

Alcoa Anglesea Update

Summer 2023-2024



Exotic grass herbicide trial assessment

- Further broadleaf treatments across the mine grassland, targeting Clovers and Medics,
- Assessment of the grassland exotic grass herbicide trial conducted in July, targeting exotic species such as Fescues and Bromas, and
- Treatment for noxious weeds including Serrated Tussock and African Orchid (Disa), with a follow up treatment planned for late-November.

In addition to these activities, we also met with Parks Victoria to discuss and compare weed management strategies between the mine and surrounding areas.

Spring erosion repair works included successful application of agricultural limestone across erosion repair areas in the grassland, and application of a fertiliser blend to the entire grassland area to continue to encourage its establishment.

Preparations are also underway ahead of the annual lower slopes erosion maintenance repairs, which are expected to commence early in 2024 and planned to take place alongside a number of initiatives to further reduce erosion on the slopes.

Community

Spring also proved to be a busy period for catching up with the community.

We'd like to thank those who stopped by our photographic display at the annual Angair Wildflower and Art Weekend in September.

Across the two-day event we had lots of engaging conversation about our revegetation works and plans for the future.

On the same weekend, we hosted 27 visitors from the Cranbourne Friends, Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria for a tour of the mine site, showcasing the works achieved to date.

Excitedly, the group identified our very first orchid in the topsoil revegetation, a Rabbit Eared Sun Orchid (*Thelymitra antennifera*) and also spotted a rare Scarlett Sundew (*Drosera glanduligera*).

We value the importance these firsthand interactions have on educating the community about the ongoing, strategic work being undertaken in the former mine and power station site.

Likewise, we appreciate the feedback they generate, the opportunities for improvement they uncover and the relationships they build.

Mine Water Filling Strategy

The water body is now approximately 18.3 per cent full by volume.

We have a regulatory obligation to develop the final Anglesea Mine Rehabilitation and Closure Plan, inclusive of the community's expectation that rehabilitation of the mine is completed in a timely manner. Filling the mine pit with water is a key enabler to finalise the Plan, and so we continue to explore the possibility of using groundwater as part of the mine water filling strategy.

The rigorous, science-based process is overseen by Victorian government agencies and departments, and to date has involved more than three years of work.

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

Part of this ongoing work is updating the Anglesea Groundwater Model, in conjunction with Barwon Water, which is nearing completion. The model will be independently peer-reviewed by a government-appointed Technical Review Panel. We also then plan to undertake a further groundwater impact and environmental risk assessment, which will help inform a future potential decision to seek a licence amendment.

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

To ensure you're kept in the loop about when these activities kick off, sign up to our e-updates mailing list by scanning the QR code with your mobile or emailing us at angleseaps@alcoa.com.au.



Environment, Health and Safety

Our annual power station ground water monitoring event took place across October.

The activity is a key part of ongoing monitoring across the site and is consistent with the site's EPA Environmental Action Notice. Separately, minor onsite soil remediation works are expected to commence during December.

Welcome to Alcoa's regular community update where we share the latest news about our former mine and power station site activities.

Maintenance and Monitoring

Our extensive maintenance and monitoring program is integral to achieving our objective of a safe, stable and sustainable landform.

The program includes extensive weed management, erosion repairs, stability monitoring and regular geotechnical and vegetation expert inspections, all expected to continue over the next five to 10 years.

Throughout spring our focus on weed treatment remained strong and involved a number of activities across the former mine and power station site, including:

- Continued woody weed removal works (primarily targeting Sallow Wattle and Boneseed) across the former power station site,

Landfill Closure

Since 1992, we have safely landfilled asbestos used in the power station's construction under a licence with EPA Victoria. Guided by EPA regulation and inspected regularly by the EPA-appointed auditor, works to construct a specially designed permanent capping system were completed in June.

Final asbestos landfill cap vegetation works including topsoil ripping, grader trimming, application of agricultural lime, and hydromulching with a mulch, binder and grass seed mix were completed during October. We are now eagerly awaiting germination, which is expected within the next week or so.

The final Anglesea Asbestos Landfill Cap Construction Audit Report prepared by the EPA-appointed auditor has been submitted to the EPA.



Hydromulching in action

Keep Informed

As always, we welcome your ongoing feedback and questions to angleseaps@alcoa.com.au.

Visit www.alcoa.com/australia/en/anglesea to read more about our activities and catch up on previous updates.

Lastly, as the festive season fast approaches, we would like to wish the Anglesea community a healthy, happy and safe summer season ahead.

Best wishes,
Warren Sharp | [Site Asset Manager](#)