

ALCOA WORLD ALUMINA AUSTRALIA AND WORSLEY ALUMINA PTY LTD - STATISTICS

4781. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for State Development

I refer to the mining activities, rehabilitation activities and residue disposal areas of Alcoa World Alumina and Worsley Alumina Pty Ltd. For each of Alcoa World Alumina and Worsley Pty Ltd -

- (1) How many hectares are currently mined for bauxite each year?
- (2) How many hectares will be mined each year when the company expands to its fully approved rate of production?
- (3) What is the total area mined to date?
- (4) How many hectares have been rehabilitated to date?
- (5) How much of the total area mined required was native forest?
- (6) How much of this area has been rehabilitated with jarrah forest species?
- (7) What is the current annual production of -
  - (a) bauxite; and
  - (b) alumina?
- (8) What will be the annual production of -
  - (a) bauxite; and
  - (b) alumina?
- (9) When the company expands to its full approved rate of production -
  - (a) how many hectares are currently used as residue disposal areas each year;
  - (b) how many hectares will be used as residue disposal areas when the company expands to its full allowable rate of production;
  - (c) what is the total area of residue disposal areas;
  - (d) how much residue is currently produced each year;
  - (e) how much residue will be produced each year when the company expands to its full approved rate of production;
  - (f) what is the total amount of residue produced to date; and
  - (g) for how much longer does its mining lease extend?

Hon KATE DOUST replied:

- (1) Alcoa - Approximately 600 hectares ("ha") are cleared each year.  
Worsley - Approximately 180 ha are cleared each year.
- (2) Alcoa - Approximately 750 ha will be cleared each year if the Wagerup expansion proceeds.  
Worsley - The annual area cleared or disturbed (e.g. pasture) for bauxite mining is anticipated to increase to an average of 240 ha per year if the company commits to its approved expansion capacity.
- (3) Alcoa - 15,900 hectares have been cleared so far. Most of this area has been, or will be, mined but some was cleared for infrastructure, such as conveyor alignments, haul roads, workshops and offices.  
Worsley - A total of 2625 ha have been mined to date.
- (4) Alcoa - 13,200 ha to the end of 2006. That is, 83% of the area disturbed for mining over the last 40 years has already been rehabilitated  
Worsley - A total of 1651 ha have been rehabilitated to date. The remaining disturbed area is made up of clearing for infrastructure, haul roads and service roads, pits under development, active mining pits and areas under rehabilitation earthworks.
- (5) Alcoa - All of it.

Worsley - A total of 2280 ha of native forest (Crown land) has been cleared to date. The remainder of the land disturbed was either pasture or remnant bush on private property (393 ha projected to end of FY 2007).

- (6) Alcoa - Non-native eucalypt species were used up until 1988 in accordance with prescriptions agreed with State Government agencies. Only jarrah forest species have been used in rehabilitation since 1988. Approximately 4000 ha of rehabilitation were completed up to 1988 and 9200 ha since.

Worsley - A total of 1410 ha of crown land has been rehabilitated to date with jarrah forest species. The early rehabilitation (1986-1990) included jarrah, marri and some Eastern States eucalypt tree species. The individual tree seedlings from these Eastern States eucalypt tree species have since been identified and removed from the rehabilitation.

- (7) (a) Alcoa - 32 million tonnes.  
Worsley - 12.8 million tonnes.
- (b) Alcoa - 9 million tonnes.  
Worsley - 3.45 million tonnes.
- (8) If approved capacity expansions proceed:
- (a) Alcoa - 39 million tonnes.  
Worsley - 16.5 million tonnes.
- (b) Alcoa - 11 million tonnes.  
Worsley - 4.4 million tonnes.
- (9) (a) Alcoa - 635 ha.  
Worsley - 493 ha.
- (b) Alcoa - 698 ha.  
Worsley - 561 ha.
- (c) Alcoa - 1179 ha (across three refinery sites in WA).  
Worsley - 561 ha.
- (d) Alcoa - 16.5 million dry tonnes  
Worsley - 7.3 million dry tonnes
- (e) Alcoa - 22 million dry tonnes  
Worsley - 9.2 million dry tonnes
- (f) Alcoa - 365 million dry tonnes  
Worsley - 95 million dry tonnes
- (g) Alcoa - The lease currently expires in 2045 but an option exists for Alcoa to apply to extend the lease for at least another 21 years.
- Worsley - Potentially, the Crown leases (for mining, alumina production and residue storage) will extend for another 39 years (to 2046).