



## Hazelwood Mine Fire Inquiry

5 June 2015

Alcoa of Australia Ltd (ACN 004 879 298)

181-205 Davy Street

Booragoon

Western Australia 6154

Attention: Lance Perry, Acting General Counsel

Dear Sir

### **Board of Inquiry**

A Board of Inquiry is being held into the Hazelwood Mine Fire of February 2014 and other matters pursuant to Terms of Reference ('**TOR**') dated 26 May 2015 (see attached). The Inquiry is being conducted pursuant to Part 3 of the Inquiries Act 2014 (Vic.).

Your particular attention is drawn to paragraph 11 of the TOR. Paragraph 11 asks the Board of Inquiry to inquire into and report on "sustainable, practical and effective options that could be undertaken by the mine operator to decrease the risk of fire arising from or impacting the Anglesea Mine for the 2015/2016 summer season, noting the impending closure of the mine on 31 August 2015". The Board is required to report on these matters by 31 August 2015.

I am writing to Alcoa of Australia Ltd ('**Alcoa**') as the mine operator of the Anglesea mine.

It is the intention of the Board to hold a public hearing in late July 2015 to examine this particular paragraph of its TOR. One or more representatives of Alcoa will be called to give evidence at that public hearing pursuant to s. 64 of the Inquiries Act 2014 (Vic.).

In preparation for that public hearing, the Board of Inquiry seeks from Alcoa a witness statement from a senior manager who works at the mine which addresses the matters outlined below. The Board's expectation is that the maker of the statement will have made all appropriate inquiries so that s/he is able to make the statement on Alcoa's behalf. You may decide that statements from more than one manager or employee are necessary to address the matters of interest to the Board.

Please provide the statement no later than Monday 22 June 2015, in both hard copy and electronic form.

In addition to addressing the questions below, the witness may include in the statement any other matter that s/he considers will assist the Board in inquiring into the matters specified in paragraph 11 of its TOR. The statement should attach supporting documents including maps, plans, diagrams and photographs as necessary.

### **General**

1. Provide a brief history of Alcoa's operation of the Anglesea mine.
2. Attach an up-to-date map of the mine indicating the 'freehold land', the 'leased area', and the 'purchased land' as those terms are defined in Schedule 2 of the Mines (Aluminium Agreement) Act 1961 (Vic.).
3. Attach an up-to-date aerial photograph of the mine.
4. Describe Alcoa's role in relation to the Anglesea Heath with particular reference to fire mitigation.
5. Describe any fires that have started in the mine or have impacted the mine from outside the mine.
6. In particular, describe the impact on the mine of the 'Ash Wednesday' bush-fire in February 1983.

### **Current Management of Risk**

7. What policies, procedures and practices does Alcoa currently have in place to decrease the risk of fire arising from the Anglesea mine?
8. What policies, procedures and practices does Alcoa currently have in place to decrease the risk of fire impacting the Anglesea mine from an external source such as a bushfire?
9. What policies, procedures and practices does Alcoa currently have in place to mitigate the effect of fire arising from the Anglesea mine?

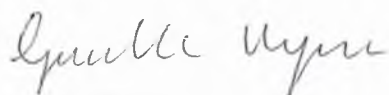
10. What policies, procedures and practices does Alcoa currently have in place to mitigate the effect of fire impacting the Anglesea mine from an external source such as a bushfire?
11. Detail any risks assessments that have been conducted by Alcoa into the mining hazard of mine fire as required by regulation 5.3.7 of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2007 (Vic.).

### **Management of Risk after 31 August 2015**

12. Detail any risks assessments that have been conducted by Alcoa into the mining hazard of mine fire as required by regulation 5.3.7 of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2007 (Vic.) which take into account the proposed closure of the mine on 31 August 2015.
13. Have there been any discussions with the Victorian Workcover Authority ('VWA'), the Country Fire Authority ('CFA'), Parks Victoria ('PV') or any other Victorian government agencies about the management of fire risk at the Anglesea mine after 31 August 2015?
14. What policies, procedures and practices does Alcoa currently have in place and what plans does Alcoa have to decrease the risk of fire arising from the Anglesea mine after 31 August 2015?
15. What policies, procedures and practices does Alcoa currently have in place, and what plans does Alcoa have to decrease the risk of fire impacting the Anglesea mine from an external source such as a bushfire after 31 August 2015?
16. What policies, procedures and practices does Alcoa currently have in place and what plans does Alcoa have to mitigate the effect of fire arising from the Anglesea mine after 31 August 2015?
17. What policies, procedures and practices does Alcoa currently have in place, and what plans does Alcoa have to mitigate the effect of fire impacting the Anglesea mine from an external source such as a bushfire after 31 August 2015?
18. What will Alcoa's role be after 31 August 2015 in relation to the Anglesea Heath?

## Implementation of Plans

19. In relation to any current plans that Alcoa has to decrease fire risks at the Anglesea Mine after 31 August 2015, give a detailed implementation program for those plans including resources allocated and the timetable for implementation.
20. Detail any discussions with regulatory authorities (e.g. VWA, CFA, PV) about the implementation of those plans.



Genelle Ryan

Head of the Inquiry Secretariat