Appin Mine Ventilation and Access Project

SOUTH32
Illawarra Metallurgical Coal

PROJECT UPDATE THIRTEEN **JULY 2024**

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE





VS8 winder house

Shaft pre-sinking activities on ventilation shaft 7 (VS7) commenced in April 2024 and were completed in June. This included drilling and blasting, mucking out material, and installing temporary and permanent ground support. Pre-construction and assembly of the headframe is well advanced and is being acoustically clad. Assembly of the modules to build the headframe will commence in late July and assembly of the sinking stage (work platform has also commenced.

Meanwhile, layers of acoustic cladding have been installed onto the headframe on ventilation shaft 8 (VS8), and pre-commissioning of the winders has commenced.

VS8 main sink activities are due to begin in late 2024 with VS7 main sink activities to start later in the year. Main sink activities include routine controlled blasting to the final depth, lining the shaft with concrete, and installing services like power, ventilation, compressed air, and water.

Watering over grassed areas is continuing, and tree screening activities have started with more than 1,000 plants being planted so far.

Quiet activities are continuing out of hours such as office work, fitting electrical supply systems, security, and shaft preparation services. The activities are monitored in accordance with our Noise Management Plan and consider other factors like traffic movements and light emissions.

MENANGLE ADVISORY PANEL

The MAP was established to facilitate regular communication between the project and the local community, and comprises nine community members, Illawarra Metallurgical Coal representatives, and an Independent Chairperson. Subject matter experts relating to the project are also invited to attend where necessary.

In June, the MAP toured the site which included visits to both ventilation shafts, as well as the VS8 winder house and VS8 headframe. Earlier in May, the MAP inspected the real-time environmental monitoring equipment which aids the management of our construction activities and is used to monitor and improve our environmental performance.



The MAP recently toured the AMVA site

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- [x] VS8 pre-sink mechanical excavation and controlled blasting
- [x] VS8 installation of sinking stage (work platform)
- [x] Construction of temporary headframe
- [x] VS7 pre-sink mechanical excavation and controlled blasting
- [ ] Commissioning of winders
- [ ] VS8 main sink mechanical excavation and controlled blasting

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 Contractor is also committed to supporting local businesses and communities and is forming mutually beneficial partnerships while carrying out the AVMA project.

Local company, Global Soil Solutions, was recently awarded the contract for tree planting and associated landscaping.

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

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

PROJECT UPDATE

In May 2024, we wrote to the Department of Planning, Housing, and Infrastructure (DPHI) seeking approval to change the blasting regime for upcoming main sink activities. The proposed changes are aligned with recent interest raised by the local community for IMC to shorten the project schedule and reduce the duration of blasting impacts on the community where possible.

We proposed an alternative blasting method known as bench blasting which uses about 50 per cent of the explosive power and reduces the time between blasts but requires two blasts within a 24-hour period. We also proposed extending daily blasting hours to 7am to 10pm from Monday to Saturday, and 8am to 10pm on Sundays to facilitate bench blasting. No blasting would occur on public holidays.

In March 2024, Redpath Australia announced that it had signed a share purchase agreement to acquire RUC Mining (our Principal Contractor). Redpath and RUC have reaffirmed their commitment to ensuring there are no disruptions to operations and that current projects will continue business as usual.

Our Principal Contractor is well advanced in the next phase of the project, including:

- Headframe and sinking stage assembly for VS7
- Pre-commissioning of winders for VS8
- Main sink on VS8 (September 2024)

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: Special projects | Appin Mine Ventilation and Access | Community South32

Approval was received for our Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) relating to these works in early 2023. 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.

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.