# Alcoa Point Henry Clean Up Notice Six Monthly Report Issue 18, October 2020



## **KEY OBJECTIVES**

With the completion, and submission to the EPA, of the Environmental Site Assessment (October 31, 2019) for the Pt Henry site Alcoa's key objective is to complete an environmental audit report for the site, prepared in accordance with section 53X of the *Environment Protection Act 1970* and consistent with the EPA-approved audit scope by 1 December 2025.

Alcoa will ensure compliance to the requirements of the Clean Up Notice 90011235 ('Notice 90011235') as issued to the location by the Victorian Environment Protection Authority ('Authority') on 23 June 2020. This Notice requires the submission of six-monthly reports, providing an update on how the clean-up and on-going management of the premises has been or is likely to be achieved to comply with the notice requirements. In the event of identifying contamination posing an unacceptable risk to the environment, Alcoa must immediately notify the Authority. Consistent with previous notices, Alcoa will develop and implement an interim clean-up plan in this event.

## **KEY METRICS**

	YTD (October 30 2020)
Non-Compliance with Laws and Regulations	0 (0)
Identified unacceptable risks to Human Health and Environment	0 (0)

## **KEY ACTIVITIES**

#### Activities last six months:

Consistent with the requirements set out in Clean Up Notice 90009814, issued to Alcoa on August 20 2018, the Onsite Process Material Treatment (OPMT) Remediation Action Plan (RAP) was submitted to the Authority in May 2020 and the treatment process commenced in early June 2020. This treatment process, facilitating the onsite treatment of underpot material from a Category A prescribed industrial waste to an immobilised Category C prescribed industrial waste (under 2019/385 (SO 9038128), is expected to be completed by the end of the year. All treated material is being stored within the former Carbon Bake building.

In accordance with the Solid Media Management (SMM) RAP, submitted to the Authority in December 2019, hydrocarbon impacted soils have been recovered from a number of areas across the Industrial site and have been stockpiled on the bioremediation pad. The onsite bioremediation treatment process has not yet commenced.

Work continued on the ecological and human health risk assessment framework memorandum, designed to inform the development of the ecological and human health clean up objectives for the site. The approach was reviewed by the Auditor and approved in August 2020, with the objectives currently being applied to the site to determine remediation works required to complement future land use, consistent with the Pt Henry 575 Master Plan.

Work also progressed on the development of a hydrological conceptual site model (CSM) for the Old SPL/ Salt Dross Landfill. The calibration of the CSM has been reviewed the Auditor with feedback provided to Alcoa's environmental consultant. The purpose of the CSM is to inform remediation options for the landfill.

A comprehensive groundwater and surface water monitoring program was completed across the zones during March with the results reviewed and incorporated into the Point Henry Groundwater Quality Management Plan as prepared by Alcoa's environmental consultants. The first sections of this plan are being reviewed by Alcoa.

The Authority approved Alcoa's Works Approval (WA) application for the construction of two new containment cells at Alcoa's Moolap Landfill (WA225397) on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2020. A third party lodged an objection with the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) in response to the WA being granted. The VCAT process to resolve the matter is currently underway.

#### Planned activities for 1 November 2020 – 30 April 2021:

Engagement of a contractor and commencement of the onsite bioremediation treatment process described in the SMM RAP for the hydrocarbon impacted soils and sediments is expected before the end of the year.

The underpot material treatment process set out in the OPMT RAP is scheduled for completion and the assessment report is expected to be finalised and submitted to the Authority, consistent with the conditions specified in the classification approval.

Alcoa's environmental consultants will complete the first draft of the CPL Sludge Disposal Area and Salt Dross Landfill RAP for Alcoa review prior to being provided to the Auditor. Further sections of the Groundwater Quality Management Plan are expected to be received for Alcoa review. The Plan will be subject to Auditor review post Alcoa's review.

The Old SPL/ Salt Dross Landfill hydrological CSM is expected to be finalised and submitted to the Auditor for review, with the remediation options for the landfill to be developed in the future as informed by the CSM outcomes.

Alcoa will continue to participate in the VCAT process to resolve the objection to the Moolap Landfill Works Approval. In parallel, Alcoa will finalise the detailed design of the new cells and cap, in preparation for obtaining the Auditor's verification (which will be required if the objection in VCAT is resolved in Alcoa's favour) and ultimately submission to the Authority for review and approval.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE**

No environmental non-compliance issues have been identified during the reporting period.

# **IDENTIFIED UNACCEPTABLE RISKS & CLEAN UP PLAN**

There have been no unacceptable risk issues identified in the environmental site assessments nor the additional work completed to date.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE**

During the period, engagement continued with community and key stakeholders about the site's environment assessment and decommissioning activities.

Alcoa engaged with the Community Advisory Board (CAB) in March, June and September. Due to COVID restrictions one meeting was held face to face, and two have been written updates emailed to the Alcoa CAB database. These activities continued to enable community stakeholders the opportunity to receive information on the decommissioning, remediation and future land use planning activities underway at Point Henry, and ask questions of Alcoa.

At the meeting and in the updates, an overview of the location's environmental, health and safety metrics and site activities were presented. Key topics included: EHS performance; the site demolition activity; transmission line removal; and the status of the environmental site assessment (ESA). Updates regarding strategic environmental remediation activities included: the landfill consolidation project; constructed wetlands remediation; solid media management/bioremediation; and onsite material processing.

Alcoa also continued to brief Government agencies on the status of onsite activities.

A copy of this quarterly report will be published on the Alcoa website.

#### **CONTACT**

If you have any questions regarding the project or this update bulletin, please feel free to contact;

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