

EDEN PROJECT ANGLESEA  
COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT  
MINUTES

MONDAY

11 November, 2019

6.00pm – 8.30pm

Senior Citizens Club, McMillan Street, Anglesea

**Facilitator:** Jen Lilburn

## OUTLINE OF MEETING

1. Introductions and apologies
2. Eden Project Anglesea concept progress
3. Initial traffic discussion
4. Power Station concept update
5. Q&A session

## ATTENDEES

<b>Community*</b>	More than 120 community members attended. A show of hands revealed that about 95% of the audience were residents from Anglesea or surrounding areas.
<b>Alcoa</b>	Kate Betts, Nicci Marris, John Osborne, Dean Schmidt, Warren Sharp
<b>Eden Project International</b>	David Harland
<b>Others</b>	<b>Barwon Water:</b> Tom Scarborough <b>CCMA:</b> Sharon Blum-Caon <b>DELWP:</b> Chris McNamara, Colleen White, Dr. Greg Woodward <b>SCS:</b> Keith Baillie, Rowan Mackenzie, Barb Noelker, Cr Tony Revell, Matt Taylor <b>Surf Coast Times:</b> Klaus Nannestad

\* 100 community members provided names and/or contact details. They are listed at the bottom of this document. There were an additional number of attendees who did not record their name or contact details.

## APOLOGIES

Brett Claxton, Stuart Grimley MP, Susie Hilton, John Jackson, Helen Jurcevic, Jo Jurcevic, Amanda Ketteridge, Steve Ketteridge, Judith Laird, Nicole Mason, Amanda May, Andy Meddick MP Dave Morris, Jan Morris, Jana Samargis – Woods, Ruth Taylor, Paul Thornton, Hayley Vinden (CCMA)

## ABBREVIATIONS

CCMA	Corangamite Catchment Management Authority
DELWP	Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
DJPR	Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (formerly known as DEDJTR: Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources)
EPA	Environment Protection Authority
EPIL	Eden Project International Limited
ERR	Earth Resources Regulation
GOR	Great Ocean Road
LEVF	Lower Eastern View Aquifer
SCS	Surf Coast Shire
UEVF	Upper Eastern View Aquifer

*These minutes were produced by Sally Chandler-Ford. We aim to provide detailed minutes that cover the key information that was provided in the meeting. However, these minutes are not intended to be a transcript of the meeting, and discussions, comments and questions have been summarised to improve the readability of this document.*

*Presenters were given the opportunity to review the notes relating to their item to ensure the discussion was accurately summarised, and that it details best available knowledge at the time of the meeting. Additional comments received after the meeting have been highlighted as such. A briefer account of the meeting is provided in the meeting Snapshot.*

## MINUTES FROM THE MEETING

### SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

Action Number	Action
Action 1911.1	Alcoa to request details of the Project Coordination Group membership

## 1. Introductions and apologies

Jen Lilburn welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced **Warren Sharp** (Anglesea and Point Henry Site Asset Manager) who presented a timeline outlining the key milestones since the shutdown of mining operations in August 2015 (Figure 1).

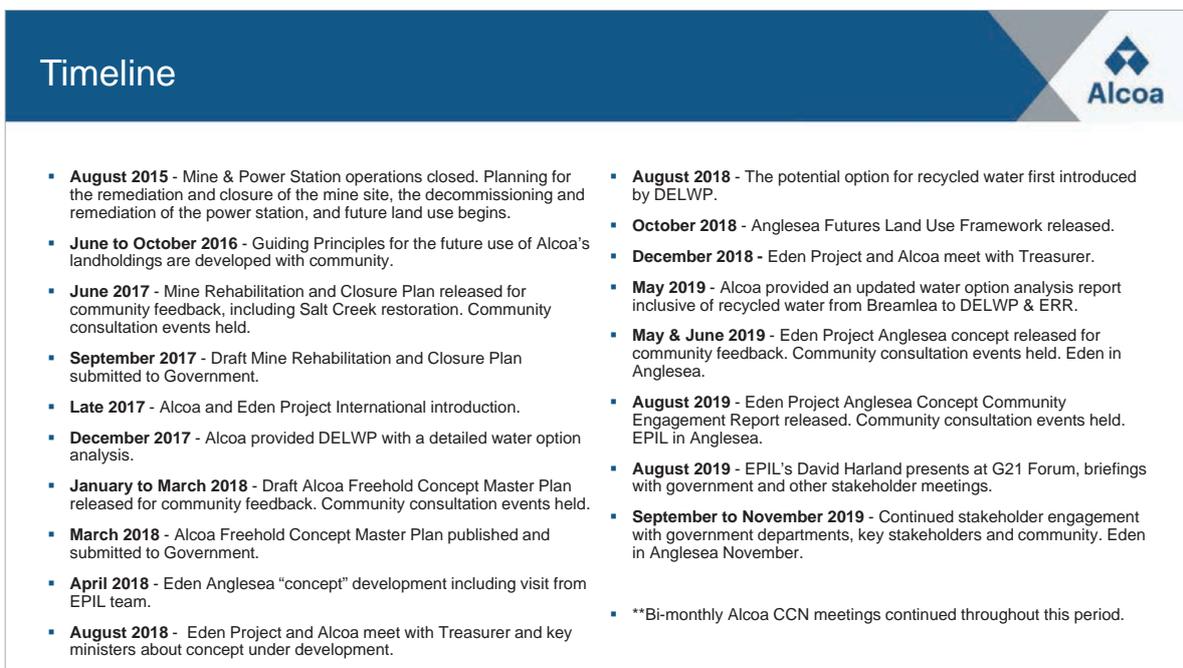
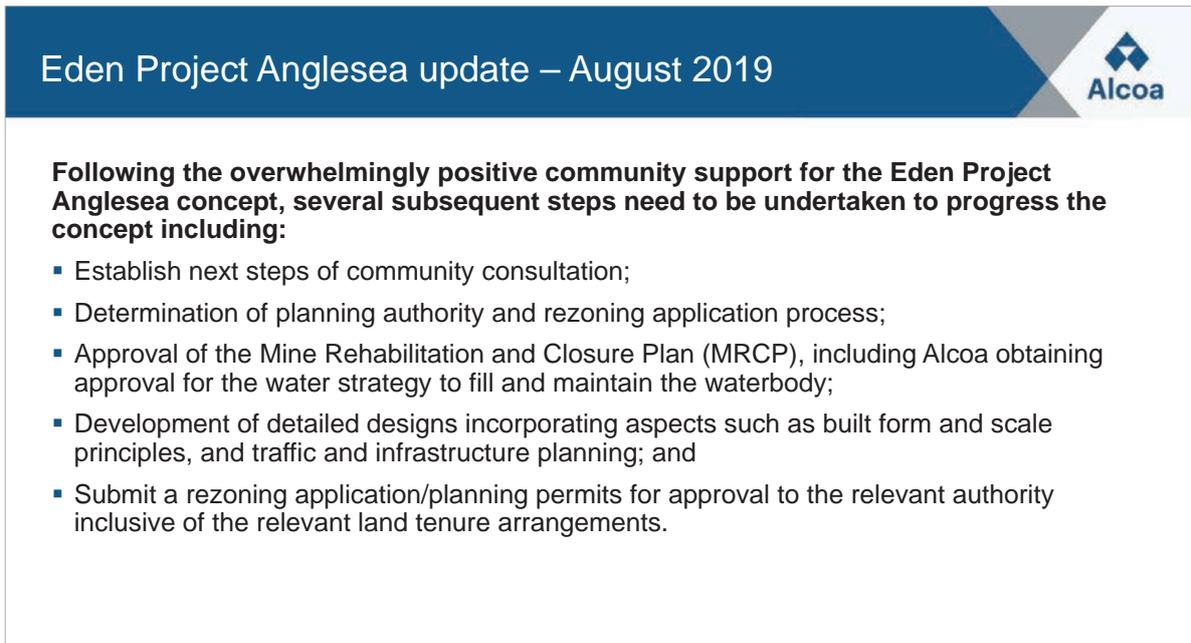


FIGURE 1

## 2. Eden Project Anglesea concept progress

As presented at the August Community Consultation Network meeting, the next steps for the project are outlined in Figure 2. Determination of the planning authority and approval of the Draft Mine Rehabilitation and Closure Plan, including resolution of the water strategy to fill the waterbody, remain the key unresolved issues (Figure 3).

Alcoa is confident that the planning issues will be resolved in due course. However, the key issue of concern and receiving the greatest focus is that of filling the water body. Following approval of these issues, detailed design work will be undertaken including land uses, traffic, infrastructure and built form. A rezoning application is at least 18 months away.



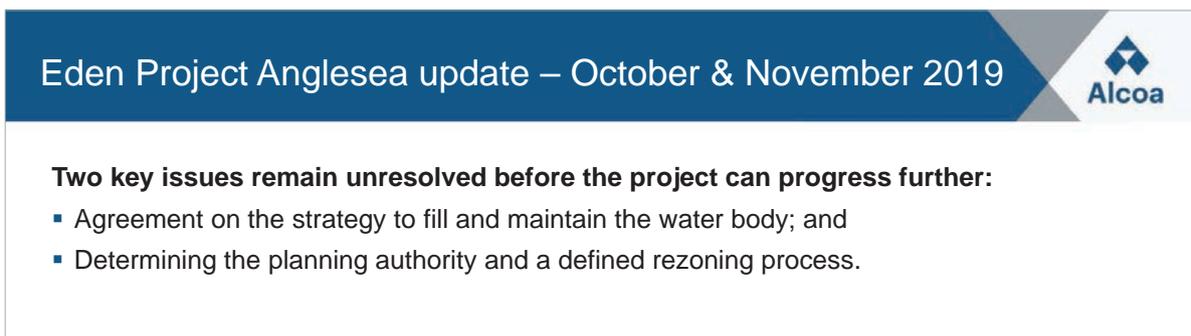
The slide features a dark blue header with the title 'Eden Project Anglesea update – August 2019' in white text. The Alcoa logo is positioned in the top right corner. The main content area is white with a blue border. It begins with a bolded introductory sentence, followed by a bulleted list of five items.

**Eden Project Anglesea update – August 2019**

**Following the overwhelmingly positive community support for the Eden Project Anglesea concept, several subsequent steps need to be undertaken to progress the concept including:**

- Establish next steps of community consultation;
- Determination of planning authority and rezoning application process;
- Approval of the Mine Rehabilitation and Closure Plan (MRCP), including Alcoa obtaining approval for the water strategy to fill and maintain the waterbody;
- Development of detailed designs incorporating aspects such as built form and scale principles, and traffic and infrastructure planning; and
- Submit a rezoning application/planning permits for approval to the relevant authority inclusive of the relevant land tenure arrangements.

FIGURE 2



The slide features a dark blue header with the title 'Eden Project Anglesea update – October & November 2019' in white text. The Alcoa logo is positioned in the top right corner. The main content area is white with a blue border. It begins with a bolded introductory sentence, followed by a bulleted list of two items.

**Eden Project Anglesea update – October & November 2019**

**Two key issues remain unresolved before the project can progress further:**

- Agreement on the strategy to fill and maintain the water body; and
- Determining the planning authority and a defined rezoning process.

FIGURE 3

Warren outlined the options that are currently being considered to fill and maintain the proposed 100 hectare water body within the desired 5-7 year timeframe. The solution may be a combination of options (Figure 4).

The Lower Eastern View Aquifer (LEVF) groundwater option is no longer a consideration as Barwon Water has that allocation. The mine void is currently being filled naturally and is sitting at approximately 7% full with a pH of 3-3.5. Marshy Creek is currently flowing and has ranged between pH 2-5 over the season. Salt Creek ran for one month at a pH of 2-4 and has since stopped. It is estimated that the natural fill option would take approximately 50 years.

### Options for filling & maintaining the water body

- Salt Creek restoration
- UEVF groundwater – Alcoa license
- LEVF groundwater – Barwon Water license
- Recycled water (from Breamlea treatment plant)
- Natural fill (approx. 50 years)



### Alcoa continues to work with Government to evaluate all options:

- Filling of the mine void by restoring Salt Creek back to its original course, in combination with ground water and recycled water is Alcoa's preferred option.
- Harvesting of 'high flow' events of lower Anglesea River, where there is excess river water (ie higher than environmental flow requirements of the estuary), should form part of the strategy.
- The water in the mine void is at the State's disposal should there be a need in terms of fire response, environmental support for the lower Anglesea River or other purposes.

FIGURE 4

A number of questions were asked relating to the water strategy options including:

- ***Could Alcoa use its licence to fill the mine from the UEVF groundwater and, if so, would it need to be treated in any way to make it suitable for this purpose?***
- ***Would the creation of a smaller water body (say, 20 ha) around the Eden Project site be a viable option as it would take less time to fill and would be a cheaper option?***
- ***If you partitioned a smaller section of the water body off, could you fill it with stormwater? You could then allow the remainder of the mine pit to fill eventually without delaying the project.***
- ***How much is understood about the groundwater system and, if groundwater is diverted into the water body, what are the implications for the rest of the system?***
- ***Of the available options, the pipeline from Breamlea would provide the greatest volume of water to allow the water body to fill within the desired 5-7 year timeframe. What would the cost be and how close is that option to being approved?***

In response, Warren advised that Alcoa still has a valid licence to use the UEVF and, during mining operations, was drawing less than the allowable 4 gigalitres/year. However, the bottom of the mine intersects with the top of the UEVF so it is important not to enable water from the mine to run into the groundwater. Alcoa has undertaken some technical work and determined that it would be possible to access water, at a slower rate than that previously, from the UEVF approximately 2 kilometres from the mine and put it into the mine without hitting that intersection. Whilst its pH at 5-6 is relatively good, the UEVF also contains iron which may require treatment. Whilst this option is technically feasible, Alcoa hasn't progressed this any further to date although it remains an option. In drawing 1 gigalitre/year rather than 4 gigalitres/year, it may be part of the solution.

Alcoa has considered filling a smaller water body around the Eden site and, whilst it is technically possible, there are some issues. Firstly, given that groundwater is filling the water body from the bottom, water would need to be pumped up into a holding pond. Secondly, and probably most significantly, is that the placement of a berm/wall across the mine would create a dam, thereby adding more complexity to the Mine Rehabilitation and Closure Plan. At this point in time, Alcoa will not contemplate building a dam. This option would also be comparatively more expensive to construct. Should the water body be partitioned, storm water flows could be part of the solution for filling both sections of the water body. However, whilst it's possible, it doesn't alleviate Alcoa's concern that a dam is being created and maintained for possibly 40 years.

**David Harland** (Chief Executive Officer of Eden Project International Limited (EPIL)): Creating dams is expensive, environmentally damaging and Eden wouldn't want to be involved with it- certainly not without substantial further work. Environmental impacts that haven't even been considered will result and that would be wrong. We want to get the environmental flows correctly into this water body as that was what was envisaged in the original Mine Rehabilitation and Closure Plan and is still the best proposal.

Warren advised that Alcoa has undertaken technical work to understand the groundwater system over its 45 years of mining operations in this area and, over the last two years, has focused particularly on the UEVF and all of its interactions. It is a very complex environment. Part of Alcoa's proposal is to install more bores to continue to improve groundwater understanding and interactions around the mine to add to the 40 existing bores.

Warren advised that the water body's size is largely determined by the hole left by the mining operation. Alcoa's plan was to operate until 2061 and, as the mine expanded to new locations in the north, backfill the hole behind it. However, the early shutdown of operations has left a mine pit of approximately 16 million m<sup>3</sup> which could require about 30 million tonnes of earth to fill. This could only be sourced by devastating the landscape around it or bringing material from offsite, neither would be acceptable to the community or Alcoa.

The recycled water option from Breamlea Treatment Plant isn't at a point of needing approval as Alcoa and the state government are not yet aligned on the agreed water filling solution as yet. Alcoa believes it may be a combination of the options. The recycled water option would be expensive with Alcoa's initial cost assessment in the vicinity of \$20-30 million, not considering the capacity of the plant to supply that quantity of water. Recycled water may be part of a broader water strategy for the region which addresses a number of opportunities in the region and, if that was the case, Alcoa would not expect to fund the cost of this public infrastructure. Alcoa is trying to get agreement on the water strategy by the end of 2019, following which further technical work would be required before seeking approvals.

Comments regarding visitation/impacts of Anglesea included:

- ***We should be considering the big picture first and surveying all residents and rate payers as to whether they want a theme park with 5,000 visitors/day.***
- ***The potential scale of visitation to Eden Project Anglesea will have an impact beyond the immediate Anglesea community to surrounding hamlets such as Aireys Inlet, Bellbrae etc. We must make sure that the communities along the Great Ocean Road can have input to the considerations around dealing with 750,000 visitors/year.***
- ***As an operator of a local accommodation business, our camping numbers have quadrupled in the last 25 years because people want to come to the Great Ocean Road. We utilise every part of town e.g. beach, bush, local providers of food and other supplies etc. As a supporter of the Eden Project, we will need to manage all of the associated issues as numbers continue to grow.***

In response, Warren reiterated that the water body filling options need to be resolved regardless of whether Eden Project Anglesea proceeds or not and was proposed in the Draft Mine Rehabilitation and Closure Plan submitted in 2017. It is Alcoa's obligation to resolve this issue.

Community feedback received through the consultation undertaken to date suggests that there is overwhelming community support, conditional on the resolution of issues including traffic, built form etc. Alcoa acknowledges that not everyone supports the concept. The impacts on Anglesea and surrounding communities must be considered. However, there is no suggestion that there will be an additional 750,000 visitors each year. There are already approximately 5 million visitors to the Great Ocean Road, a proportion of which we hope will stop at Eden for a number of hours. This may assist with the traffic flow through Anglesea. The intention is also to level out the visitations across the whole year.

Alcoa and Eden Project are regularly briefing Invest Victoria, which is helping to navigate the path through government. A Project Coordination Group (PCG) has been formed involving the many government departments connected to the project and they are meeting frequently. Timelines and costs for implementing other proposals haven't been determined as yet. Whilst there is a lot of work going on behind the scenes, Alcoa and Eden Project are concerned about losing momentum and would like to be further progressed than they currently are (Figure 5).

### Current status

- Alcoa's options analysis submitted to DELWP.
- Salt Creek Sustainable Diversion Limit (SDL) remains a point of difference.
- Recycled water option (business case) developed by Barwon Water.
- Alcoa and Eden continue to brief Invest Victoria
- A State Government Project Coordination Group (PCG) is meeting fortnightly.
- The timeline and cost for implementing an alternative to Alcoa's current proposal are yet to be finalised.

**... remains unresolved at this time and Alcoa and Eden Project are concerned about the momentum of the project.**

FIGURE 5

### 3. Initial traffic discussion

Warren outlined that whilst preliminary work has commenced about traffic, this work will progress further once the water issue is resolved (Figure 6).

## Traffic discussion

- Alcoa has engaged an experienced traffic consultant (One Mile Grid) to review existing data and develop potential options and concepts.
- Alcoa has met with Surf Coast Shire and Regional Roads Victoria to understand existing traffic data and explore initial thoughts and potential options.
- Work to continue post the resolution of the water strategy.

FIGURE 6

Questions and comments regarding traffic included:

- ***Traffic issues need to be resolved early and comprehensively such that they don't impact on the Anglesea township***
- ***Could you provide the source of your traffic data and the assumptions you are making in suggesting that a proportion of the existing GOR visitors will extend their stay to come to the Eden site? Will visitors be new or existing and are your assumptions based on a wish or reality?***
- ***Can you elaborate on the use of Coalmine Road to access the site?***

**Warren:** Not surprisingly, traffic was identified as the top issue of concern in the community feedback we received on the project in May/June. We are confident traffic issues will be resolved jointly through input from engineering and traffic consultants and the community. Whilst we have started those conversations with the consultants, we have made a decision not to progress them until we have resolved the water issue. Then traffic will be the priority.

The data sources include Great Ocean Road Tourism, SCS, VicRoads (now Regional Roads Victoria) and Tourism Research Australia. We are hoping to attract visitors who are already enjoying the other Great Ocean Road attractions as well as day trippers. We will share both the data and our assumptions when we are in a position to do so.

Whilst it is still very early in our thinking, we are envisaging that access/egress to the site would be via the existing bitumenised section of Coalmine Road, past the Anglesea Landfill and Transfer Station. This road runs into a roundabout next to the power station site and would keep the traffic separate from Anglesea. Alcoa is not looking to establishing a bypass road by opening up the remainder of Coalmine Road.

Warren introduced **David Harland** (Chief Executive Officer of Eden Project International Limited (EPIL)) who provided a brief history of Eden Project Cornwall (Figures 7 and 8). The Eden Project is a UK-based educational and environmental charity and social enterprise that transformed an old mine site in Cornwall (Figure 9) into one of the UK's most popular visitor attractions.



FIGURE 7



FIGURE 8

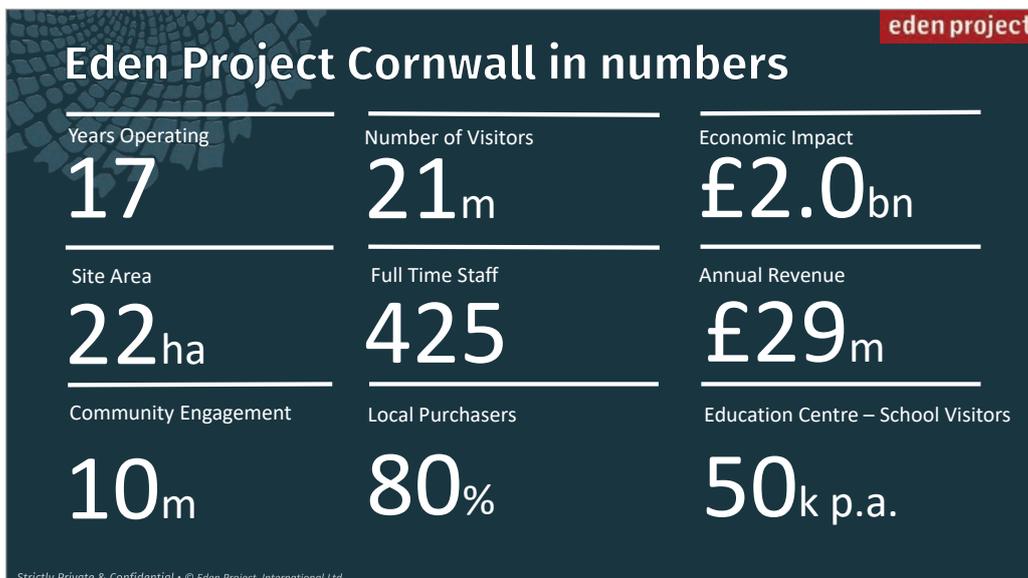


FIGURE 9

EPIL was aware of the Anglesea site, having been approached by a number of community groups, politicians and individuals. When they were approached by Alcoa, EPIL scrutinised Alcoa’s Mine Rehabilitation and Closure Plan and considered that Alcoa was taking its legal obligations seriously. They were also excited about exploring concepts for the mine and the type of legacy that could be left at the site (Figures 10 and 11).



FIGURE 10



FIGURE 11

The Eden Project Anglesea concept, located on 40 hectares adjoining the water body, is based on the four elements of air, earth, fire and water which have shaped the landscape in this region over millennia (Figure 12).



FIGURE 12

David provided some projections for the concept explaining that the projected 750,000 visitors/year will be pulsed through the site (i.e. there will be timed entry), which will enable a positive visitor experience (Figure 13). It has the added benefit of managing peak flows at different times for traffic. It is likely that the maximum capacity for Eden’s visitors per day will be 3,000 to 4,000. With the existing visitation down the GOR, the intention is to encourage visitors to stay longer and spend more in the local area so that local communities get the benefits of those large number of visitors, not just the disadvantages.

Traffic issues will need to be worked through and managed. A projected 300+ full time jobs will be created at the site with further jobs being indirectly supported through the purchasing of over 80% of Eden Project Anglesea’s goods and services from local providers, just like in Cornwall. This project will be the only Eden Project in Australia and is intended to benefit, not just the local area, but Victoria and, indeed, Australia.

Eden Project Anglesea wants to continue the conversations with the local community regarding the connections or linkages with the Anglesea township and will do so once the water and planning issues have been resolved.

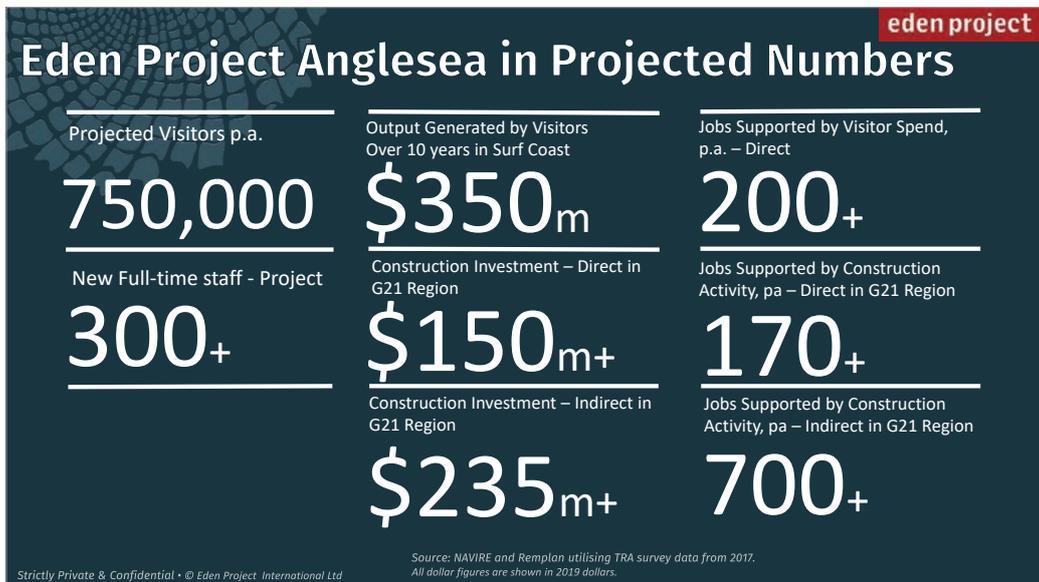


FIGURE 13

### Website Links

<https://www.edenprojectanglesea.com.au/>

<https://www.edenproject.com/>

## 4. Power Station Concept Update

In introducing the power station concept, David reminded attendees as to the Guiding Principles that Alcoa developed with the community in 2016 to shape the future use of Alcoa’s landholdings (Figure 14). Eden Project is keen to be part of a larger experience across the whole Alcoa site and has started to think about potential compatible land uses for the 60 hectares of Alcoa freehold land on the former power station land to the north east of the Eden Project Anglesea site (Figure 15). In clarifying the areas under discussion, Warren advised that the power station site is known as Area 6 in the Anglesea Futures Land Use Plan and the Eden site is Area 3.

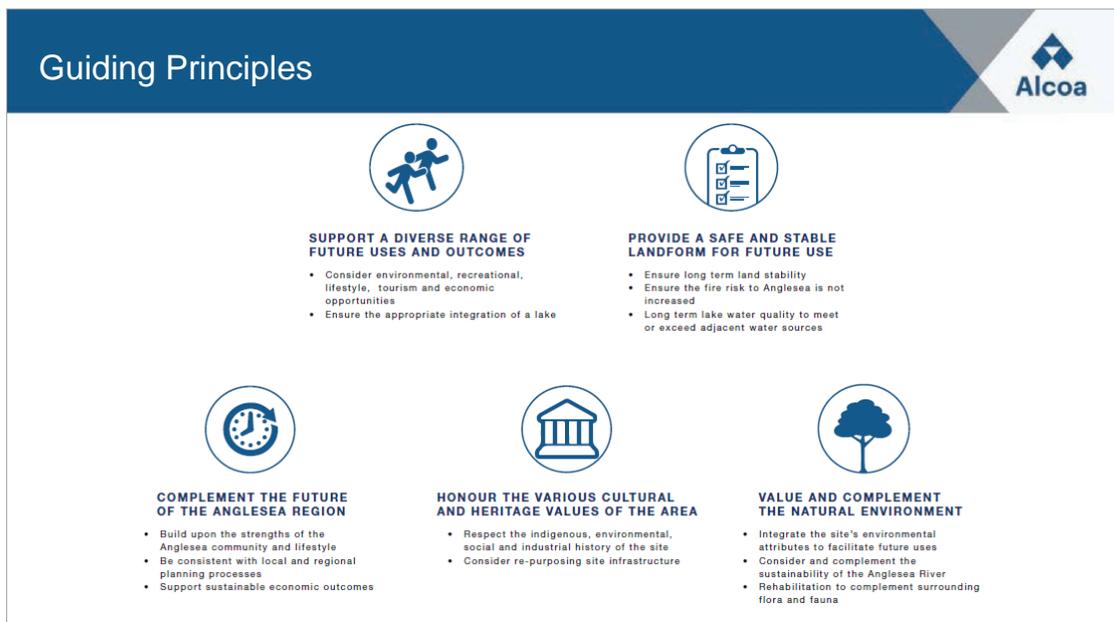


FIGURE 14

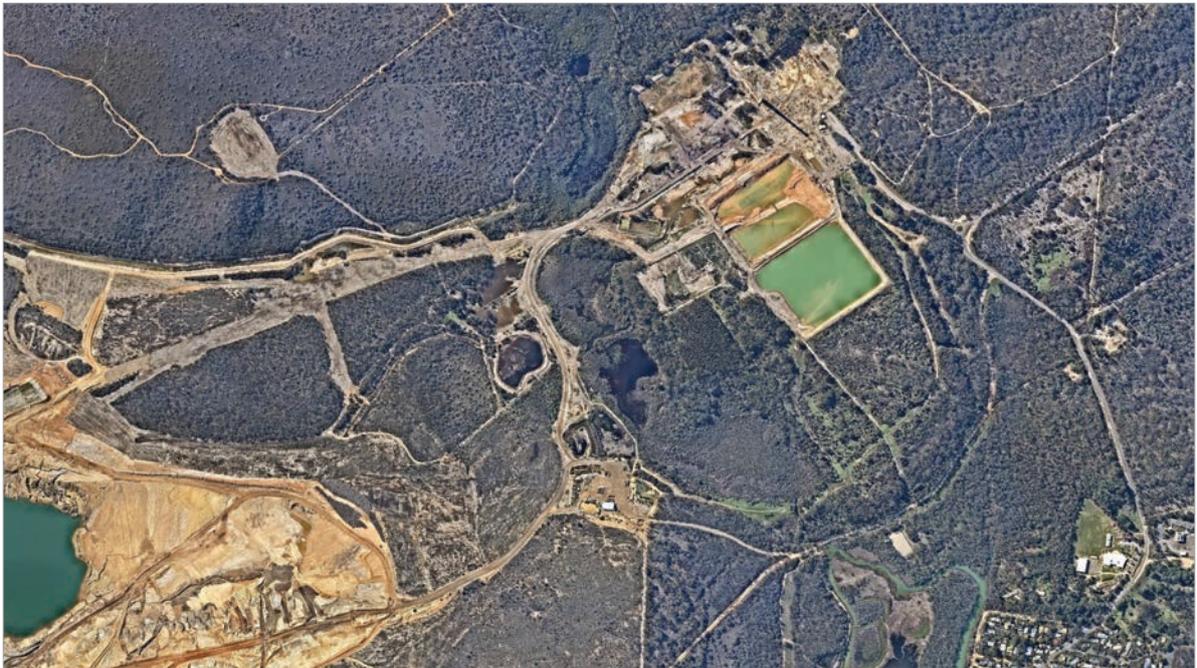


FIGURE 15

Eden Project and Alcoa have been working with TCL Landscape Architects (who designed the Cranbourne Botanic Gardens) to develop some ideas for activities that could occur on the power station site that are landscape, rather than built form, driven (Figure 16).



FIGURE 16

Figure 17 outlines the landscape context within which the power station site sits, whilst Figure 18 suggests five landscape design themes that could work within the site. Whilst these themes have been designed to work in with Eden Project Anglesea, some of them could also work without Eden Project Anglesea.

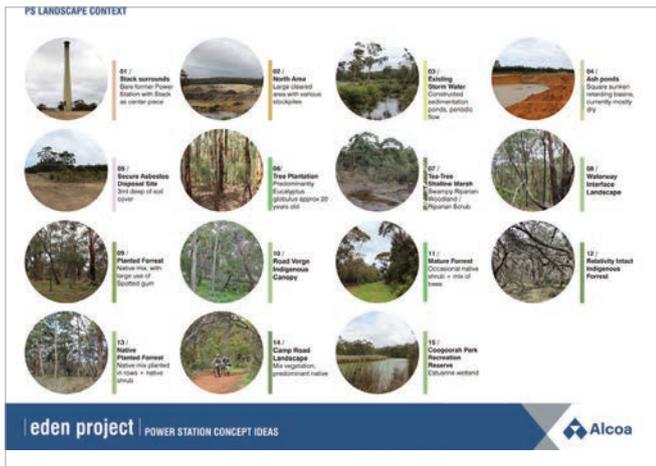


FIGURE 17



FIGURE 18

Figure 19 demonstrates the linkages between the Guiding Principles and the five concept master plan themes whilst Figure 20 outlines indicative locations within the power station site where the landscape design themes may be located.

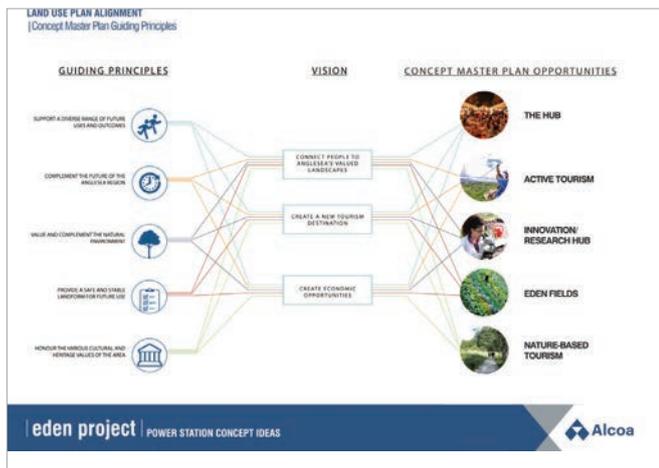


FIGURE 19



FIGURE 20

Figures 21 and 22 outline the suggested uses in more detail. As outlined in the concepts, visitors would enter the site from Coalmine Road at the top of the diagram to the community hub precinct featuring a re-purposed industrial stack. Parking areas are also located at the arrival point. Other uses include a research hub, camping/glamping areas, a playground and a café. The area labelled 'good stuff' on Figure 21 refers to an existing revegetation/rehabilitation site that will be left to continue to regenerate. Pedestrian access to the Eden site (bottom left of Figures 21 and 22) will be via walking paths through the power station site. A drop off zone at the entrance to the Eden site provides access for visitors with mobility issues. Existing pathways along the river will allow visitors to access the Anglesea township and beach.

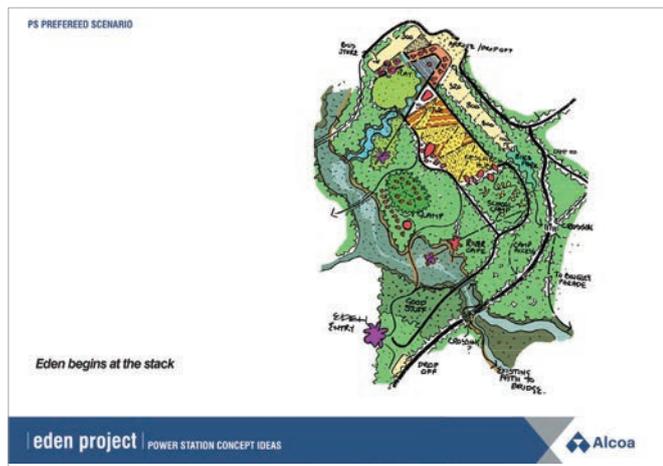


FIGURE 21

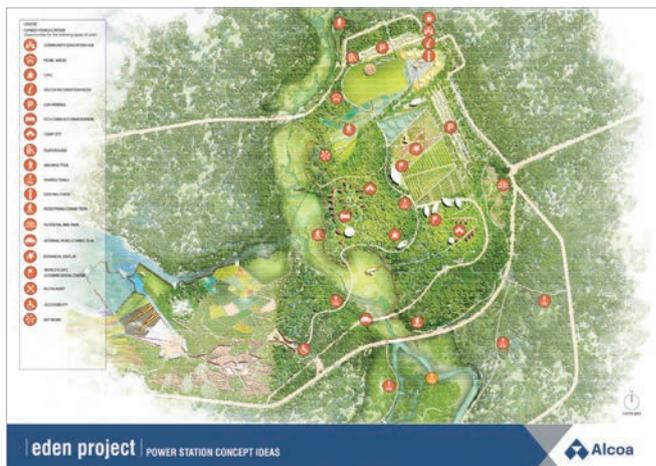


FIGURE 22

Figure 23 shows a concept without Eden Project Anglesea being on the adjacent site. David suggested that some of the activities and land uses could still be undertaken as there would be strong business cases that could support them. In answer to a question David said that regardless of whether or not Eden Project Anglesea proceeds, these activities need to be financially viable in their own right.

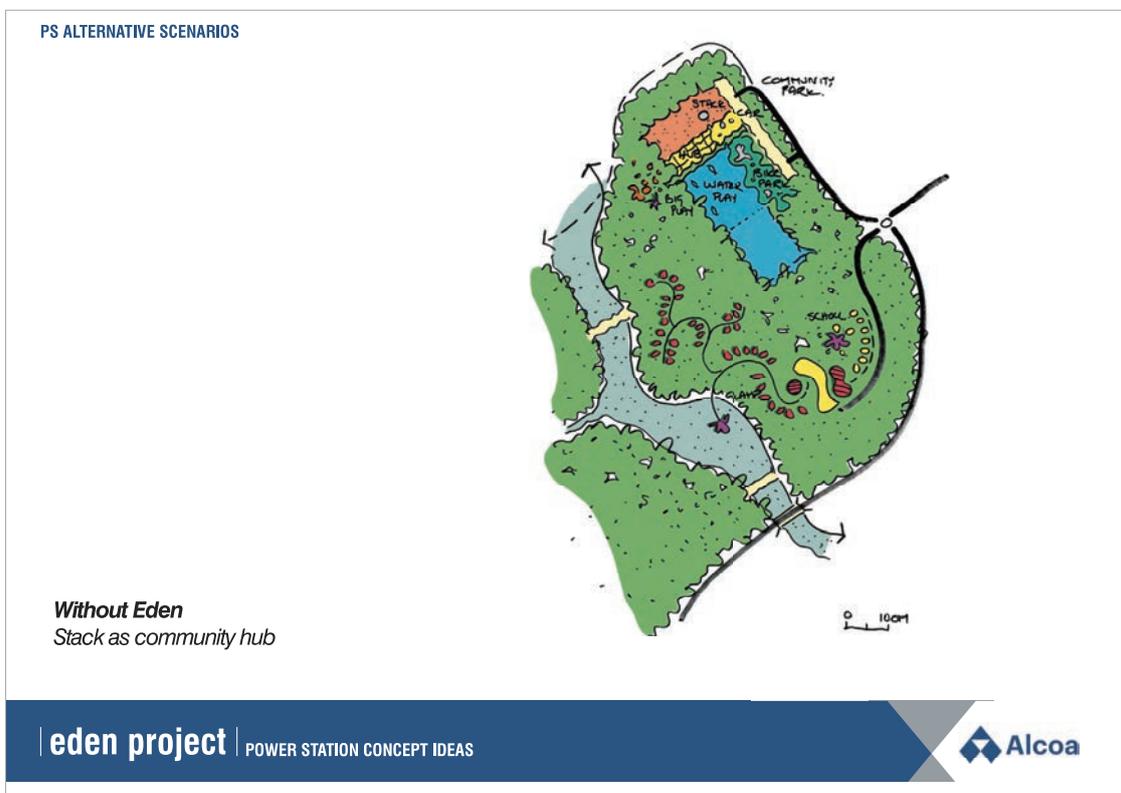


FIGURE 23

David advised that other components of Eden Project Anglesea as outlined in Figure 24 are progressing with some very positive partnerships being developed in the Traditional Owners, Funding, Biodiversity and Community spaces. However, the unresolved planning and water issues are of serious concern (Figure 24). Eden Project and Alcoa are buoyed by the support shown by Treasury and the Premier.



FIGURE 24

David reiterated the next steps required for the project (Figure 25) suggesting that if resolution is not found on the outstanding issues by the end of 2019, the Anglesea site may become a missed opportunity to realise something really great (Figure 26).

### Eden Project Anglesea - Next steps

- Continue to engage with all parties on water, requiring resolution by end of year
- Continue to engage with all parties on planning, requiring resolution by end of year
- Work to continue on other matters:
  - Power station concept
  - Traffic concepts

FIGURE 25



FIGURE 26



FIGURE 27

## 5. Q&A session

Following David's presentation, questions and comments were invited from meeting attendees.

### Decision making process

Questions regarding the decision making process were:

- *How should local community members who are supportive of the project put pressure on government decision makers to make it happen?*
- *Which individuals sit on the Project Coordination Group (PCG) and what are their respective roles?*
- *Who are the decision makers and what is the decision making process?*
- *Does Cr Revell personally support the Eden concept and will Council make a formal representation to the relevant Ministers/decision makers in support of the project?*

In response, **Keith Baillie** (Chief Executive Officer, Surf Coast Shire) advised that Council is exercising every available network to ensure that the state government is moving towards a decision in an informed way and that a positive outcome is reached. Council has ensured that the state government knows there is overall support from the community as demonstrated in the community feedback results, acknowledging that there are members of the community who don't support it. There is also a genuine commitment to ensure that issues are not overlooked and are considered and dealt with appropriately. Keith suggested that the PCG would be gathering the necessary information for their respective Ministers and that the decision is likely to be made at a whole-of-Cabinet level. Keith suggested that those who wish to demonstrate support for the project email the relevant Ministers within the next 2-4 weeks.

**Cr Revell** (Anglesea Ward Councilor, Surf Coast Shire) advised that the site is no longer required for its industrial use and he believes that the Eden concept is the best possible future use for the site. It also ticks a lot of boxes in terms of environmental education, economic benefits, and social contribution.

David acknowledged that, whilst there are complex issues to be worked through, there are several other live projects that Eden Project can work on around the world and they are approached every week to get involved in other things. David encouraged community members to send positive and supportive messages regarding the project to Ministers, the Premier and the Treasurer.

**Action 1911.1:** Alcoa to request details of the Project Coordination Group membership

## **Project Elements/Components**

Questions regarding components of the Eden Project site and power station site were:

- ***Will your business plan be available to the community so that we can see the types of activities that you are planning to have at the site e.g. weddings, music festivals and the contribution that each of them will make to your income? What will the entry fee be?***
- ***Are the concepts presented within the power station site going to be developed by Eden Project in addition to those within the actual Eden Project site?***
- ***In addition to the four elements of air, fire, water and earth, is there any intention to include the fifth Japanese element of wind?***

David advised that the Business Plan will be in the public domain as Eden Project will be approaching social investors. The broad breakdown in terms of projected income is 50% entry fees, 35% retail/catering with the remaining 10-15% from other components such as weddings, conferences, corporate events. The largest event that Eden Project Cornwall has hosted apart from the rock gigs which attracted 5000 people was a daytime conference attended by 250-260 people. The entry price point will be similar to that at Sovereign Hill – about \$58/adult in today's dollars. In addition, there will be a discounted entry rate for locals and, as an example, the local boundary for Eden Project Cornwall includes the whole of Devon (over 2 million people) where an unlimited access to the park is £17/year.

The concepts outlined for the power station site (Area 6) are not within the Eden Project Anglesea Business Plan although they may be interested in curating some of those spaces e.g. the Innovation and Research hub, community spaces.

David advised that wind can be incorporated in the air element.

## **Water Body**

Questions regarding the water body as a component of the project were:

- ***If the water body was smaller initially, would it be possible to create a floating structure that moved as the water body grew?***
- ***Given that Eden Project Anglesea will need to continually change to maintain required visitor numbers, could you start with a 'less than full' water body and evolve the project as the water body fills, knowing that it will fill eventually?***
- ***Is the water body so important because there are plans for a marina/hotel development?***
- ***Will people be able to swim or recreate in the water?***
- ***Could the water body be filled with seawater?***

In response, David advised that the terrain around the water body is quite difficult and there is not a lot of room around the outside so, whilst a movable building is possible, it would be extremely expensive. Eden Project Cornwall has changed significantly over its journey, although what hasn't changed is that it is in a big crater! The water at Anglesea will come - it's the speed at which it comes that is the issue and, whilst we could probably accommodate the water level at a slightly lower volume than the ideal, we would not be interested in being involved in any of the alternative solutions such as damming it to create a smaller water body.

The water body is important because it is part of the mine rehabilitation plan and provides a great backdrop and can tell part of the Eden Project Anglesea story. David referred to Eden's concept (Figure 12) and pointed out there was no marina development. One of the original conditions of the project was that the water was not intended to be potable so there is no intention to use the water as a recreational facility. There could, however, be a restaurant/café somewhere suitable to maximise the great views of the water.

Warren added that it is unlikely that the water in the water body will be of sufficient quality for recreational uses such as swimming, sailing etc. and there is no expectation or commitment that it will be fit for that purpose. Both Salt Creek and Marshy Creek do not currently meet the recreational use requirement at the point that they pass the mine. Alcoa's intention is to manage the water in the water body to a pH of 5 which is not quite sufficient to meet the Australian recreational use standard. The water body is not allowed to be filled with seawater as putting saltwater into a freshwater system creates environmental issues.

Other questions and comments were:

***We are looking for a symbiotic relationship in which Eden adds to Anglesea and Anglesea adds to Eden. How do you see this playing out?***

David outlined that the Eden Project is keen to foster business relationships with local suppliers, employment opportunities and contribution to the rich history and environmental messages that can be told at Anglesea. Eden wants to be a good neighbour and is keen to build a strong and continuing relationship with the local community, from which many solutions to identified issues will be found.

***Whilst I am supportive of what you have achieved in Cornwall and appreciate the possibilities of the project here in Anglesea, I am concerned that the potential components of the project outlined in your slide presentation today have lost the context. Fire completely destroyed this area in 1983 and today we have Queensland and NSW burning such that tomorrow has been declared a state of emergency in NSW. Water and fire aspects are uppermost in the minds of locals in regard to climate change. How will the project assist Anglesea and neighbouring communities to be resilient?***

Warren outlined Alcoa's role in the 1983 bushfires and the key outcomes for the Alcoa site arising from the Hazelwood fire inquiry in 2015, including the importance of retaining the fire break. The water body will provide not only an aesthetic benefit, but also a source of water for firefighting purposes as well as a fire break in itself for the Anglesea township.

***How much community involvement occurs at the Cornwall site and what sort of roles does the community play? How do you see that working here?***

David explained that 120 local volunteers work across a broad range of areas at the Cornwall site including disability access, learning and administration. The Eden site has slowly started to be seen as part of the local community. There is an active neighbours forum to which anyone is welcome. The site is also open to Cornwall charities at various times through the year and Eden Project sees itself as Cornwall's 'Village Hall'.

***Presuming the project gets resolution on the water issue what is the timeline from there?***

**David:** We anticipate that planning issues including detailed design will take two years to work through followed by a further two years of construction. We are hoping to be open by late 2024.

**Keith:** SCS will table a report regarding who will take the role of the planning authority at its January Council meeting.

***What is your reaction to the use of the term 'theme park' as a description for Eden Project Anglesea?***

**David:** I don't mind what people want to call it... if they want to call it a theme park, then so be it. It somewhat misses the point of what Eden actually is and I would not refer to it in that way. We use the method of giving visitors environmental education messages but it is 'education by stealth' as they don't realise they are learning and enjoying the site at the same time. We don't tell people what to think – we want them to work it out for themselves. And they have a great day out as well.

**Comment:** *The current Great Ocean Road model is not sustainable. I would caution any agitators that the Eden Project is a game changer for this region and if they walk away, there is no one else queueing at the door.*

**Comment:** *There is still a lot we don't know about what is actually going to be onsite and there are associated issues such as traffic and impacts on Anglesea that are still unresolved so I would caution those community members who are going to lobby the government in support of the project to also lobby them about the need to sort out the unresolved issues as well.*

**David:** We have communicated the results of the community feedback we have received so far to government too, in terms of the issues that have arisen through that process and we agree that they need to be sorted out early. The concepts are just ideas at the moment and, until we know the project is going ahead, there is no point in getting into more detail.

Meeting attendees were invited to write down any questions or comments that they didn't wish to raise during the meeting. The following questions were raised:

- **Recycled Water Option**

- *How many kilometres of pipe will be needed?*
- *Will the current quality of water available from Black Rock be high enough for use or will the Black Rock plant need to be upgraded?*
- *What is the estimated cost of either or both of the infrastructure builds (if needed)?*
- *Who will pay for any of the above costs? Alcoa/Eden/state government?*

**Response** - Approximately 30 km of pipeline would be needed. The quality of the water is yet to be determined. Alcoa has estimated a cost of \$20-30million to build the pipeline. It has not yet been determined who would pay for the costs associated with this option however Alcoa does not expect to pay for any pipelines costs that would become public infrastructure.

- **Public Transport Victoria is investigating a train line to Torquay. Is Eden of a scale that it could help bring it sooner? People could be shuttled by bus from Torquay?**

**Response** - This has not been considered at all at this stage so we are not able to answer this question, which in reality would be one for Transport Victoria.

- **Are there any plans to establish reserves within Eden for endangered bird or animal species? Surely a sweetener for DELWP e.g. koalas need specific trees – plant them ASAP!! This would certainly attract visitors too – I think there's just a handful of koalas "on display" or visible in their natural habitat in Kennett River – poor things!!**

**Response** - On the current concept, there is no plan to establish such a reserve as part of the Eden site or on the Alcoa Power Station site. However, this is something that could be considered in the future if there was support from the right stakeholders.

- **This is probably far too early, however what would be the likely process to register your interest/skills for the potential of working (including voluntarily) at Eden?**

**Response** - Should the project move forward, it is envisaged that there will be an opportunity to register interest for future jobs at the site. The process has not yet been determined.

The following comments were provided:

- *I visited Eden in Cornwall on 26th October. It was a weekend and the place was buzzing because it was school holidays and Halloween. It was raining making Eden even busier and we encountered no traffic or parking issues. The two 26 year old locals I travelled with were so excited about both the employment and environmental possibilities – bring on Eden.*
- *Well done – keep up the good work. It will be an amazing asset to our area and I really hope it happens. Everyone at the meeting probably drove to the venue. We are all part of the traffic problem. It will be here if Eden isn't. All the best*

At the conclusion of the meeting, a community member reminded attendees that a session covering Anglesea's bushfire response will be held at the Anglesea Fire Station on Wednesday 27 November at 6pm and Sunday 1 December to which everyone is welcome.

**Meeting Closed at 8:17 pm**

## Community members who attended the meeting

Charlotte Allen	Gretchen Gibson	Kristine Murray
Margaret Bailey	Regina Gleeson	Jessica N
Keith Bignell	Barbara Gol	Barry Nancarrow
Steven Brett	Barbara Gottliebson	Judy Nancarrow
Jeannie Brown	Robert Gottliebson	Helen O'Connor
Ian Burgess	Bob Gray	Frances Overmars
Jason Burgoyne	R Green	Rudi Overmars
Michael Burton	Sally Groom	Allan Roberts
Geoff Caldwell	Matt Hanrahan	Gail Roberts
George Carman	Margaret Hansen	Stephen Ross
Simon Clark	Bill Harris	Chris Ryan
Wendy Clark	Jane Harris	Paul S
Bill Clarke	Philippa Hesterman	Kathy Scholtes
Olivia Clarke	Graeme Huf	Tony Smales
Daina Coles	Tony Hughes	John Somerset
Ian Coles	Annette Hutton	Marion Somerset
Rin C	Bryce Hutton	Bryce Spratling
Michael Collins	Dot Hutton	Howard Taylor
Winsome Coutts	Robyn Kress	Kent Taylor
Gael Crowe	Fiona Ledden	Mary Taylor
Barry Davidson	Steve Ledden	Rhonda Taylor
Beth Davidson	Jeremy Lewis	Trevor Taylor
Rob Devereux	Geoff Lewtas	Neil Tucker
Paul Devine	Jan Lewtas	Michael Varney
Bernie Dilger	Marg McDonald	Mary Wansink
Peter Doyle	Rob McKeown	Phil Watson
Annette Dwyer	Phil Martin	Graeme Weber
Bob Dwyer	Anita Martinelli	Greg Weller
Emma Fenty	Amanda Maxwell	Kerrie Weller
Raylene Fordham	Jane Millar	Graeme Welsh
David Foster	Colleen Miller	David Williams
Kris Freemantle	Mandy Mitchell	Sally White
Rowena Frost	Chris Molloy	
Anne Gaylard	Trish Morgan	