



Dubbo Office: 2nd Floor 21 Church Street (PO Box 910) Dubbo NSW 2800 Telephone: +61 2 6862 2866 Facsimile: +61 2 6882 9282

Email: msutherland@alkane.com.au

DUBBO ZIRCONIA PROJECT (DZP)

Community Newsletter No. 6, 3 July 2012

Since our last Community Newsletter on 22 March 2012, considerable progress has been on the development of the Dubbo Zirconia Project (DZP). This newsletter outlines the key achievements over the last few months.

Project development update

- Environmental Impact Assessment
- Flora and Fauna Survey
- Soil Resource and Land Capability Assessment

Environmental Impact Assessment

A specialist team of environmental consultants contracted to Australian Zirconia Limited (AZL) is continuing its work with the DZP Environmental Impact Assessment. The team has collected significant baseline data, enabling a description of the existing environment around Toongi to be prepared. The study area (excluding rail and road corridors) has recently been expanded to approximately 3,500 hectares.

Flora and Fauna Survey

AZL and Ozark Environment and Heritage Management, are leading a flora and fauna survey of the areas around the Toongi ore body. Earlier this year, the survey team invited the Dubbo Field Naturalist and Conservation Society to join them on a field trip, where participants discovered several pink tailed worm lizards on hills in the surrounding areas. Several frog and reptile species and a marsupial mouse were also recorded.

Soil Resource and Land Capability Assessment

Sustainable Soils Management Pty Limited (SSM) has been commissioned to complete a Soils, Land Capability and Agricultural Impact Assessment of the DZP. The SSM team has deployed ground-penetrating radar across the study area to identify depth of soil cover. This assessment will review the soils in the area to determine whether they are suitable for soil-disturbing earthworks.

Registered Address: 65 Burswood Road, Burswood WA 6100, AUSTRALIA (PO Box 4384, Victoria Park WA 6979, AUSTRALIA)

Telephone: +61 8 9227 5677 Facsimile: 61 8 9227 8178

www.alkane.com.au mail@alkane.com.au



Community engagement update

- DZP Community Forum
- Toongi Community Listening Session
- Trainer Tour of Demonstration Project Plant

Alkane Resources and its wholly owned subsidiaries such as AZL are committed to working with the communities directly impacted by our projects. Unlike many mines around the world, the DZP has the unique advantage of being located right outside a major regional centre, which means that feedback and input from the Dubbo community is crucial to our development plans.

Upcoming DZP Community Consultation Forum

The team at Australian Zirconia Limited will host a community consultation forum on 10 July to provide a project overview, outline the benefits to Dubbo and facilitate discussions on environmental considerations including the proposed reactivation of the railway line between Wingewarra Street and Toongi, which will play a critical role in DZP operations, the project impact on local flora and fauna and naturally occurring radioactive material on site. The AZL staff will answer questions about the project and will explain the current freight task by both road and rail for local residents who might be impacted by rail transport movements associated with the project.

Location: Dubbo RSL theatrette

Date: 10 July

Time: 7.00pm

Toongi Community Listening Session

Earlier this year, a 'listening session' was convened at the Toongi Hall. Australian Zirconia Limited invited socio-economic consultant Diana Gibbs to address the potential community impacts of the proposed DZP. The ideas and concerns of local residents that were raised at this session will be taken into consideration in the final design of the project.

Trainer Tour of Demonstration Pilot Plant

In late June, a group of trainers and teachers from the Dubbo region attended a tour of the DZP pilot plant at the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO) just outside Sydney. The touring party was given a firsthand look at the facilities that are part of the DZP proposal in Toongi.

The purpose of the visit was to provide educators with an opportunity to understand the process and skills that will eventually be required at Toongi. Students at local schools have opportunities to become part of the 230 plus workforce that will be required at the mine and adjoining mineral processing facility.

If you have a friend, neighbour or colleague who might be interested in this newsletter, contact Mike Sutherland to be added to our community consultation database.

Mike Sutherland
General Manager NSW
Alkane Resources Ltd
2nd Floor 21 Church Street
DUBBO NSW 2830

Ph 0427 691 733
msutherland@alkane.com.au