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Dubbo Project (DP) Community Newsletter

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Project update

The Dubbo Project is ready for the first stage of construction (detailed engineering design and early works), but waiting for financing. Customers have not yet committed to the contracts that institutional lenders want to see before funding a project of this kind. The Alkane team is busy negotiating with customers, while educating potential investors about the excellent, long-term value of this special project. Meanwhile, global prices for the Dubbo Project's products are rising rapidly.

New Chair for Community Consultative Committee (CCC)

On 16 February 2018, NSW Planning and Environment appointed an independent Chairperson to replace Peter Stanford, who has moved away from Dubbo.

Michael Silver has had 44 years' experience in Gunnedah's local government authorities, most recently as Planning and Environment Director with Gunnedah Shire Council. Michael now runs his own community planning and project management consultancy. He is currently the independent Chair of the Western Slopes Pipeline CCC and was previously Gunnedah Council's representative on the Watermark Coal Project and Caroon Coal Project CCCs. His experience with highly sensitive community issues has him well placed to address concerns and negotiate acceptable outcomes for all parties.

Contacting Us

Subscribe to our Community Newsletters and find out more information about Alkane Resources and the Dubbo Project on our website:

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Obley Road upgrade survey

The upgrade of the Obley Road is on the early works schedule for project construction. ASM has engaged local contractors to survey the tighter bends along the Obley Road, to help the engineers re-design the road to 110km/hr standard. The speed limit will be 100km/hr, but government guidelines require a 10% safety margin. Dubbo Regional Council must approve the design before the road construction project can be released for tender.



Mark Duffus (Langford and Rowe) surveying Obley Road, October 2017

Karingle basalt quarry definition/geotechnical drilling

ASM intends to source basalt from a small quarry at Karingle for on-site construction materials: sheeting for roads and hard-stand areas, aggregate for concrete, stemming for blasting, and lining for drains. The basalt quarry is within the footprint of the mine waste rock emplacement and will be back-filled when no longer required. A small drill rig established that the basalt is good quality and at least 20m thick in places.



Macquarie Geotech sampling the karingle basalt, August 2017

Biodiversity Offset Fencing

ASM has commenced fencing the biodiversity offset areas from the farmland operated by Toongi Pastoral Company. Approximately 34km of Westonfence™ (up to seven non-barbed wires, including three electrified) will be installed over the next 14 months. Grassy Box Gum Woodland will naturally regenerate as livestock is excluded from areas previously cleared for cultivation and pasture.



Fence Pro Rural Contractors Clayton and Lachie fixing end assemblies at Toongi Valley



Toongi Pastoral Company cows, heifers and calves: a mob of 700 in a fresh paddock on Gandale, February 2018

Toongi Pastoral Company (TPC)

TPC has experienced challenging, 'rollercoaster' weather conditions over the past 12 months, with a cumulative total of 369mm rain at time of writing. Forced fallows due to a lack of sowing rains in spring provided an opportunity to sow summer forage.

Three timely rainfall events in November-December allowed sorghum and millet to establish into highly productive fodder crops for agisted cattle and TPC's 1,000 first-cross lambs. A modest harvest occurred in early December after most of the wheat and



450 TPC first-cross ewes yarded before weighing for sale via Auctionsplus, 14 February 2018



Contract harvester stripping wheat in Corner Paddock Wychitella, December 2017

barley crops were eaten off. The wheat, grown on 50mm of in-crop rain, produced 13% protein and 1% screenings.

TPC water supply upgrade

TPC has installed 30 troughs and 32km of 63mm Polypipe to reticulate water to new tanks. Water is supplied from three bores on Ugothery, Toongi Valley and Pacific Hill, to 99 paddocks. Improved water supply and quality will make more productive use of the available pastures.



Toongi Pastoral Company Farm Manager Fergus Job amongst sorghum, Toongi Valley, December 2017