

# ANGLESEA POWER STATION COMMUNITY CONSULTATION NETWORK

## OCTOBER 2016 MEETING SNAPSHOT

**Meeting purpose:** A CCN meeting was held on 10 October 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. 30 people attended, including representatives from Alcoa, community, local and state government.

### Environmental Health and Safety

Warren Sharp (Site Asset Manager) reported that, since the last meeting, there had been no injuries or environmental non-compliances however there had been some minor security breaches. These act as a reminder that it is still an active site and the 24/7 onsite security remains important.

### Fire Risk Mitigation

The current fire mitigation strategy and all measures will remain in place until as long as required. Alcoa is confident these will address any fire risks.

### Mine Sump Water

The mine sump water is currently pH 6.1, which has resulted from the dredging of the ash from the power station Ash Pond 1 using mine water, and is as expected. This is a short term effect and the pH will return to lower values once the dredging is completed.

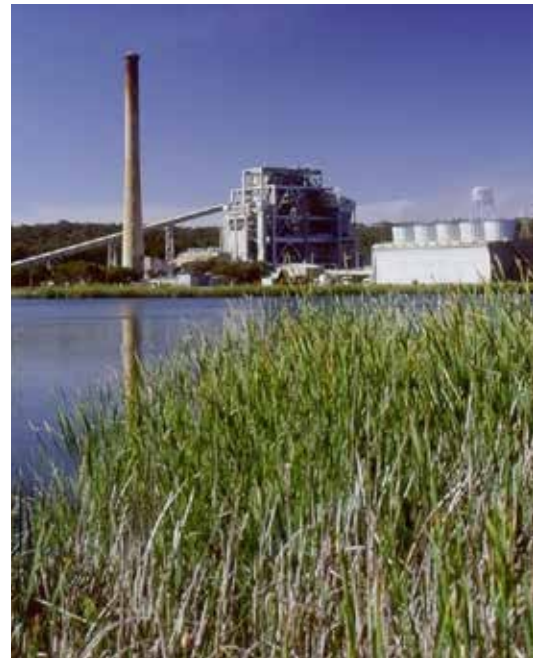
### Decommissioning and Rehabilitation of the Mine

An updated timeline for the mine closure activities up to 2018 was presented. Once the technical reviews have been undertaken and reviewed, a draft plan will be released for community consultation. The plan will then be finalised by Alcoa and submitted to the State Government's Earth Resources Regulation (DEDJTR) for approval. The physical work on the lake can then begin – hopefully by August 2017.

There are three key elements that are being addressed by the consultants for the technical reviews: EHS Support has begun to undertake the hydrology/geochemical studies, Mining One is undertaking the geotechnical studies and has completed the drilling process including for the piezometer installation, and Ecology Australia has been engaged for the revegetation studies.

### Mine Water Technical Study Update

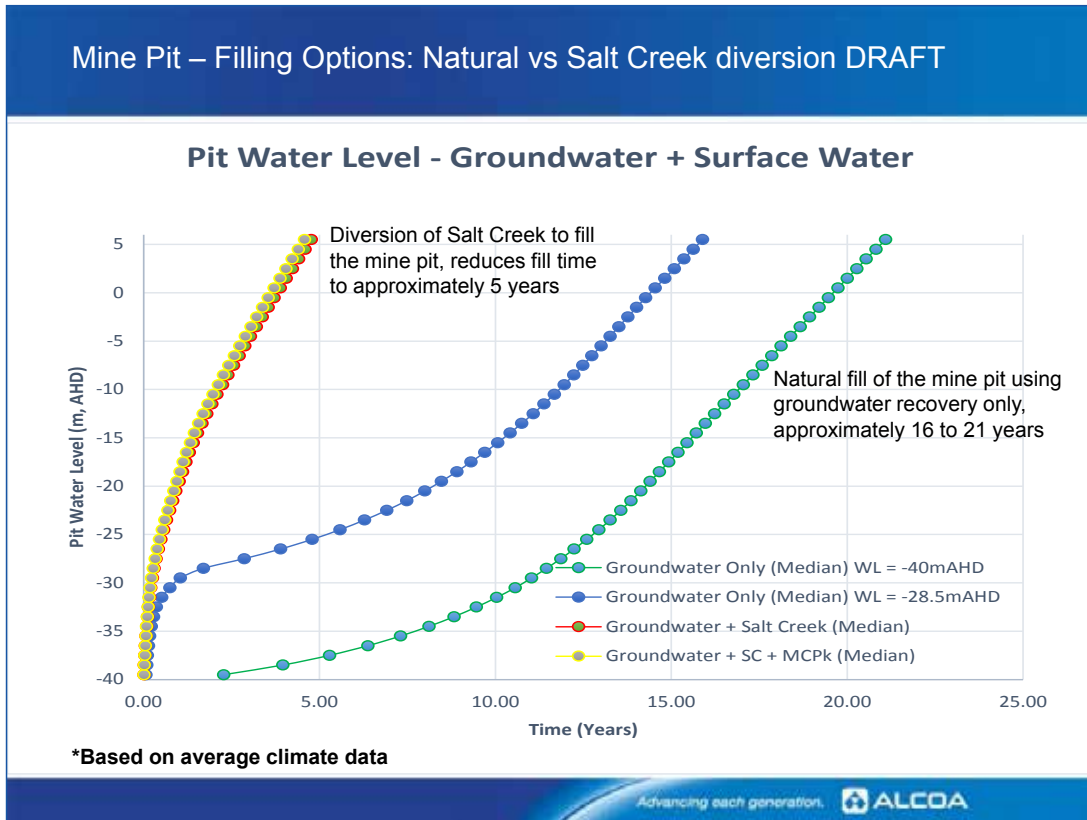
Warren presented the options currently being explored for filling the mine pit. The information presented was preliminary and draft information from the technical study that will be finalised in approximately three months. All technical studies will be peer-reviewed before being incorporated into the revised Mine Closure Plan.



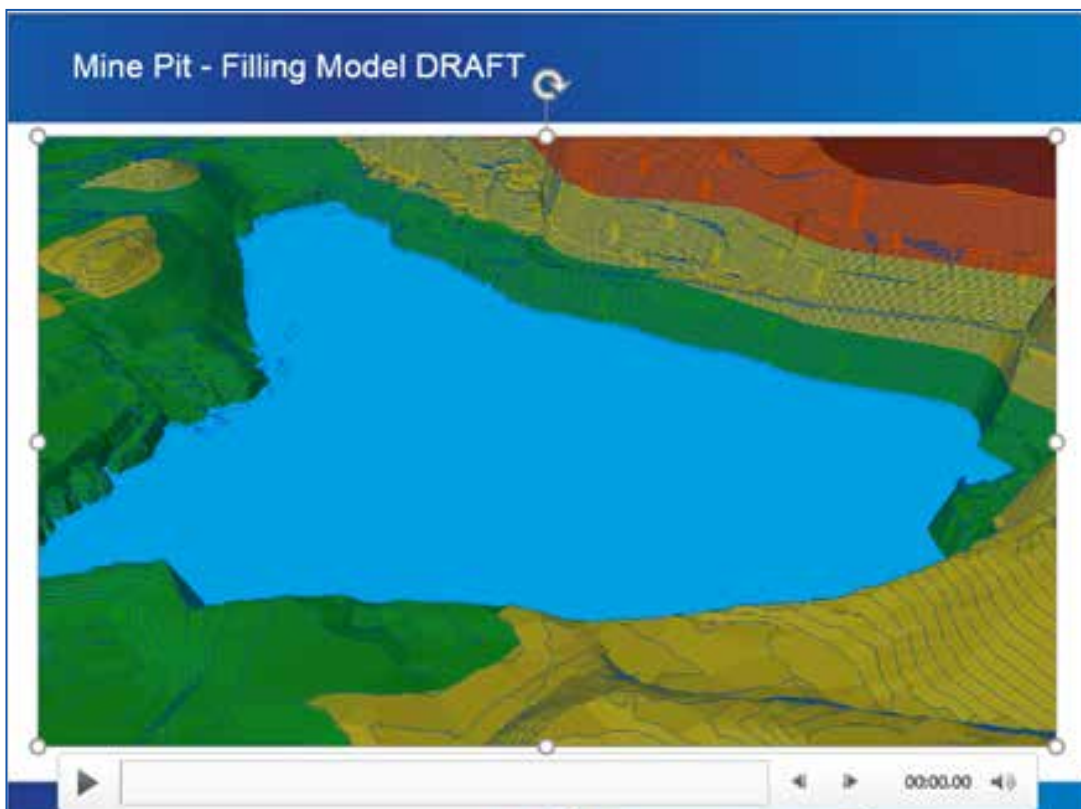
It is expected that the final outcome will be a lake with the final water level being approximately five metres above sea level. Connectivity with the river is still being explored. There are two options being modelled on how to fill the lake and these were discussed at length:

**Option 1. Fast fill over about five years using water diverted from Salt Creek.**

**Option 2. Slow fill over 16 – 20 years using natural groundwater and surface water.**



An animated model was used at the meeting to show how the mine pit will potentially look as it filled. The following image shows the last slide of that video.



Warren gave an overview of the water quality outlined in the technical studies. Warren explained that the background sources of water from Salt and Marshy Creeks is typically acidic, while ground water is usually neutral. A slow mine pit fill rate will exacerbate acid leaching from the disturbed area within the mine. With a rapid fill rate, a stratified lake is achievable and preferred - providing improved water quality in the upper layer.

Management of the lake system over the next ten years could allow it to stabilise at around pH 5 and not require long term management. Intervention could include management of water levels within a variation of about one metre. Any exposed zones would need to be treated to mitigate acid issues.

Warren presented two examples, from Spain and Western Australia, where former coal mines with a similar profile to Anglesea have been successfully turned into lakes with three levels of stratification and water quality.

## Decommissioning and Rehabilitation of the Power Station

**Dean Schmidt** (Project Engineer) provided an update on the expected timeline for activities related to the closure of the power station. He reported that the ash recovery in Ash Pond 1 is being undertaken. The intrusive asbestos audit for the power station is underway and the asbestos landfill site is fully prepared. Disposal of the asbestos to the landfill is expected to take seven months. The next major activity is the demolition of the powerstation building and chimney. Notice will be given to the community. It is expected the site will be cleared by the end of 2017.

## Community Engagement

**Kate Betts** (Senior Communications & Engagement Advisor) thanked everyone for the high level of contribution to develop the Guiding Principles that will help inform the revised Mine Closure Plan, and draft Master Plan for the power station freehold land. A report was published and distributed to the community in September and is also on the Alcoa website <https://engage-anglesea.alcoa.com.au/anglesea>

## Agency Update

DELWP is looking into the river management system in relation to the mine. The short term option for summer involves using water stored in Alcoa's Ash Pond 2.

DEDJTR (ERR) advised that their monthly inspections of the site include monitoring the stability of Coalmine Rd and will involve WorkSafe in November.



**Next meeting: Monday 12 December 2016, 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 10 October. For a full account of discussions at the meeting, email [angleseaps@alcoa.com.au](mailto: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](http://www.alcoa.com.au/anglesea).