

ALCOA ANGLESEA COMMUNITY CONSULTATION NETWORK

OCTOBER 2019 MEETING SNAPSHOT

Meeting purpose: A CCN meeting was held on 14 October to provide an opportunity for attendees to discuss the site's decommissioning and rehabilitation and the ongoing community engagement processes.



Introduction

The meeting was independently facilitated by Jen Lilburn.

More than 63 people attended, including representatives from community, local and state government, local authorities and Alcoa.

FIGURE 1

Mine Sump Water

The water level at 10 October was approximately 8% of the proposed eventual total volume with a pH of 3.3.

Decommissioning and Rehabilitation

Power Station Activity Update

Dean Schmidt (Project Engineer) advised that final clean up works are in progress following the removal of steel, concrete and underground services. Removal of the last section of transmission line (26 towers from the Bellbrae roundabout to Forest Road) that originally ran from Point Henry to the Anglesea power station will occur in early 2020.

Nicci Marris (EHS Manager, Alcoa) outlined the works that have been completed June – August 2019 as part of the site's EPA Clean Up Notice requirements. Alcoa is continuing its environmental site assessment sampling across the site in order to determine levels and extent of contamination, particularly in soils and groundwater, as a result of past practices. Works planned for the September-November period include completion of a cap design for the onsite landfill. Following EPA approval of the cap design, Alcoa will permanently cap the landfill. The water storage pond lease to Barwon Water to support the Anglesea River over the coming summer period will continue.

An area that contained workshop buildings associated with the mine operations falls outside of the power station and Clean Up Notice. Alcoa is undertaking the same process of environmental site assessment in this area.

Draft Mine Rehabilitation and Closure Plan Update

Warren advised that approximately 25 hectares along the north and west walls have been re-profiled and rehabilitated over 2018 and 2019 and there are signs of regrowth on the west wall. The technical specification for the 50 hectare south wall native grasslands rehabilitation has just been finalised. This area will be protected by kangaroo proof fencing for 3-5 years to enable the grasses to become established.

Stage 1 of the Coalmine Road relocation works are nearing completion. Warren confirmed that Surf Coast Shire will purchase a small portion of land from the Anglesea Golf Club as future road reserve to allow for a softening of the corner in the road at the top of the Stage 2 portion as it joins Coalmine Road. Periodic road closures will be required during the remainder of the works, which are scheduled for completion prior to Christmas 2019.

Water

Warren advised that the strategies to fill the mine in an accelerated fashion are still under discussion and no resolution has been found as yet. Alcoa is working very closely with DELWP on the issue but are yet to agree on the strategy. **Dr. Greg Woodward** (Senior Manager Waterway Health, DELWP) advised that Sustainable Diversion Limits set the maximum water volumes that can be diverted from a river, beyond which unacceptable environmental risks may occur. DELWP doesn't believe that Salt Creek can be diverted as it is inconsistent with the Victorian water management framework and there are also environmental impacts that need to be taken into account. Alcoa has considered other options such as recycled water, groundwater extraction, stormwater etc. Barwon Water is currently working on a feasibility study for the utilisation of recycled water from the Black Rock Treatment Plant at Breamlea.

Eden Project Anglesea

Warren introduced **David Harland** (Chief Executive Officer of Eden Project International Limited) and **Jane Knight** (Landscape Architect of Eden Project International Limited) who participated in the meeting via video. David outlined that, since August, the Eden team has been working on Traditional Owner engagement, biodiversity, funding, economic benefits and community engagement. In addition to the water issue, the other unresolved issue is the determination of the planning authority and a defined rezoning process. The Eden Project is keen to have certainty on these issues by Christmas 2019. Without resolution, the Eden Project Anglesea concept will not proceed.

Alcoa and the Eden Project have briefed Invest Victoria, who are helping to navigate the path through government. A Project Coordination Group has also been formed involving the many government departments connected to the project.

The Eden site is only part of the whole Alcoa site and there is a need to integrate all activities on site including the industrial stack, traffic and connections with the Anglesea township etc. Eden and Alcoa are currently working with consultants on a range of ideas and will release those for discussion with the community in November.

Eden Project Anglesea update – other activity



- Future Power Station site concept:**
 - Further initial concept development of overall site facilities (buildings, activities, open spaces, carparks, etc.) and review of how people 'flow' across the site has started.
 - Further review and concept development for potential stack re-purposing ideas.
- Traffic:**
 - 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.
 - Plan to share these further thoughts at future community engagement.



FIGURE 2

Next Steps:

- Continue to engage with all parties on water targeting resolution by end of year
- Continue to engage with all parties on planning targeting resolution by end of year
- Develop some initial traffic concepts and share with community
- Further develop the initial power station site concept and share with community

- Community engagement process during November (week of 11th TBC) inclusive of Eden participation

FIGURE 3

Questions and comments were raised by meeting attendees, particularly in relation to the extent and nature of planned community engagement, offsite impacts such as traffic, biodiversity, Anglesea's character and whether there was any scope for the Eden Project to consider a staged or part implementation of the filling of the water body.

In response, David agreed that the offsite issues are critical and is very aware of the need to balance those issues within the community. The Eden Project and Alcoa are keen to engage with the community to the extent that they wish to be engaged. It will be important to make sure that all views are represented to ensure that the right decisions are made. David stated that Eden would not be interested in creating a project without the water body as the site would not be a place where people could interact with nature in a particular way.

Sharon Blum-Caon (Senior Project Officer- Estuaries and Environmental Water, CCMA) advised that the CCMA is commencing a flows study of all the reaches along the Anglesea River including Salt and Marshy Creeks and the estuary to determine their ecological values and the necessary water flows to support those values. It will set parameters which will feed into the decision making process on the options for filling and maintaining the water body within the mine site.

Rowan Mackenzie (Manager Environment & Community Safety, SCS) advised that the Anglesea River is currently sitting at a pH of 4 and SCS has placed public health information signage along the banks to inform people that swimming in the river could cause some stinging in the eyes or skin irritation.

Jared Scott (Coordinator Systems, Waterways & Catchments, Barwon Water) advised that Barwon Water has pumped the 126 megalitres permitted under its licence from the Anglesea River into the storage pond leased from Alcoa in readiness for its return to the river next summer.

**NEXT MEETING: Monday 9 December 2019, 6pm at the Senior Citizens Club, McMillan St, Anglesea.
ALL WELCOME**

Note that there is an Alcoa and Eden Project Community Update Meeting scheduled for Monday 11 November 6-8.30pm at the Senior Citizens Club, McMillan St, Anglesea. All welcome.

The purpose of this document is to give community and other stakeholders a summary of what took place at the CCN meeting on Monday 14 October. 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 and assists it to be 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