our business for future success and we continue to work hard to engage with and contribute to the local community. On behalf of everyone here, I wish you and your family a happy and safe festive season.

Kind regards,



Stephanie Pearce
POWER STATION MANAGER

past faces return to anglesea



Stephanie Pearce (pictured right) was appointed Power Station Manager in July. Stephanie is a chemical engineer and highly experienced manager who has worked in a range of technical and safety roles across Alcoa's three Victorian businesses for the past 14 years. She is welcomed back to Anglesea Power Station where she last worked as Operating and Technical Manager in 2005. Stephanie also has a strong history of community involvement and was recently appointed as a Board Member to Anglesea and District Community House. Acting Power Station Manager, **Chris Rolland**, has returned to his previous position as Mine Manager. Community Relations Officer, Dave Ryan, left Alcoa in April and moved to the NSW coast with his young family. **Anthea Doran** (pictured left) returned to Alcoa Anglesea in July to replace Dave as Community Relations Officer following time away in another Alcoa business and on maternity leave. Anthea's work days are Monday Tuesday and Wednesday.

all hands on deck for anglesea maintenance shutdown

Planning for this year's Alcoa Anglesea Power Station maintenance shutdown essentially began four years ago, following the last shutdown in 2005 and the painstaking preparation paid off, with the project delivered on time and under budget with no major safety incidents.

The major focus of the 27-day, \$36.9 million shutdown held in April and May was to replace the stator, which generates electricity.

The stator was removed on 3 May, with the new 160-tonne replacement put in the very next day. The stator replacement was the critical path item of the shutdown due to the intricacy of this work and the time required to turn this work around.

Another major activity was replacing the baskets in the site's two air heaters, which assist the power generation process by heating the incoming air to the boiler. Each air heater has a rotor with 196 baskets, with a new style basket being installed. Asbestos was also removed from inside the air heater chamber as part of this job.

To enable maintenance work to begin in the boiler, it first had to undergo a high-pressure clean, which took 84 hours. A full internal scaffold - a first for Alcoa Anglesea - was set up for workers to inspect the boiler and replace boiler tubes. The boiler void is 50m high and required an impressive 40 tonnes of scaffold.

A great team effort:

- All work was undertaken in an extremely professional manner, with lots of energy and enthusiasm, involving a blend of 'old' hands and those who are new to the Alcoa Anglesea shutdown demands.
- An average of 225 contractors worked onsite each day during the shutdown, over two shifts, as well as 100 Alcoa employees, contributing a total of 86,000 hours of work, with more than 500 contractor employees inducted to work during the shutdown.
- The shutdown required enormous flexibility from Alcoa Anglesea employees, with many performing new roles to support the changed needs of the plant.
- Additional support was provided by the Alcoa Anglesea Mining group in shutdown specific support, equipment overhauls, road projects and other operations.

An enormous amount of extra equipment and people were required to perform the work



Several new initiatives were implemented during this shutdown including:

- Daily safety recognition awards: Safety representatives were onsite giving employees recognition certificates for undertaking safe work practices, with a daily safety recognition draw to further encourage safe work practices. A major Safety Recognition Award was drawn at the completion of the shutdown, with a \$500 Coles Myer or Bunnings voucher as the prize.
- Daily newsletter: A major communication tool which included essential information such as safety and environmental information, weather forecast, major activities and progress schedule reports.
- Visual Implementation Process (VIP) boards: The three major tasks each had their own daily management boards in line with Alcoa Business System (ABS) principles. This is a powerful visual tool used at the shift start up meetings with contractor and Alcoa Anglesea employees to explain the day's work and is recognised as being a benchmark process.
- Opportunistic maintenance: Five fourth year apprentices were bought in from the Alcoa Point Henry aluminium smelter to work and learn with Alcoa Anglesea electricians and fitters.

During the shutdown, Alcoa Point Henry purchased the power normally supplied by Alcoa Anglesea from the state grid. This was at a higher price than the cost of production from Alcoa Anglesea, which is why such an emphasis was placed on getting the plant back online as soon as possible. Everyone at Alcoa Anglesea also understood the importance of getting it right during the current financial climate.