

Community update

Anglesea



Almost four years since the closure of Alcoa's Anglesea operations, we continue to progress the rehabilitation and closure of the mine site, and the decommissioning and remediation of the power station. Community consultation and engagement continue to guide our activities.

We recently held the first Alcoa Community Consultation Network (CCN) meeting for 2019. Held bi-monthly, and open to all, CCN meetings provide the opportunity for two-way communication regarding issues that are important to the Anglesea community and Alcoa.

Updates are provided by Alcoa and from representatives from State and local government departments and authorities.

Key topics and discussions from the CCN meeting are outlined in this community update and a 'meeting snapshot' will be posted on the Alcoa website.

We will also continue to publish community updates in the local press and newsletters, and ensure our website contains relevant project information, fact sheets and frequently asked questions.

As always, if you have any questions or feedback for Alcoa, please visit alcoa.com.au/anglesea, email the Alcoa team on angleseaps@alcoa.com.au or come along to a CCN meeting.

On behalf of Alcoa, I thank the community for their ongoing interest in our activities.

Kind regards,
Warren Sharp, Anglesea Site Asset Manager

Power station decommissioning

The removal of the remaining power station structure is now complete, with more than 5,000 tonnes of mainly scrap steel materials recovered and removed from site.

As outlined in earlier updates, Alcoa commenced air monitoring from 31 May 2018 and continued this until 31 January 2019 until all power station material had been removed from site to provide reassurance to the community about air quality.

Independent consultant Environmental Health Solutions confirmed that all data collected indicated that no airborne fibres had been detected above the *Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017* asbestos exposure standard.

Monitoring results have been presented at Alcoa CCN meetings and are also on the Alcoa website.

The removal of underground services - water piping, fire service lines and electrical cables - is now in progress.

Work is also progressing on the engineering design for the permanent closure of the onsite asbestos landfill.

The engineered capping design will be shared with the community in due course.

Alcoa has safely managed an onsite asbestos landfill for more than 20 years under an Environment Protection Authority (EPA) Victoria licence. Our continuing compliance with the licence conditions ensures the asbestos material contained in the landfill is safe and properly managed.

As part of the site's closure plan, the licensed landfill will remain, as depositing asbestos in a contained site is a safe and appropriate way for it to be managed into the future.

Mine remediation

Principal contractor Mibus Bros is currently reprofiling the west wall of the mine, consistent with the proposed long-term draft Rehabilitation and Closure Plan. Significantly, this work has seen the small remaining amount of exposed coal in the mine covered in preparation for the planned future revegetation of the area.



Fire prevention activities

Fire prevention continues to be a priority for Alcoa. Our comprehensive strategy includes a range of initiatives aimed firstly at prevention, and secondly to ensure preparedness in the unlikely event of a fire.

One important risk mitigation activity, completed in 2015, was the coverage of all horizontal coal with approximately one metre of overburden. In addition, the small area of uncovered west wall coal is now also covered, following recent mine reshaping works. Regular mine inspections are undertaken to ensure this is maintained.

Some of the other activities include the use of a Trigger Action Response Plan, grass slashing on Alcoa's leasehold and freehold landholdings, additional onsite personnel on extreme or code red fire danger days, and continued access to onsite water sources and equipment if required for fire control.

Alcoa regularly engages with the Country Fire Authority and the Victorian Government on fire prevention matters including regular inspections and testing of all fire prevention processes in place.

Commonly Asked Questions

In this section of our Community Update, Alcoa answers commonly asked questions relating to our activities in Anglesea.

What is happening with the Anglesea Bike Park?

In line with Alcoa's commitment to ensure a smooth transition to a new location for the Anglesea Bike Park, Alcoa has extended the no-cost lease to June 2020.

This provides certainty about the bike park in the near term and also allows further time for consideration of the options for the park's future location. This includes understanding the recent analysis undertaken on possible alternate locations, including on two other sites on Alcoa freehold land, together with the Anglesea Futures Land Use Framework Plan.

Having supported the Anglesea Bike Park since 2006 Alcoa understands the bike park is a highly valued community asset and wants it to remain as an important part of Anglesea's social fabric long into the future.

We will continue to work productively with the Anglesea Bike Park Committee, Surf Coast Shire and the Victorian Government's Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning on this important community matter.

What is the plan for the tall stack?

Alcoa has retained the tall stack situated on Alcoa freehold land for the time being to allow for consideration of possible repurposing options for the structure.

While the original intention was to demolish the stack with the power station structure, feedback received during our community consultation indicated some support for its retention for repurposing. This could include as a lookout, for public art and, as proposed recently, as a vertical gnomon of a sundial, the centrepiece of a public park.

If no genuine opportunity to repurpose the structure is determined, Alcoa will remove it in the future.

How does Alcoa support the management of the Anglesea River?

Alcoa continues to support the Victorian Government's water management strategy, and the community's desire for a long-term water strategy, through the provision of an onsite water storage pond.