

ALCOA ANGLESEA COMMUNITY CONSULTATION NETWORK

FEBRUARY 2020 MEETING SNAPSHOT

Meeting purpose: A CCN meeting was held on 24 February 2020 to provide an opportunity for attendees to discuss the site's decommissioning and rehabilitation, the Eden Project Anglesea project and the ongoing community engagement processes.



Introduction

The meeting was independently facilitated by Jen Lilburn. More than 117 people attended, including about 100 community members, and representatives from local and state government, local authorities and Alcoa.

FIGURE 1

Eden Project Anglesea

David Harland (Chief Executive Officer of Eden Project International Limited) provided an update on the Eden Project Anglesea concept. It will employ over 300 full-time staff and attract 750,000 visitors per year. This information can also be found on the Eden Project website at <https://www.edenprojectanglesea.com.au/>. David provided a recap of the concept for the Power Station site which would adjoin the Eden Project (Figure 2 - see following page).

The concept is consistent with the Guiding Principles established for the site by Alcoa and the local community in 2016 and recognises the diversity of natural and constructed landscapes in the precinct. Should the Eden Project not proceed, the power station might provide a simpler hub for community activities with less supporting infrastructure (Figure 3 - see following page).

The Eden Project requires a water body of sufficient size. The major obstacle over the last several months is the source of this water and, until this issue is resolved, the progression of other issues such as traffic, infrastructure, impacts to Anglesea, design components etc. won't be undertaken. An estimated \$5 million will be required to work through these issues and Eden won't commit to this expenditure until the water issue is resolved.

Of the original five water filling options, two options still under consideration are groundwater from the UEVF aquifer and recycled water from the Black Rock Treatment Plant. Detailed modelling of how the water body will fill has revealed that, at 50% full (approximately 9 gigalitres), the water body will provide a sufficient backdrop to enable the Eden Project to tell its story. This could be achieved through an annual inflow of 1.5 gigalitres from the Upper Eastern View Aquifer (UEVF), which is less than half of Alcoa's current licence (4 gigalitres). The rest of the water body can fill thereafter. Government and regulatory authorities are currently looking at the complex issues around protection of aquifers to ensure that no detrimental impacts are caused to either aquifer or to the environment.

There is also a desire from government and Barwon Water to consider recycled water from the Breamlea Treatment Plant as an alternative option. David indicated that government or Barwon Water would need to fund the construction of the pipeline, given that it would be public infrastructure and there would be many uses for that water.

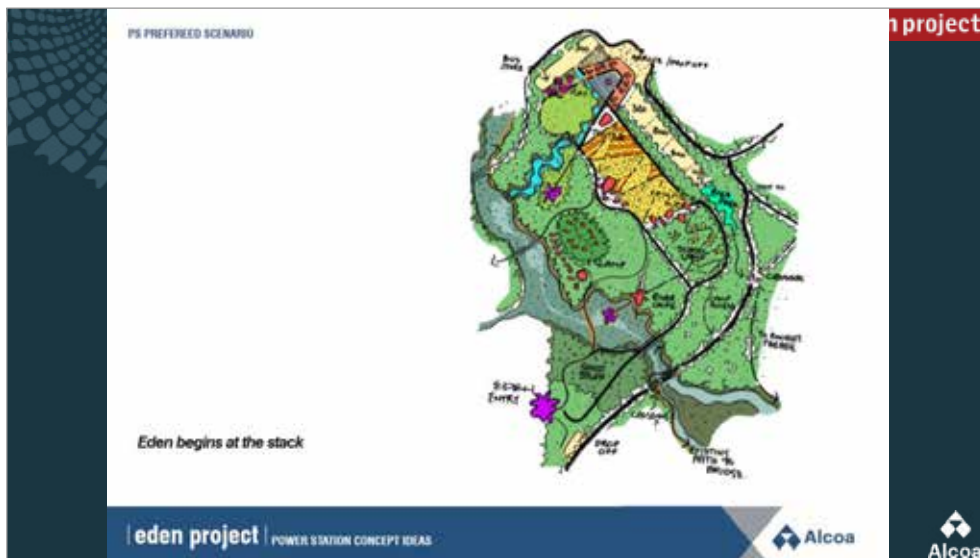


FIGURE 2



FIGURE 3

Questions and comments from the community that were addressed by David at the meeting included scepticism as to whether the community consultation process is genuine and concern about the lack of detail regarding the design concepts, traffic and impact issues, water body filling options and their environmental impacts, projected visitor numbers, and a desire to see the project's Business Plan. Other community members expressed excitement and enthusiasm about the potential opportunities that the project may offer including environmental, sustainability and educational benefits.

David acknowledged that the design is conceptual only in order to get initial feedback from the community. Once the water issue is resolved, the Mine Closure and Rehabilitation Plan can be finalised and the Eden Project can move into the detailed design and planning processes. This will include community engagement as a key component, separate to the Alcoa CCN meetings.

Dr. Greg Woodward (Senior Manager Waterway Health, Catchments, Waterways, Cities & Towns Division, DELWP) advised that Southern Rural Water is the licensing authority for groundwater in this region. Barwon Water and Alcoa currently hold licences to extract groundwater. Under the Victorian Water Entitlement Framework, the proponent (Barwon Water or Alcoa) must ensure the protection of local waterways, the environment and critical water supplies and the impact on other entitlement holders. This generally involves a number of thorough investigative studies, modelling, groundwater monitoring etc.

Fine-tuning Alcoa CCN Survey

Jen thanked the 47 people who provided feedback to inform the continued relevance and accessibility of the Alcoa Anglesea Community Consultation Network forum via the survey that was distributed at the December meeting and via an email link thereafter. The complete, unconsolidated survey responses were provided to all on the CCN database in mid-February 2020.

79% of respondents suggested that the CCN meeting were worthwhile whilst 64% considered the meeting minutes to be valuable. Emailed updates were also considered useful. Other feedback and suggestions received have provided some clear direction for improvements in 2020 including continuation of CCN meetings, clearly separating Alcoa reports from Eden updates, providing an additional microphone at meetings, reviewing the suitability of the current venue to house the numbers of meeting attendees, distributing the meeting minutes more promptly, encouraging greater community representation and better management of attendees/questions.

Alcoa EHS Performance

Warren Sharp (Anglesea and Point Henry Site Asset Manager) reported that eleven security incidents have occurred at the site since the last meeting and that illegal access remains a serious concern for Alcoa, not only because of the damage to the rehabilitation works and native vegetation but also the personal safety risks posed to the perpetrators. A number of surveillance cameras have been set up around the site and details of people illegally accessing the Alcoa site is provided to the Police for investigation.

Mine Sump Water

The water level at 19 February was just over 8% of the proposed eventual total volume, with a pH of 3.4.

Decommissioning and Rehabilitation

Power Station Activity Update

Dean Schmidt (Project Engineer) advised that power station decommissioning works were completed in 2019 and transmission line removal works were completed in February 2020. The onsite landfill will be permanently capped and closed. A proposed cap design is being developed and will be submitted to an EPA appointed independent auditor for approval. **Nicci Marris** (EHS Manager, Alcoa) advised that Alcoa has completed its environmental site assessment sampling to determine levels and extent of contamination, particularly in soils and groundwater, as a result of past practices. The report is currently being prepared for EPA Victoria.

Draft Mine Rehabilitation and Closure Plan Update

Warren advised that 90% of the major re-profiling works around the mine have been completed (Figure 4). The planting of native grasslands on the south slope will commence soon.

He outlined the groundwater monitoring network that will occur regardless of whether the Eden Project proceeds, the location of planned surface water catchment drains and the comprehensive mine weeding program that has commenced.

Stage 1 and 2 of the Coalmine Road relocation works are complete and works on Stage 3 have commenced. Messmate Track remains closed while these works are underway and the public is reminded that the area is an active work zone and unauthorised access is prohibited.

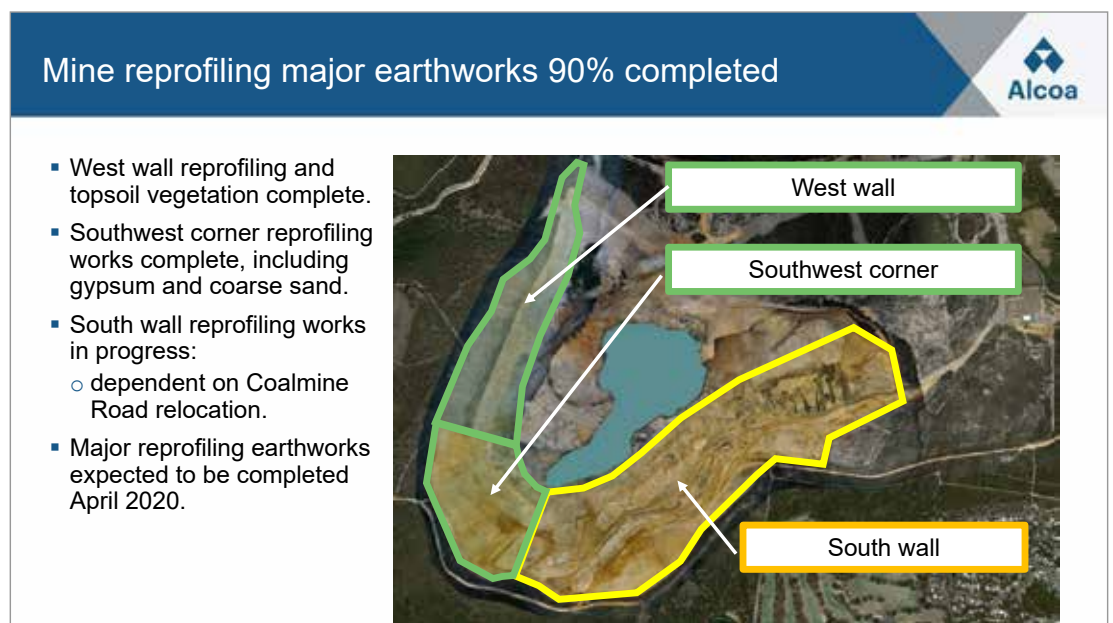


FIGURE 4

NEXT MEETING: Due to current circumstances, Alcoa will advise alternative community engagement opportunities when confirmed. To receive Alcoa updates please email angleseaps@alcoa.com.au.

The purpose of this document is to give community and other stakeholders a summary of what took place at the CCN meeting on Monday 24 February. 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