

Flinders Power Community Newsletter November 2018



Stack felling

Sadly, the iconic Northern Power Station stack cannot be retained as its condition will deteriorate with time, particularly now that the power station is no longer operational. The stack felling date has been scheduled for 8am 23 November 2018, weather permitting.

We recognise that this will be a major historic event for the community and will continue to verify the date across local media. A public viewing area will be established along Shack Road, and Flinders is currently working with emergency services to ensure safety during the event. This will be the ideal location to view the stack felling as it will fall in a south-easterly direction.



Community Engagement

Would you like a Flinders Power Manager to speak about this world-first project to your school, community club or organisation? Please contact us via the details below and we would be more than happy to arrange a session.

Flinders Power is also preparing a community tribute to recognise the outstanding contribution of the Augusta Power Stations and their employees to the community and State of South Australia for the last 70 years. We have been discussing with Council the opportunity to reclaim bricks from the felled stack to build a small tribute in a community space and to install an information placard detailing the history of the site. If you would like to share your thoughts on this concept, please contact us on the phone number or email address listed below.



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Rehabilitation update

The rehabilitation works for the Ash Storage Area (ASA) and former coal stockpile are now complete, with 100% of the area covered with borrow pit soil and seeded. This has eliminated the risk of ash and coal dust events during spring and summer. Revegetation is occurring, albeit at slower than anticipated rates due to the very dry weather experienced across the region and across the country in general. Independent ecological experts remain confident that with time and rainfall, full vegetation coverage will be achieved.

Over the past 6 months Flinders Power has commissioned a range of studies and trials to determine the best measures to prevent red topsoil dust liftoff during strong winds, without impacting on vegetation growth. This assessment was led by independent experts Tonkin Consulting with the input of vegetation experts Succession Ecology, dust suppression advisors Red Planet Innovations, agronomists Soil Management Systems and civil contractors McMahon Services Australia.

The assessment considered a range of options including a cover crop, a variety of windbreak and fencing techniques, irrigation using mains or effluent water, surface roughening techniques and mulch.

Overall, the experts agreed a sterile barley/rye corn cover crop with surface roughening and the selective use of dust suppressants (8 different suppressants were trialed in the greenhouse and out on the ASA with the top 3 selected) was the best approach.

The cover crop was sown in August 2018 with surface roughening completed concurrently. 150ha of the ASA were covered with dust suppressant Hydrobond by Spray Grass Australia in September 2018. These measures will provide protection against strong wind events, with Flinders Power retaining contingency dust suppressant and watercarts available to respond immediately over summer if conditions require it.



Demolition Project Update

Demolition is progressing to schedule and significant changes to the local landscape are now very noticeable with the demolition of Playford B Power Station. Scrap processing and transport to Port Pirie, concrete processing and the backfill of voids is currently the key focus at the site. The sixth shipment of 10,000T scrap steel recently left the Port Pirie wharf bound for an overseas steel recycling facility.

