

Media Release

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Community and mining partnership celebrated

Protecting endangered black cockatoos has been hailed as a highlight of a 12-year community and mining partnership in the Keysbrook area.

The Alcoa-Myara Mining Community Forum between Alcoa and the Keysbrook Hills Community Group has been officially concluded after successfully fostering a positive relationship between the two groups during bauxite mining in the area, about 25km north-east of Pinjarra.

Keysbrook Hills Community Group Chairperson Ken Ritchie described the consultation framework developed through the forum as best practice that could be implemented in other communities around the world.

“Successful community consultation could not have been achieved without Alcoa’s commitment to meaningful engagement with the community and the emphasis on ensuring that the environmental and social impacts of mining were minimised,” Mr Ritchie said.

"We are fortunate to have Alcoa as our neighbour and we are incredibly proud of the outcomes we have achieved together."

Established in 2006, the forum focused on community engagement and communication by sharing information about Alcoa’s mining plans and operations in the area, identifying concerns and coming up with ways they could be addressed.

Mr Ritchie also said that a key success of the process was the establishment of a Fauna Habitat Zone in the area to preserve the habitat of black cockatoos, which had consensus among all parties.

Alcoa Bauxite Operations Vice President Mal Briggs acknowledged that while there had been challenging moments throughout the consultation process, the community’s decision to dissolve the forum demonstrated the positive relationship that had been fostered and that mining and other land uses could coexist harmoniously.

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Photo caption:

Alcoa Myara Mining Community Forum members Bob Hickson, Ken Ritchie, Mal Briggs and Maria Price celebrate the successful conclusion of the group.



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Editor's note

Alcoa has a proud history in Western Australia which it hopes to continue by remaining internationally competitive, attracting ongoing investment and providing jobs for future growth.

- Alcoa employs more than 3,750 people – about 2,000 live in the Peel region
- Alcoa spends \$635 million annually in wages, salaries and benefits
- Alcoa invests \$1.3 billion in operating and capital expenditure annually
- Alcoa pays \$366 million in taxes (State and Federal) annually
- Alcoa invests \$4 million in community contributions annually
- More than 75 per cent of Alcoa of Australia's total annual revenue stays in Australia through wages, local purchasing, taxes, royalties, capital investment and dividends to Australian shareholders

About Alcoa

Alcoa (NYSE: AA) is a global industry leader in bauxite, alumina and aluminum products, with a strong portfolio of value-added cast and rolled products and substantial energy assets. Alcoa is built on a foundation of strong values and operating excellence dating back nearly 130 years to the world-changing discovery that made aluminum an affordable and vital part of modern life. Since inventing the aluminum industry, and throughout our history, our talented Alcoans have followed on with breakthrough innovations and best practices that have led to efficiency, safety, sustainability and stronger communities wherever we operate. Visit us online on www.alcoa.com, follow @Alcoa on Twitter and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Alcoa.