

# Flinders Power Community Newsletter March 2018



## Background

With the start of 2018, the Alliance team is back on task. The purpose of this newsletter is to share with our community a progress update and to cast forward to the main upcoming activities.

The close of 2017 saw a number of significant milestones achieved for the project, including:

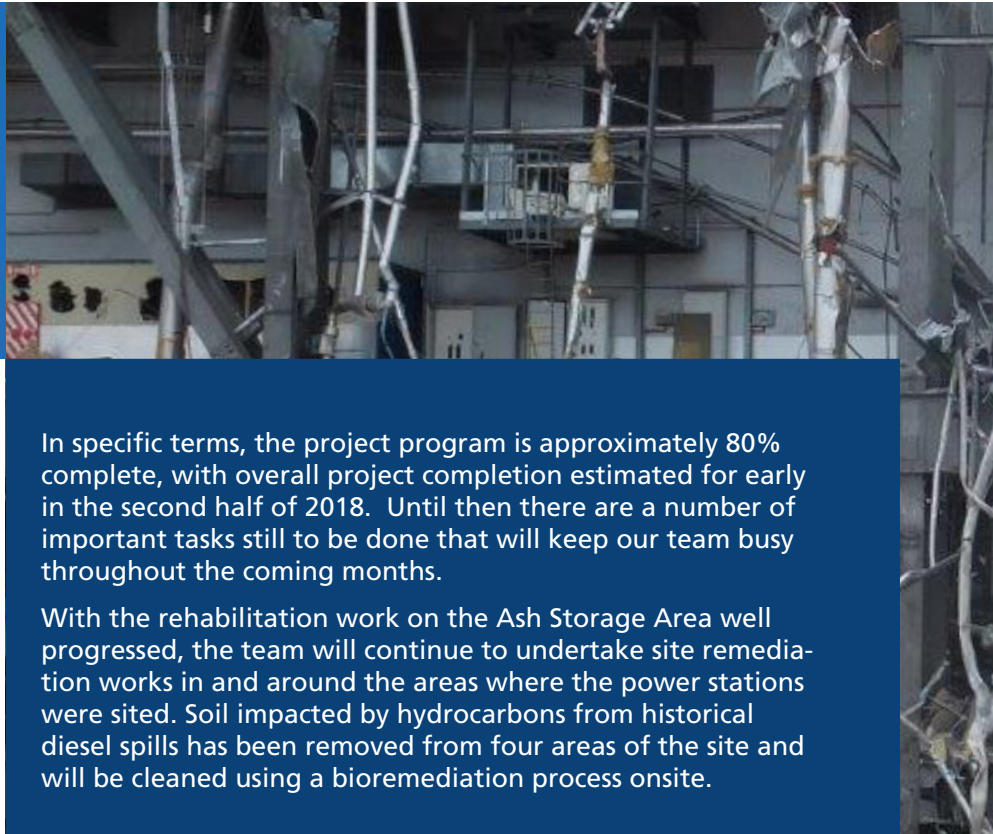
- The safe demolition of the Northern Boilers – one of the largest charge felling events ever to be undertaken in Australia.
- The completion of asbestos removal works for Playford B Power Station.

- The outer banks of the Ash Storage Area and roadways covered with soil.

The removal of asbestos from the Playford B Power Station was a significant achievement. It has been a primary focus of the team for the last 18 months and was finished on time and on budget. Safety was a critical factor throughout the entire operation and the work was successfully carried out in accordance with all regulatory requirements.

Overall, the project continues to progress well to schedule and budget delivering the required outcomes as defined in the South Australian Environment Protection Authority (EPA) approved remediation and rehabilitation strategies.

# What is the Project Status?



In specific terms, the project program is approximately 80% complete, with overall project completion estimated for early in the second half of 2018. Until then there are a number of important tasks still to be done that will keep our team busy throughout the coming months.

With the rehabilitation work on the Ash Storage Area well progressed, the team will continue to undertake site remediation works in and around the areas where the power stations were sited. Soil impacted by hydrocarbons from historical diesel spills has been removed from four areas of the site and will be cleaned using a bioremediation process onsite.



## What's Coming Up?

In the coming months, we have a number of activities planned, some of which will be visible from a distance. The following provides a list of the main activities to occur from March through to May 2018.

### MARCH 2018

#### Northern Boilers

Processing of scrap steel to continue throughout the month.

#### Steel shipment

The next shipment from Port Pirie is scheduled for 14 March 2018.

### APRIL 2018

#### Northern Central Coal Bunker

The central coal bunker on the Northern Power Station site will be charge felled in April 2018 and processed for scrap metal.

#### Playford B Baghouse and Boilers

Structures will be removed from the Playford B power station using the PC4000 and PC1250 excavators.

### MAY 2018

#### Playford B Turbine Hall

Mechanical demolition of Playford B station will continue.

#### Northern 200m stack

The Northern Power Station Stack which stands on the horizon will be felled in Mid 2018, pending approvals. This will be the final felling activity and a major milestone for our team and the community. The event will be well advertised so look out for more information in the local media about viewing locations and times.

## Site Future

Flinders Power are under obligations from the State Government and various regulatory authorities to remediate the site to an agreed standard. Flinders Power is fully funded to meet its obligations. The following steps outline this process:

- 1. Site Remediation:** Flinders Power remediate the Power Station and Ash Storage Area to the agreed standard with the regulator and lease conditions.
- 2. Sign-off:** Independent environmental auditor and State Government sign off remediation outcomes ensuring they meet agreed standards. Future monitoring and maintenance obligations will be imposed if necessary.
- 3. Land Transfer:** The power station land is transferred from State Government to Flinders Power ownership upon completion of remediation works (note that the land surrounding the power station's site is already owned by Flinders Power).
  - **Sale:** Should Flinders Power sell the site it will be to a suitable buyer who will use the site in accordance with its industrial zoning.
  - **New Owner:** Land sold to a new owner includes that owner taking responsibility for ongoing land management and any required environmental monitoring.



## Bioremediation

Bioremediation is a common practice used to treat hydrocarbon contaminated soil. The process involves encouraging the growth of micro-organisms that will over time degrade the chemicals resulting from the hydrocarbon spill.

The process is well proven to be very successful in cleaning unwanted chemicals from soils and is a practice which is endorsed and supported by the EPA.

## Scrap Steel Processing

There are also a range of other activities well underway, including the processing of the enormous Northern boilers into 600mm lengths of steel.

This has taken a lot of time since they were felled in November last year and will continue to occupy the major excavators in the coming months. Once the processing has been completed the scrap steel

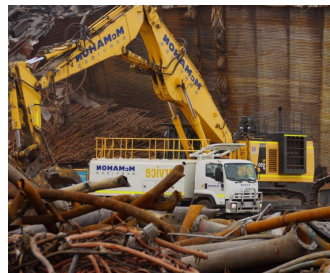
will be removed from site.

Processing of oversized steel has proven to be time consuming. Given there is further demolition yet to occur, we expect that a small crew will remain on-site to process the steel and have it removed from site after the project is largely complete later in the year.

## Safety

Safety remains our number one priority. The work on-site is complex with large, heavy machinery working often in restricted spaces. When undertaking a task, team members are required to apply the principles of SLAM: Stop – Look – Assess – Manage.

This is central to how we work and fostering a strong culture of safety is critically important.



# Ash Storage Area

Currently 220ha of the 273ha site has been successfully covered with soil. Of the 220ha, 180ha has been seeded and although patchy in areas, we are beginning to see some good germination results. Considering the long hot and very dry summer we have experienced, our independent revegetation horticulturalists are pleased with the survival rates to date and consider we should see good results throughout the forthcoming autumn/winter period.

Until the site has a good coverage of vegetation, severe weather events

and sudden and rapid changes in wind direction may raise some localised areas of red dust. We have well developed plans for monitoring the weather, preparing for events, monitoring dust levels in real-time and responding accordingly with dust suppressant techniques. All areas that presented a risk of bottom ash dust generation are now capped with soil.

Our team of dedicated locals have commenced pushing out soil at the northern end of the Ash Storage Area (ASA). This will include the 30ha 'Former ASA' and soiling the fringes of

the polishing pond. The centre of the polishing pond remains saturated therefore we are not able to cover this area of the polishing pond with soil at this time. We will continue to monitor the polishing pond and saturation levels over the coming months.

Bird Lake remains a focus of community interest. While Flinders Power does not hold primary ownership of the Bird Lake land, it does own a small portion of the lake, and is an interested stakeholder in the future plans for the site.

A report was prepared by Tonkin Engineers who made a series of recommendations about how the lake could be rehabilitated. Essentially these recommendations involve adding topsoil to the area to enable revegetation, similar to the approach we have taken on the Ash Storage Area. For the small portion of the lake which we own, we intend to remediate the area by applying topsoil in accordance with the recommendations made in the Tonkin report. This work will commence in the coming months.

# Would you like to come and have a look?

We understand that our work is of great interest to the broader Port Augusta Community and we are appreciative of the support given to

our team. Site tours are conducted regularly. We are very willing to organise a tour of the site for anyone interested in having a closer look at

what we are doing on the site. If you would like to take this opportunity, please contact us via phone or email to make a booking: **0419 252 760 or [enquiries@flinderspower.com.au](mailto:enquiries@flinderspower.com.au)**

## Community Engagement

Flinders Power is continuing to use a number of platforms to communicate with the community. These include:

### Website

Our website carries detailed information about the remediation project including wind monitoring data, project status updates and footage showing the various charge felling events

### Newsletters

Are distributed to the community on a regular basis.

### Weekly Project Updates

A weekly project update is sent out each Friday to a list of stakeholders including the EPA, the Port Augusta City Council and numerous State Government departments.

### Media Releases

A media release is issued periodically to update the media on current activities and new activities which may be coming up and which may be of interest to the broader community.

### Community Reference Group

We have also established a Community Reference Group which meets monthly. The group acts as a conduit to facilitate communications between Flinders Power and the community.

A diverse range of organisations are represented in the group. Agendas, minutes of the meetings and presentations made by Flinders Power updating the group on specific issues and activities are uploaded onto our website for broader community access.

## Stay up to date

We welcome your feedback and suggestions at any time.

We'd like to better understand how you wish to receive information. Please let us know your preference for receiving communications from us:

- Email updates
- Facebook – a dedicated Flinders Power facebook site
- SMS information direct to your mobile phone
- Community newsletter
- Website updates
- Community information sessions

It's easy - visit our website at [flinderspower.com.au](http://flinderspower.com.au), and use the Communications Register link on the top right of the home page to select your preferred way of receiving communications. Alternatively you can send us an email or give us a call.

**Email: [enquiries@flinderspower.com.au](mailto:enquiries@flinderspower.com.au)  
or Phone: 0419 252 760**