

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

IFL is committed to consulting with the community and stakeholders about the remediation project. When completed, the draft environmental assessment will be placed on public display so that stakeholders and the local community have an opportunity to make a submission on the project and put forward their views.

All submissions received from the public will be carefully considered before the

environmental assessment is finalised and submitted to the NSW Department of Planning for assessment.

IFL will keep the community updated on the project through regular project newsletters. IFL welcomes your feedback and you are encouraged to contact IFL's project representative, Jane Deane, on (02) 9248 9800 with any inquiries about the project.



Items of local heritage significance, such as this wooden gantry, will be recorded and photographed to capture the significance of the site's history to the local area.

Further information:

For further information about this project please contact IFL's project representative, Jane Deane, on (02) 9248 9800 or email jdeane@manidisroberts.com.au.

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COCKLE CREEK UPDATE

Community newsletter

October 2008

Clean-up planned for Cockle Creek industrial site

Incitec Fertilizers Limited (IFL), a wholly owned subsidiary of Incitec Pivot Limited (IPL), has announced plans to clean up its site at Cockle Creek to improve the environment and provide for a range of future land-use options. This newsletter is the first of a series to help keep the community up to date with this remediation project.

HISTORY OF THE SITE

IFL's Cockle Creek site is located in Boolaroo within the Lake Macquarie council area. It is situated east of the former Pasminco Cockle Creek zinc and lead smelter and is surrounded by land that is used for industrial and residential purposes.

The site has been used by heavy industry since 1890 and was originally established by a London-registered company known as

the Sulphide Corporation. In 1913 the Sulphide Corporation commissioned a superphosphate plant on site to utilise the by-products of the neighbouring zinc and lead smelting facility.

IFL has owned and operated the Cockle Creek superphosphate plant since 1969 and currently uses the site for the manufacture and distribution of agricultural fertilisers.



IFL's Cockle Creek site is currently used for the manufacture and distribution of agricultural fertilisers

COCKLE CREEK REMEDATION PROJECT

Environmental studies undertaken by IFL have found that the heavy industrial use of the Cockle Creek site over the past century has contributed to the contamination of soil and groundwater. IFL has announced plans to clean up the site to improve the environmental quality of the land for a range of future land-use options.

It is proposed that the remediation project be completed in two stages. The first stage of works involves the removal of some heritage items and the short-term treatment of some groundwater in a localised area. The second stage of works involves the demolition of existing buildings, the remediation of soil and the construction of a purpose-built cell to contain the contaminated soil.

The manufacture of fertiliser at the Cockle Creek site is expected to stop by September 2009 to allow the proposed demolition and remediation project to be completed. When the plant closes, IFL will maintain fertiliser supplies to NSW farmers through the temporary use of the site for distribution while the remediation works get under way. Fertiliser will also continue to be despatched from IFL's distribution centres at Kooragang Island and Port Kembla.

PLANNING THE COCKLE CREEK REMEDATION PROJECT

IFL is currently planning the works involved in the remediation project. An environmental assessment is being prepared for each stage of the project under Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act.

The environmental assessment will evaluate the potential impacts of the remediation project on the environment and local community. This includes looking at issues such as noise and visual impacts, heritage, air quality and water management.

The environmental assessment will also recommend ways to minimise and manage these potential impacts. Stakeholders and the community will have an opportunity to make comment on the environmental assessment before it is finalised.



Incitec Fertilizers Limited Cockle Creek site

QUICK FACTS ABOUT THE COCKLE CREEK REMEDIATION PROJECT

- ✿ IFL has announced plans to clean up the Cockle Creek site to improve the environmental quality of the land for a range of future land use options.
- ✿ IFL is committed to consulting with the community and stakeholders about the remediation project.
- ✿ IFL proposes that the remediation of the project be completed in two stages.
- ✿ IFL is preparing an Environmental Assessment to evaluate the potential impacts of the project and to recommend ways that they can be minimised and managed.
- ✿ Fertiliser manufacturing on the site is expected to cease by September 2009, with only distribution activities to continue for a limited time, to allow demolition and remediation works to be completed.