Appin Mine Ventilation and Access Project

SOUTH32
Illawarra Metallurgical Coal

PROJECT UPDATE ELEVEN **OCTOBER 2023**

PROJECT TOUR



The Project team recently hosted a tour of IMC graduates and cadets.

The tour kicked off with an in-depth induction and site familiarisation before heading to a vantage point to view the project site. There the group were given an overview of the project and provided information on:

- Conventional shaft sink methodology
- Pre-sink and main sink activities
- Differences between the two ventilation shaft designs
- Community engagement and consultation
- Environmental factors and approval conditions, and
- Contractor management

Every year, we search for enthusiastic graduates, cadets, apprentices and students to join our team. We have opportunities across our operations in a range of disciplines, including mechanical, electrical, mining, fabrication, geotechnical, surveying, technology, process, geology and business improvement.

For further information or other opportunities with South32 please visit our Careers Page, www.south32.net/people-careers

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Shaft pre-sinking has commenced and has included mobilisation of equipment, drilling and pre-grouting, and shaft collar construction. Pre-sinking is developing the first 50m of the shaft to install the sinking stage, or working platform, which is used to work from for the balance of the shaft sinking. This includes installing the concrete collar and civil structure to carry the headgear and winders.

Two small test blasts were completed in ventilation shaft 8 (VS8) in mid-September ahead of ventilation shaft construction commencing. The purpose of the trial blasts was to conduct our due diligence and run through our procedural safety protocols. Blast monitoring results have shown that vibration and overpressure are well below the criteria set by the regulator.

Routine controlled blasting has commenced with progress in VS8 currently at a depth of about 13m. We intend to conduct a maximum of one blast per 24-hour period at each of the shafts. Blasting will initially occur between 9am and 5pm from Monday to Friday, and between 9am and 1pm on Saturdays. A blast notification board detailing the date and time of the next blast is maintained along Menangle Road.

Construction of the temporary headframe is progressing well with cladding due to be installed soon. The sinking stage (work platform) is also taking shape.

Watering over grassed areas is continuing, and tree screening activities including planting a variety of native species at the site boundary and installing an irrigation system.

In the coming weeks, quiet activities will commence outside of standard construction hours such as office work, fitting electrical supply systems, and shaft preparation activities. The activities will be undertaken and monitored in accordance with our Noise Management Plan and will carefully consider other factors like traffic movements and lighting.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- ✓ **Mobilisation of shaft sinking contractor to site**
- **Construction of shaft collars**
- **Pre-sink using mechanical excavation and controlled blasting**
- **Construction of temporary headframe**
- **Installation of sinking stage (work platform)**
- **Main sink mechanical excavation and controlled blasting**

PROJECT UPDATE

Our Principal Contractor (RUC Mining) is well advanced in the next phase of the project, including:

- Pre-sinking of the ventilation shaft requiring drilling, blasting, and mucking
- Construction of a shaft collar to hold the temporary headframe and winder
- Construction of the headframe

A video illustrating planned shaft sinking activities and controlled blasting has been produced and is available to view on our website along with other videos: Appin Mine Ventilation and Access Project (south32.net)

Approval was received for our Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) relating to these works in early 2023. The CEMP was developed in consultation with the EPA, Wollondilly Shire Council and Transport for NSW. It provides specific environmental management and monitoring measures for remaining construction works, including minimising noise, dust, and visual impacts. The Blast Management Plan is included in the CEMP and can be found on our website.



SPEND LOCAL, EMPLOY LOCAL

We're proud to be a part of the community, working together on big projects, lending a hand when needed, and supporting local business. Our Principal Shaft Sinking Contractor, RUC Mining, is also committed to supporting local businesses and communities and is forming mutually beneficial partnerships while carrying out the AVMA project.

Local company, Southern Habitat, was recently awarded the contract to tree planting and related landscaping.

Further details will be shared about upcoming employment and local business opportunities.

PROJECT DETAILS

An integral requirement of underground mining is adequate ventilation and mine access, to ensure a safe and efficient working environment for our people. This project will construct mine ventilation and access facilities at 345 Menangle Road, Menangle. This project is essential for the continuation of Appin Mine and our workforce of 1,800 employees. The mine access infrastructure will support access to the mine for some of our workforce and supplies. No coal handling infrastructure is proposed.

Scan the QR code for further details on the Project, view our CEMP, and view our construction activity sequence video.

CONTACT US

You can also follow us on Facebook to stay connected with our operations and community activities. Scan the QR code or go to Facebook and search: South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal

If you would like to speak with us about our activities, call our free Community Call Line 1800 102 210 or email illawarracommunity@south32.net