



Both the Deed Administrator of the Pasmenco Group of companies and the Fitzwalter Group, Project and Development Managers appointed by the Deed Administrator, are committed to keeping the local community informed about what's happening at the Pasmenco Cockle Creek Smelter (PCCS) site. As part of this commitment we have prepared this June 2005 edition of the Community Report.

Community Information and Feedback Forum

The purpose of this information session is to give local residents, businesses, stakeholders and any other interested parties clear and accurate information on the current activities associated with the planning and redevelopment of the Cockle Creek Smelter site. The session will also provide an opportunity to give feedback to the project manager on issues considered relevant to the site's future.

All interested parties are invited to attend a Community Information and Feedback Forum to be held:

DATE: Saturday, 25 June 2005
TIME: Anytime between 11:00AM and 3:00PM
VENUE: Boolaroo Public School, Main Road Boolaroo

Please join us to learn more about this significant project. **Everyone is welcome.** For further information regarding the session please contact the **Project Hotline** on **4958 0801**. We look forward to seeing you there.

call for expressions of interest underway

Expressions of Interest are currently being sought from qualified parties to participate in the remediation, redevelopment and ultimate realisation of the site. This process follows extensive consultation with various government authorities. The call for expressions of interest has been advertised widely and we are currently experiencing a strong enquiry rate. Expressions of Interest close on Thursday, 23 June 2005.

demolition commenced

Work is underway on the removal of buildings following the demolition approval by Lake Macquarie City Council. The wall sheeting of some of the buildings is being washed down and removed prior to the dismantling of the main structure. This work represents the start of most significant change to the appearance of the industrial site in many decades. Demolition will take several months to finish.

The entire site has undergone a thorough heritage assessment by independent specialist consultants and involved discussions with the NSW Heritage Office and Lake Macquarie City Council's Heritage Officer. The site, buildings, structures, plant and equipment have also been extensively recorded by surveys, photographs and detailed measured drawings. Over 6,500 photographs alone have been taken of the industrial process and buildings, and monitoring and recording will continue during the demolition process.

To go with the recording, PCCS will also be documenting the history of the site, the activities carried out over its 100+ year occupation, the uses of various buildings and other social, technological and community aspects of interest. Representative and important relics and items from the site as well as historic photos, drawings, maps, plans and company reports are also being collected and catalogued for future reference.

A plan for how the significance of the site is to be interpreted in future redevelopment proposals for the site is also to be prepared. PCCS has a long association with the site and the local communities, and played an important role in the industrial and social history of Australia. The recording activities will make this history freely available for future generations and more accessible to the public than ever before.

Lake Macquarie City Council is overseeing the completion of the necessary components of the above recording process before demolition commences.

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remediation activities

As advised in the previous newsletter, an on-site containment cell is being considered for non-recyclable materials. Contaminated soil material from around the site will be placed in the cell leaving those cleaned-up areas free from contamination and ready for re-use as open space, residential or industrial purposes. PCCS is also continuing to seek buyers for its surplus materials in an effort to minimise the volume of materials for on-site storage.

A concept design of the containment cell is progressing. The design process will address all of the different considerations related to the type of material to be stored, the staged construction of the cell and protection measures associated with its construction and ongoing into the future. The proposed remediation plans will undergo rigorous authority reviews as part of the approval process.

environmental management

PCCS personnel continually monitor and manage the site to meet the required environmental standards. This will continue throughout the staged remediation process until the site is fully remediated and ready for re-use.

dust control

Regular monitoring of dust deposition in nearby suburbs is demonstrating the success of the control measures being used. The monitoring program will be stepped up again following the commencement of demolition activities.

surface water control

Additional storage capacity for contaminated stormwater, surface water capture and treatment has been implemented improving the system since the closure of the smelter. Regular monitoring of Cockle Creek water quality is demonstrating that the on-site control measures are proving effective. Actions are in hand to improve this further.

groundwater control

The investigation phase relating to the groundwater situation is effectively complete. A groundwater model has been developed for the site and field tests undertaken to verify the model's predicted responses to proposed remediation actions.

lead in soil in the community

A strategy to manage lead in soil in the community has been prepared on behalf of the Administrator and has been submitted to regulatory authorities for their consideration. It is anticipated there will be an ongoing consultation process with the regulatory authorities to advance the management of this issue. In the meantime, residents in the suburbs of Boolaroo, Speers Point and Argenton within the area nominated in the 1995 Smelter Approval are still able to get the soil in their yards analysed for lead content under the conditions of the 1995 approval. Any interested residents should contact Howard Bridgman on 02 4958 0800 to discuss the matter.

land use planning

Lake Macquarie City Council is currently exhibiting a comprehensive land use strategy for the PCCS site, southern slopes of Munibung Hill and parts of Boolaroo. The draft strategy addresses employment, housing and recreation opportunities for the Pasminco site and adjoining Munibung Hill lands. Council has the Draft Pasminco Munibung Hill Land Use Strategy on exhibition from Monday 30 May to Monday 11 July 2005.

environmental health centre

The Environmental Health Centre (EHC) would like to remind the community that free blood lead level tests are held on the first Tuesday of every month from 2:00-4:45PM. The tests are free and confidential and are the only reliable way to pick up on elevated blood lead levels. Children aged up to 7 years who are having their first test this year will receive a \$20 gift voucher from Target, while those 8 years and over will receive a double movie pass to say 'Thank you'. Please contact the EHC on 02 4965 8933 for more information.

further information

If you would like further information about the Cockle Creek site please contact:

- > the Project Hotline on **4958 0801** during office hours or visit the Pasminco website at **www.pasminco.com.au**

Alternatively, should you wish to write and/or fax information or your comments we can be reached on:

- > fax **9211 9299** or at **633 Harris Street, ULTIMO NSW 2007**.

Please address any correspondence to the attention of Andrew Freeman, Senior Development Manager. Fitzwalter Group ensures you that your privacy will be respected. Please contact the Fitzwalter Group for a copy of our Privacy Policy.

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