

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

Mine rehabilitation maintenance and monitoring

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. Activities include extensive weed management, erosion repairs, stability monitoring and regular geotechnical and vegetation expert inspections.

Experienced contractors have recently completed woody weed removal in a large area bounded by Bald Hills Road and Coalmine Road to the west of the mine. Targeted weed management was also completed for Serrated Tussock and African Wild Orchid.

Since 2020 we have completed weeding work across more than 200 hectares in both 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.

Repairing erosion where required on the lower slopes of the mine is an ongoing activity.

Earth Resources Regulation continue their regular inspections of all aspects the mine rehabilitation as it progresses. The latest inspection did not identify any matters of concern.

Mine pit water filling strategy

While significant rehabilitation has been undertaken at the former mine site, finalising a strategy to fill the mine pit with water in a timely manner remains outstanding.

The current water level represents approximately 16.3% of the proposed full volume of the waterbody.

We have investigated a range of potential water sources and continue to believe that in the near term the mine pit is best filled using a combination of groundwater and peak flows from Salt Creek.

Other sources, such as recycled water, may present a future opportunity.

Groundwater pumping test

The current pumping test will provide Alcoa, regulators and the community with science-based information about the use of groundwater.

Specifically, the test will determine if groundwater can be used without adverse impact on groundwater dependent ecosystems.

Stage one of the test was completed in December 2021. Analysis of the data gathered has not identified any adverse impacts, including to the Anglesea River.

The aquifers and bores continue to be closely monitored and information is shared with community and regulators via regular updates.

Progressing to stage two of the test is subject to approval from Southern Rural Water.

The test is being undertaken by expert hydrogeologists with oversight by a technical working group, representing Southern Rural Water, Department of Environment Land Water and Planning, Corangamite Catchment Management Authority, Environment Protection Authority Victoria, Earth Resources Regulation and Barwon Water.

Historical studies commissioned by Department of Environment Land Water and Planning and other government agencies such as Corangamite Catchment Management Authority highlight that a combination of factors, including climate change and the characteristics of local catchment areas, contribute to the state of the Anglesea River. These studies have not identified any adverse impact to the river from Alcoa's operations.

Stay informed

As always, we welcome your contact about our activities.

To contact the Anglesea team or sign up to our regular Community Updates, please email angleseaps@alcoa.com.au or visit www.alcoa.com.au/anglesea for further information.

Best wishes,

Warren Sharp
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Alcoa Anglesea