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CCN Meeting

Minutes

ALCOA ANGLESEA POWER STATION COMMUNITY CONSULTATION NETWORK

Monday 3 December 2012

6.00pm– 7.30pm

**The Anglesea Community House
5 McMillan Street, Anglesea**

Chairperson: Talis Steele

Minutes: Alexa Menzies

DETAILS

Date	3 December 2012
Location	Community House Anglesea

PRESENT

Community	Prue and Graeme Weber, Helen Tutt, Pamela Sandlant, Bill Boledziuk, Harry Wendt, Graeme McLaughlan (DPI), Frank Parsons
Alcoa	Talis Steele, Lisa Mills, Nicci Marris, Chris Rolland, Kate Betts
Others	

APOLOGIES

Community	Shane Madden, Jim Clements, Jim Tutt
Alcoa	
Other	

1. Introductions, discussion of previous meeting minutes

Talis welcomed those attending. Apologies were noted.

Questions on Notice from Bill at the last meeting

Bill asked whether Alcoa undertook benchmarking with other Alcoa sites in regards to environmental enforcement. He noted that the Warrick plant in the US has achieved 94% reduction in SO₂.

Talis said the power station air emissions are compliant and safe. SO₂ emissions have been monitored since 2007. Anglesea power station air emissions are compliant with National limits and Victorian EPA limits in Anglesea and are safe for Anglesea residents.

Alcoa commenced a review of its SO₂ management system in December 2007 which included analysis of the scrubbing system used at Warrick. With EPA approval, Alcoa implemented an improved Air Quality Control System (AQCS) in October 2009. The AQCS is technology that analyses approaching weather conditions and



determines the likelihood of an SO₂ exceedance at ground level. Alcoa continually monitors ambient sulphur dioxide (SO₂) levels in Anglesea. No non-compliances with the SEPP have been recorded in the Anglesea township since March 2009.

In regard to Alcoa's environmental policies, each site is operated in line with the applicable country or region's environmental laws, and improvement opportunities assessed with regard to what is reasonable and practicable in the local context. In the case of the Anglesea Power Station, the AQCS was assessed as the most appropriate option to ensure the operations' air emissions are compliant with National limits and Victorian EPA limits in Anglesea and are safe for Anglesea residents.

Bill asked what Alcoa's response is to the NEPM review for SO₂ due out in the near future. Talis reported that Alcoa will wait to see what the review brings and assess what is required to meet the reviewed standards. Bill asked about the costs for SO₂ scrubbing. Talis said that 5 years ago the cost was \$165 million.

Draft Human Health Assessment

The draft Human Health Assessment for Alcoa Anglesea was released during the week. The draft report is available on the Greens website and the full and completed report will be released by Alcoa in 2013. Results of the current dust monitoring program will be added to the full report. Alcoa's full response is available on the Alcoa [website](#).

There was discussion about the term 'dust'. Some members felt stack emissions would be a more appropriate term. Lisa confirmed that Alcoa uses 'dust' as the terminology as per what is used by the consultants undertaking the monitoring. The program measures all ambient dust, eg smoke from fires etc. The results of the monitoring are available on the website as part of the site's environmental report. The amount of particulates from the power station is currently monitored from stack emissions.

Frank spoke about health studies and Talis suggested Frank contribute any data he has to the Andrew Love Centre to contribute to the research.

Bill said the human health assessment report showed an 'SO₂ hot spot' around the bowling green and near the camping ground. Talis said there is a monitor at the Bowling Club and that the control methods Alcoa has put in place has resulted in no non-compliances.

2. Environment Update

Presented by Lisa Mills

- a. **SO₂ update:** The SO₂ monitoring data as at 1 December was presented. There have been no exceedences in 2012. Monthly SO₂ data will continue to be available on the website.
- b. **EPA Sulphur Dioxide and Dust Monitoring Audit:** EPA conducted an audit of Alcoa Anglesea's sulphur dioxide and dust monitoring programs on 15 Nov 2012. The auditors were EPA's Data Validation Officer and Air Quality Technical Specialist. The objective of the audit was to satisfy the Victorian public that Alcoa Anglesea's SO₂ and PM₁₀ monitoring is fit for purpose. The scope of the audit was to ensure that both monitoring programs met the requirements of the SEPP (Ambient Air Quality) and to review the equipment, monitoring station and quality management system. Whilst Alcoa is waiting to receive the audit report from EPA, the Data Validation Officer commented that he was impressed with the monitoring programs.

- c. **53 V Audit:** The EPA has revoked the Pollution Abatement Notice (PAN) which was in place on 5 November, in line with Alcoa meeting all of the PAN's conditions. Actions detailed in the Management Plan submitted to EPA continue to be progressed.
- d. **Q3 2012 Environment Report:** The site's Environmental Report for Q3 2012 is now on the website. The report has changed format and now contains all of our environmental reports in one document. It will be produced on a quarterly basis. The report includes SO₂, dust and water monitoring data, an EIP status update, and a community story.

Lisa reported on four overdue/incomplete actions in the EIP Status Report:

1. The monthly EHS ASAT Audit has not been completed as scheduled, partially due to staff absence and the Pt Henry staff redundancies. Components of the audit program have been rescheduled.
2. The target for town water consumption was exceeded because of unexpected outages.
3. The waste to landfill target was exceeded as a large amount of oily rags and plastics needed to be taken to landfill as unfortunately no recycling option could be found.
4. Particulate stack emissions internal limits were exceeded twice in July for a couple of minutes. These were believed to be due to low density fly ash. As a result several maintenance activities were completed to improve the performance of the electrostatic precipitators.

Bill enquired about the internal targets which used to appear in reports. He felt Alcoa had been exceeding the internal limit for SO₂. Talis said that internal targets were set as an important indicator to Alcoa that levels were reaching the EPA limits. If the internal limit is exceeded each occasion is fully researched. Talis noted that there has been 4 internal exceedances in 2012. Talis reiterated that there have been no non-compliances since March 2009.

Lisa reported that a group of Angair members visited the site recently looking at the revegetation area, and the seed production area in particular.

3. Process Update

- a. **2013 Shutdown update:** The shutdown is due to start on 27 April until 29 May. This is in line with the off peak tourist period and predicted good weather conditions. More than 200 contractors will be working on the shutdown. Information has been given to BATA who have been able to offer accommodation/recreation information to the visiting workers.
- b. **Mine planning update:** Talis reported that Alcoa is still working on the technical aspects of the plan. Community consultation will be undertaken as per the requirements of the mine extension plan process in due course.

Harry asked about Pt Henry employment reductions and whether this affected Anglesea. Talis confirmed that about 10% of Pt Henry employees have been made redundant.

4. Social Update

- a. **2012 review and 2013 plans:** There were 9 major partnerships in Anglesea in the last 12 months. Alcoa's monthly employee volunteer program has been extended to Anglesea, and workers have volunteered at Eumeralla, the Geelong Animal Welfare Centre, and Workers Big Day Out. Anglesea PS and Anglesea Bowls Club have benefited from the ACTION grant program.



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Alcoa is looking to 2013 and looking for ongoing local partnerships, perhaps in partnership with other local businesses. Alcoa has increased its global targets for community volunteering, and this will positively flow through to Anglesea.

5. New Business

- a. **2013 CCN meetings:** Talis thanked members for their contribution throughout the year. It was agreed that 6pm on Mondays works well. Kate will be in contact with the group regarding the 2013 CCN schedule.

- b. **Questions on Notice:** Bill read some press from Alan Cransberg regarding the use of gas to power its operations. Talis said this is focussed on West Australia not in Victoria.

Meeting closed.

Next meeting: TBA