

## From the plant manager

I recently hosted our fifth Alcoa Community Consultation Network (CCN) meeting for the year to keep the community informed of activities at the Anglesea power station and mine and to receive community input.

I was pleased to provide the 31 attendees with an overview of the safe completion of the technical shutdown of operations, as well as an overview of the process and draft timeline for the site's future decommissioning and rehabilitation.

Updates were also provided from representatives from the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport

and Resources (DEDJTR), EPA Victoria, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) and Surf Coast Shire.

Highlights from the meeting are outlined in this article and a comprehensive summary is available at [www.alcoa.com.au/anglesea](http://www.alcoa.com.au/anglesea).

As always we welcome the community's attendance at our CCN meetings; the next meeting will be held on Monday 7 December at the Anglesea Senior Citizens Club at 6pm.

**Warren Sharp,**  
**Anglesea Site Manager**



## Technical Shutdown

The technical shutdown of the power station and mine was completed safely on 31 August 2015. Ongoing training and personal support to former employees is continuing as we help them transition to work-life beyond Alcoa. Many have been fortunate to secure employment.

The site has now been handed to Alcoa's Asset Planning and Management group for future decommissioning and rehabilitation. Three Alcoa staff remain at the site who are supported by the Alcoa team in Geelong, Western Australia and the US.

Alcoa has considerable Australian and international expertise in industrial site and mine rehabilitation and remediation and has estimated \$US40 - \$US45 million for asset retirement and environmental remediation at Anglesea.

## Future fire risk mitigation

Fire prevention continues to be a fundamental consideration for Alcoa. We are proud that in our 46 years of operation we have not had any significant fire events.

As planned, forty-one hectares of exposed coal was covered by 31 August and going forward the coal mine will be inspected at least twice daily.

A Trigger Action Response Plan (TARP) has been completed, including pre-set triggers for action in certain weather conditions. There are water sources onsite and equipment has been retained for fire control. Alcoa continues to engage directly with the Country Fire Authority (CFA) and the state government.

On 31 August the Hazelwood Mine Fire Inquiry Board delivered the Governor of Victoria its findings into opportunities to

minimise fire risk at the Anglesea Mine for the 2015/16 summer season.

As part of the inquiry process, Alcoa made formal submissions to the Board highlighting the measures that Alcoa is implementing to decrease the risk of fire arising from or impacting the Anglesea mine.

Alcoa also participated in public hearings with a range of other stakeholders including Emergency Management Victoria, Worksafe Victoria, Country Fire Authority, Department of Earth Resources, and Rod Incoll – Mine Fire Expert.

The final report issued by the Board concluded *"that Alcoa has either implemented, or is in the process of implementing, a range of fire minimisation strategies that are sustainable, practical and effective."* Alcoa has published the full list of fire minimisation actions on its website - [www.alcoa.com.au/anglesea](http://www.alcoa.com.au/anglesea).

Alcoa is very mindful of the additional comment made by the Board regarding the need to ensure that rehabilitation of the Anglesea site does not lead to increased fire risks in the future.

## The Anglesea River

Alcoa recognises the community interest in the Anglesea River and following a request from government, the company is maintaining its water flows into the river at levels similar to recent years until the end of the 2015/16 summer period.

Changes to Alcoa's treatment and management system of the water discharge have been commissioned and water flows must meet EPA licence conditions.

This is allowing time for the government and the community to understand and work through the issues associated with the river's long term future.

## Closure, decommissioning and rehabilitation

The mine rehabilitation and closure process will be consistent with the endorsed Work Plan and is regulated by DEDJTR Earth Resources. The power station decommissioning and remediation process is consistent with the National Environment Protection Measure (Contaminated Sites) and is regulated by EPA Victoria. Community engagement is a key part of the process.

Following technical reviews, site assessments and an agreed community engagement process, it is anticipated that physical works in the mine will commence in 2017.

## Mine inspections

DEDJTR Earth Resources is undertaking monthly mine site inspections in conjunction with Worksafe Victoria. At the moment, the focus is on fire risk at the mine, particularly maintenance of the one metre coal coverage. Inspections will also involve a geotechnical and hydrological compliance audit. These monthly inspections will be ongoing.

## Power station remediation

A statutory Clean Up Notice has been issued by EPA Victoria as is due process requiring the company to manage any environmental contamination at the power station site in preparation for future use. The notice requires the completion of environmental site assessments by 30 September 2017 and the appointment of an independent environmental auditor.

Part of the environmental site assessments will examine whether elevated levels of ground contamination are due to natural factors and whether anything needs to be done about them and/or whether they will naturally remediate over time. There are three aspects that are not included in the Clean Up Notice being the asbestos landfill, the mine rehabilitation and water discharge to the Anglesea River.

Science, Math and Technology by at least 5% annually over three years. The grant will enable the introduction of innovative learning programs, teachers' professional development and the purchase of new equipment and resources at the school. Grants were also awarded to Anglesea Surf Life Saving Club, Anglesea Fire Brigade, ANGAIR, Anglesea Football Netball Clubs, Anglesea Bowling Club, Anglesea & District Mens Shed, Anglesea Lions Club, The Lodge of the Great Ocean Road, Anglesea & Aireys Inlet Foodlink, Anglesea & District Historical Society, Eumeralla Scout Camp and Anglesea Performing Arts Inc.

## Community consultation

Alcoa has a long history of community engagement in Anglesea, including the well established Community Consultation Network (CCN) that is open for any community member to participate in. Alcoa will continue the CCN as a key community engagement activity.

The next CCN meeting will be held on Monday 7 December, 6pm-8pm at the Anglesea Senior Citizens Club in McMillan Street. To RSVP please contact Alcoa.

As always should you have any questions for Alcoa, please contact us via email or telephone, visit our website, or come along to a CCN meeting.

## Community grants

In August Alcoa was delighted to announce grants totalling \$225,000 to 14 Anglesea community organisations, in recognition of their long term partnership and outstanding contribution to the local region. The Anglesea Primary School received a \$US50,000 grant for the 'Alcoa STEM to the Future' initiative with a goal to improve individual student achievement in



Alcoa's Chris Rolland presents Anglesea Primary School Principal Pamela Sandlant with a plaque to recognise an outstanding partnership.

## Anglesea Power Station and Mine

Camp Road, Anglesea 5263 4213  
[angleseaps@alcoa.com.au](mailto:angleseaps@alcoa.com.au)  
[www.alcoa.com.au/anglesea](http://www.alcoa.com.au/anglesea)