

Dubbo Project Community Newsletter

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PROJECT PROGRESS

Federal Government awards Dubbo Project \$5M for REOA work

The Dubbo Project was in the spotlight recently when Minister for Resources, the Hon Madeleine King MP awarded the project \$5 million under the Federal Government's International Partnerships in Critical Minerals (IPCM) Program.

The grant funding will be matched by ASM and used to support work to identify potential lower capital and shorter implementation pathways to rare earth production at the Dubbo Project. We are calling this program of work the Rare Earth Options Assessment (REOA) and it will be undertaken as a precursor to Front-End Engineering Design (FEED) services.

The REOA will involve engineering, sampling, metallurgical testing and a pilot program at our pilot facility located at ANSTO's Lucas Heights facility in Sydney. ASM will be working with international partners DRA Global and Stantec, as well as local service providers Mining One and Core Resources to deliver the program.

If the REOA establishes alternative, capital efficient and nearer term options for producing rare earths, this will enable a more focused completion of the FEED work and a pathway to final investment design on the Dubbo Project. Minister King visited the Dubbo Project to announce the grant award and was joined by Federal Member for Parkes, the Hon Mark Coulton MP.



From left to right: Mark Coulton MP, Madeleine King MP, ASM COO Chris Jordaan



Fergus Job, General Manager Farming at Toongi Pastoral Company took Minister King and Minister Coulton on a tour of the Dubbo Project site.



Core drilling and sampling work conducted as part of the REOA activities.

Teaming up with Australian Soil Management

With the Toongi Soil Carbon Project now formally registered with the Clean Energy Regulator, we're progressing our monitoring and reporting activities by working with Australian Soil Management.

The Toongi Soil Carbon Project aims to adopt new practices and technologies to store carbon in the ground to generate Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCUs). One ACCU represents one tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO₂-e) that would have otherwise been released into the atmosphere. We're teaming up with Australian Soil Management to support us on this journey and we were recently joined by Dr. Aurelie Quade, Northern NSW Regional Manager, who conducted some early-stage monitoring to better understand the project and opportunity.

For more information on this and our continued commitment to delivering innovative biodiversity outcomes, [check out our 2024 Annual Report](#).



Fergus Job and Dr Aurelie Quade take a soil sample at the Dubbo Project.

Cultural healing on Toongi

Wiradjuri elder Peter Peckham recently welcomed another proud Wiradjuri man, Jeffrey Amatto, onto Country at Toongi. Jeffrey is the award-winning founder of the Yindymarra Men's Healing Group, 'More Cultural Rehabs, Less Jails', and brought a number of participants to learn more about the work and initiatives taking place on the farmland surrounding the Dubbo Project.

The visit was part of the group's cultural healing activities and provided the opportunity for Jeffrey and the group to engage with Peter and the Toongi Pastoral Company (TPC) team and explore opportunities to collaborate into the future.

Peter led the group in a traditional smoking ceremony, while TPC's General Manager Farming, Fergus Job, showed the locations of the indigenous heritage sites, including grinding grooves (used to shape tools and spears) and gnamma holes (manmade water holes in rock replenished from rainwater run-off) that ASM is committed to protecting. The group also learned about the ongoing work to translocate the Pink-tailed Worm-lizard into environmentally protected areas of the property.



Left: Conducting a traditional smoking ceremony. Right: Visiting indigenous heritage sites around the Dubbo Project.

Supporting the REIIF

ASM and subsidiary Toongi Pastoral Company were pleased to support the third Resources, Energy & Industry Innovation Forum (REIIF) in Dubbo.

The REIIF brings together industry leaders, regional stakeholders and investors to discuss the future of resources, mining technologies, renewable energy innovation, world-class industry practice, and future skills and opportunities for the Orana and Central West regions of NSW. The Forum was developed in partnership with Regional Development Australia (RDA) Orana and the Association of Mining and Energy Related Councils (MERC) NSW.



Left: Phil Thompson discusses Native Secrets, producers of skincare, health and wellbeing products. Right: Fergus Job talks to delegates about the biodiversity and the role of perennial grasses in the work conducted by Toongi Pastoral Company.

Nationals visit Dubbo Project

Nationals leader the Hon David Littleproud MP and pre-selected Nationals candidate for Parkes (Federal Electorate), Jamie Chaffey, recently visited the Dubbo Project to meet with the team and learn more about what the project will mean for the region.

Mr Chaffey will contest the seat of Parkes at the next federal election, following the retirement of the current Member, the Hon Mark Coulton MP.

"It was a pleasure to welcome David and Jamie to Toongi and talk them through the opportunities that the Dubbo Project will bring to the division of Parkes, as well as showcase the innovative biodiversity work we are undertaking through the Toongi Pastoral Company," said Fergus Job, TPC's General Manager Farming.

The Dubbo Project mine and processing plant will create up to 270 local jobs when operational, while farming operations at TPC will continue to drive many of the sustainability initiatives that will support our goal of the Dubbo Project being carbon net zero by 2050.



From left: Fergus Job, Jamie Chaffey and David Littleproud.

Macquarie Agricultural Pathways Program

Now in its third year, the Macquarie Agricultural Pathways Program (MAPP) is going from strength to strength. The Program is led by Macquarie Anglican Grammar School teachers and supported by Toongi Pastoral Company (TPC).

Through MAPP, students have the opportunity to visit the farmland at the Dubbo Project managed by TPC and get hands on learning experiences related to real world farming activities, with a focus on maths and science in the real world.

Each year, Year 8 participants undertake a major science project that explores an area of personal interest. The projects are currently underway and this year include: researching ways to increase ewe ovulation rate; identifying and classifying plants; calendar of operation for managing livestock; researching ways to repair gully erosion; and constructing an inventory of machinery and recommending a replacement schedule.



Left: MAPP students locating paddocks on property map for pasture inspection. Centre and right: Students identifying plants and weeds in the pasture paddocks.

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Critical Minerals.
High-tech Metals.



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