

Alcoa Anglesea update

March 2023



Welcome to our first Community Update for 2023. Our year, which already seems to be passing quickly, has started safely as we continue to progress with rehabilitation activities across the former mine and power station sites.

At the mine, recent activities have focused on maintaining the 53 hectares of native grasslands, with scheduled erosion repairs and weeding activities being undertaken from January through to March. Our comprehensive technical work on the mine water strategy is ongoing, and at the power station the works to permanently cap the landfill are progressing well.

I am pleased to share more information about these activities in this update including some recent photos.

We acknowledge the importance of our activities to the community and will continue to engage with you as we undertake to deliver the best possible outcomes for the future of the site, the community and the environment.

Best wishes,

Warren Sharp, Anglesea Site Asset Manager

Mine rehabilitation monitoring and maintenance

The maintenance and monitoring of rehabilitated areas in the mine is a key part of our objective to ensure a safe, stable and sustainable landform. This program includes weed management, erosion repairs, stability monitoring and regular geotechnical and vegetation expert inspection. We expect these activities to continue over the next five to ten years.

Specialised earthmoving contractors have recently completed planned annual repairs in the lower slopes of the mine.

During March our contractors will complete repairs to a small section of the upper slopes in the 53-hectare native grasslands. In an area as large as this, some erosion was expected while the grasslands establish, and therefore repair works are built into the maintenance program. Alcoa's target is to achieve 100% coverage in the grasslands area within three to five years from its initial seeding in 2020. We are on track to achieve this target with 90% coverage already achieved.

Our weeding team continues their work in and around the mine to remove invasive species including clovers, medics, pampas, sallow wattle and boneseed. Since 2020 we have completed weeding work across more than 200 hectares in rehabilitated and surrounding non-disturbed vegetation areas, guided by the Weeds of the Surf Coast Shire reference book. This work will continue into the future.

Mine water filling strategy

Alcoa's extensive work to determine if groundwater can be used as part of the mine's water strategy continues. The rigorous, science-based process is overseen by Victorian government agencies and departments and to date has involved almost three years of work and engagement.

While we are encouraged by the positive results from the groundwater pumping test, we will not make a decision to seek a licence amendment for the use of groundwater longer term until the current technical process is complete.

Part of this ongoing work is the update of the Anglesea Groundwater Model which is underway. The model will also be independently peer-reviewed by a government-appointed Technical Review Panel. We also plan to undertake a further groundwater impact and environmental risk assessment.

Importantly, when these steps are completed we will run community engagement activities to share the analysis, seek your feedback and further understand any concerns.

Landfill closure

At the power station, contractors continue works to permanently cap and close the onsite landfill. Since 1992, we have safely landfilled asbestos used in the power station's construction under a licence with EPA Victoria. Until now, and consistent with this licence, the material has been covered by a layer of soil and surrounded by secure perimeter fencing.

Guided by EPA regulation and the EPA-appointed auditor, contractors are now constructing the specially designed permanent capping system. In February, works were completed in preparation for the installation of a geosynthetic liner that will be covered with a final layer of subsoil, topsoil and grass. This work is due to be completed mid-year.

Keep informed

Engagement with the community and key stakeholders remains a priority and is valued by the Alcoa team. We will continue to produce regular Community Updates and plan to reinstate other consultation activities such as community meetings and site tours when we have completed further analysis of the potential use of groundwater in our mine water strategy.

- We welcome your ongoing feedback and questions to angleseaps@alcoa.com.au.
- To receive our regular e-updates, please email us at angleseaps@alcoa.com.au.
- To read more about our activities, including copies of our previous Community Updates, please visit www.alcoa.com.au/anglesea.



Above: A view of the mine looking east towards the power station site. The current water level is RL -16.3 metres, representing approximately 18 per cent of the proposed full volume.