



Penrice Soda Products Pty Ltd

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NEWS

• RELEASE •

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ANGASTON MINE OWNER HOSTS S.A. POLITICIAN ON TOUR OF OPERATIONS

The owner of the Angaston mine welcomes public scrutiny of its operations, and will continue to “reach out” to the local community as it works to improve its social and environmental performance.

That was the message conveyed by Penrice Soda Holdings to Australian Democrats MLC, Mr David Winderlich, when he toured the mine last week at the invitation of the company.

The tour followed concerns voiced by Mr Winderlich on behalf of mine neighbours regarding the levels of fugitive dust leaving the mine site.

Mr Winderlich was given an extensive briefing of the mine’s operations, followed by a tour of the site, by Penrice Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer and, Mr Guy Roberts, and Mine General Manager, Mr Mike Carter.

“What was made very clear at the meeting was that both parties have the interests of the local community at heart, and for that reason alone, I believe the meeting was very beneficial,” Mr Roberts said.

“It gave us an opportunity to hear Mr Winderlich voice his concerns about the mine directly to us, and it gave us an opportunity to show Mr Winderlich first hand the actions underway and the plans to improve our environmental footprint at the mine,” he said.

“I think both parties are now better informed about each other’s views than they were previously.

“Throughout this process, Penrice has maintained its pledge to be open and accountable in everything we do at the mine.



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“We acknowledge the community’s right to know what is happening at the site, which is one of the reasons we voluntarily established the Penrice Community Consultative Group last year.

“We will continue to reach out to the local community and to invite detailed scrutiny of our operations.”

Mr Roberts said the Company had also taken the opportunity to brief Mr Winderlich on a comprehensive Environment Improvement Program (EIP) for dust management and monitoring, which will be incorporated into the Company’s Environmental Licence for the mine, and rolled out later this month.

“We are getting on with the job of reducing dust,” he said.

Reducing the levels of fugitive dust and noise that leave the Angaston mine is top of the list of physical objectives for Penrice’s EIP.

To achieve this key community objective, key elements of the program include:

- Streamlining crushing operations with the closure of two mobile crushing units (**implemented**);
- Closure of fine mill plant (**May 2009**);
- Minimising dust creating activities in the mine in high wind conditions (**implemented**);
- Improved water spraying of train and trucks leaving mine (**implemented**);
- Improved tarping of truckloads leaving site (**implemented**);
- Staff training to create better awareness and use of dust minimisation techniques (**implemented**);
- Trialing of dust suppressant additives to water spraying (**implemented**);
- More regular and improved sweeping of drag out from mine (**April 2009**);
- Treatment of stockpiles with a green dust suppressant covering (**April 2009**), and;
- Automated water spraying of trucks entering Primary Crusher area to unload (**July 2009**).

Other longer-term initiatives involving large capital expenditures being investigated by Penrice include:

- Dust extraction systems on all crushing and crusher transfer points;
- Enclosing conveyor belts;
- New crushing plant for glass grade limestone;
- Automating the stockpile conveyor belt to better accommodate the varying heights of the product, and;
- Installation of large storage bins at the aggregate plant.

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