

Date	Wednesday 16 March 2005	Project Number	335588
Project	BlueScope Steel EIAs		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No. 5 Blast Furnace Reline Proposal • Pickle Line Cold Mill Upgrade Proposal • Sinter Plant Upgrade Proposal 		
Location	Visitors Centre – Port Kembla Steelworks	Start time	17:30
		Finish time	18:30
Purpose of Meeting	To brief members of the community on the capital investment proposals BlueScope Steel is currently evaluating in the Port Kembla Steelworks Region		
Present at Meeting			
	Name	Organisation	Suburb
	Debra Murphy	AI Group	
	Mike Archer	BSL	
	Robyn Bignell	BSL	
	Sandy Galos	BSL	
	Darryle Lathlean	BSL	
	Tom O'Toole	BSL	Wollongong
	Dugal McFarlane	CH2MHILL	Sydney
	Marie Orbeta	Hatch	Wollongong
	Richard Bufill	ICR	
	Emilio Luna	TRC	
	Darren Sawyer	K.L. Products	Unanderra
	Barry Peden		Mt. Keira
Items Discussed			
1	BlueScope Steel presented the following information on potential developments at Port Kembla Steelworks:		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Context of BlueScope Steel in the region; • Purpose of the consultation; • BlueScope Steel's operations and service locations; • Details regarding Port Kembla Steelworks; 		

- Possible developments at Port Kembla Steelworks and (approximate dates of implementation) including the Hot Strip Mill (approved 2007), No. 5 Blast Furnace Reline (2008), Pickle Line/Cold Mill Upgrade (2007), Sinter Plant Upgrade (2008) and Co-generation Plant (2008-09);
 - Regional employment implications of the proposed projects;
 - Approvals processes for projects including NSW environmental planning, involvement of Wollongong City Council, DEC and DIPNR, and approval requirements of the BlueScope Steel Board;
 - Technical descriptions of the existing arrangements and possible development proposals for No. 5 Blast Furnace Reline Project, Sinter Plant and Pickle Line Cold Mill;
 - Critical considerations in the planning of projects including long lead times for equipment procurements and labour resource implications;
 - BlueScope Steels' impact on the Illawarra economy.
- 2 The floor was opened for general discussion and the attendees were invited to ask questions regarding the material presented. The matters discussed are captured below:
- 3 Following question time, the attendees were thanked for their interest and attendance and the meeting was concluded at approximately 18:30.

Item	Matters Discussed	Action
1	Thanks were expressed (Barry) for the initiative to explain the proposed works to members of the community.	
2	<p>A question was asked (Emilio from TRC) regarding if there was a link between the Hot Strip Mill Project (HSM) and the work on the Pickle Line Cold Mill (PLCM), particularly with respect to the local labour requirements.</p> <p>BSL (Sandy Galos and Darryle Lathlean) responded that there would be conversion of capacity balanced between the HSM and PLCM as no additional iron/steel producing capacity was anticipated. Consequently, the HSM and PLCM would alter the levels of production from each location accordingly.</p> <p>BSL explained that an opportunity existed to make modifications to downstream process parts of the steelworks when upstream feed processes were offline in planned shutdowns. Every effort would be made to capitalise on these windows and thereby minimise loss of production from the steelworks.</p> <p>BSL recognise however that such shutdowns and upgrades will have heavy demands on labour and recognise that the local skilled workforce will provide in the order of one third to one half of this requirement, necessitating the import of labour from outside the Illawarra region. BSL is also mindful that it will be key to the ongoing success of the steelworks to maintain the routine maintenance of other plant and equipment across the steelworks throughout the process.</p>	

3	<p>Follow-up question to the above was whether construction phase of all three projects, the Blast Furnace 5, Sinter Plant and Pickle Line Cold Mill Upgrade would occur at the same time.</p> <p>BSL (Darryle Lathlean) indicated that the maintenance of the No. 5 Furnace would probably have some overlapping period with the Sinter Plant. While the No. 5 Blast Furnace is being relined, the Sinter Plant will still need to supply materials to No. 6 Blast Furnace, but some maintenance work will have to be done to the Sinter Plant during this period.</p> <p>It was also added (Sandy Galos) that for the Pickle Line and Cold Mill Upgrade, they are looking to the replacement of the pickle tanks within the year.</p>	
4	<p>A question (Barry) was asked whether the No. 5 Blast Furnace reline needs to be done.</p> <p>BSL (Darryle Lathlean) responded that the No. 5 Blast furnace is scheduled to have completed its campaign in 2006. Whilst the exact point of when the furnace will be taken offline can be determined much closer to the time, BSL want to control and manage the process proactively rather than waiting to respond to a critical failure in the furnace that may cause safety and environmental problems, and would cause avoidable financial loss to the steelworks. Consequently BSL are drawing a 'line in the sand' around which the relining can be effectively planned. The current date is for 2007.</p> <p>Long lead times in the procurement of furnace refractory that must be obtained from overseas also play a key part in planning the life and shutdown and reline of the furnace.</p> <p>BSL also noted that when No. 5 Blast Furnace is off-line for the relining process, the demand on the sinter plant which provides feed for the two blast furnaces at the Port Kembla Steelworks will be reduced and consequently the opportunity may be taken to upgrade the Sinter Plant at this time.</p>	
5	<p>A question was asked by TRC (Emilio) regarding how the projects would be delivered.</p> <p>BSL responded (Sandy Galos and Darryle Lathlean) that the delivery mechanism was not yet fully determined as BSL Board approval for the projects was yet to be obtained. However, it is anticipated that combined contracts would be let. The largest concern regarding this at present is in relation to enlisting appropriate prospective construction contractors, particularly obtaining the right combination of safety attitude and skills. To fulfil this need BSL are presently looking at major construction entities and consortia with a view to these taking on board smaller specialist sub-contractors.</p>	
6	<p>A suggestion was put forth by AI Group (Debra) of AI Group, that a presentation be made to the contractor community to make them aware of the BSL's needs, so as to allow them to plan ahead to assist BSL in meeting these needs.</p> <p>BSL indicated that they have thought about this and are seriously considering action on this matter.</p>	
7	<p>A further question was asked by AI Group (Debra) if BSL has considered whether the shutdowns would coincide with Wollongong Tourism activities (e.g. Viva la gong in September), which may lead to a lack of accommodation in the region.</p> <p>BSL has indicated it has not taken that under consideration but will now certainly consider talking to Wollongong Tourism about it.</p>	

Date	Tuesday 22 March 2005	Project Number	335588
Project	BlueScope Steel SEEs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No.5 Blast Furnace Reline Proposal; • Pickle Line Cold Mill Upgrade Proposal; and • Sinter Plant Upgrade Proposal. 		
Location	Illawarra Yacht Club	Start time	1930
		Finish time	2030
Purpose of Meeting	During the regular WCC Neighbourhood Committee No.9 meeting, several representatives of BlueScope Steel provided a brief presentation of the potential capital investment proposals it is currently evaluating for the Port Kembla Steelworks.		
Present at Meeting	A total of 10 community representatives were present at the meeting. Minutes of the committee meeting will be forwarded by the Secretariat.		
Items Discussed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> BlueScope Steel presented the following information on potential developments at Port Kembla Steelworks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Context of BlueScope Steel in the region; • Purpose of the consultation; • BlueScope Steel's operations and service locations; • Details regarding Port Kembla Steelworks; • Possible developments at Port Kembla Steelworks and (approximate dates of implementation) including the Hot Strip Mill (approved 2007), No. 5 Blast Furnace Reline (2008), Pickle Line/Cold Mill Upgrade (2007), Sinter Plant Upgrade (2008) and Co-generation Plant (2008-09); • Regional employment implications of the proposed projects; • Approvals processes for projects including NSW environmental planning, involvement of Wollongong City Council, DEC and DIPNR, and approval requirements of the BlueScope Steel Board; • Technical descriptions of the existing arrangements and possible development proposals for No.5 Blast Furnace Reline Project, Sinter Plant and Pickle Line Cold Mill; • Critical considerations in the planning of projects including long lead times for equipment procurements and labour resource implications; and • BlueScope Steel's impact on the Illawarra economy. The floor was opened for general discussion and the attendees were invited to ask questions regarding the material presented. The matters discussed are captured below: The discussion concluded at 2030 and the BlueScope Steel group departed to allow the Neighbourhood Committee to continue with their regular meeting. 		

Item	Matters Discussed	Action
1	<p>A question was asked regarding the use of recycled water for quenching operations.</p> <p>BlueScope Steel confirmed that recycled water would be utilised for this operation.</p>	
2	<p>A question was asked regarding whether a 20% increase in production at the Sinter Plant would result in a 20% increase in pollution emitted.</p> <p>In response, it was stated that this would not occur, as the SMERP would continue to meet the volume limits. The increase in production would mainly be achieved by improving the efficiency of the process.</p>	
3	<p>A question was asked regarding the use or disposal methods for the material removed from No.5 Blast Furnace.</p> <p>In response, it was stated that the skull (iron components) would be recycled within the steelmaking process, the carbon based bricks (from the refractory) would be crushed, screened and the potential for re-use at the Sinter Plant investigated, and that the other materials would be thoroughly processed then stockpiled in the Recycling Area for recycling.</p>	
4	<p>A question was raised concerning the process of reducing thickness at Cold Mill, and if this thickness can be varied.</p> <p>In response, the reduction process was compared to the use of a visor/clamp in exerting force to reduce the strip's thickness. It was also confirmed that the rolls could be set to allow varying thickness of outputs.</p>	
5	<p>A question was raised concerning the oily waste and whether these are discharged into the stack.</p> <p>In response it was stated that oils are captured by mist eliminators prior to discharge to the stack. These oils are recycled back into the steelworks.</p>	
6	<p>A follow-up question to the above was that people in Primbee have found black oily substances in their windows and wondered whether this could be attributed to the Cold Mill emission.</p> <p>It was stated that the stack sampling results conducted for the Cold Mill show that the emissions are within the prescribed limits.</p>	
7	<p>A question was raised concerning the presence or absence of asbestos in refractory bricks of the No.5 Blast Furnace.</p> <p>In response, it was stated that there is no asbestos in the bricks. Additionally, the majority of asbestos at the No.5 Blast Furnace was removed in 1991. BlueScope Steel has identified that the Stave has minimal asbestos. The importance of knowing exactly which contain asbestos is that the proper precautions and procedures will be undertaken to handle them.</p>	
8	<p>It was observed that BlueScope Steel's apprenticeship proportion of the total Steelworks workforce is quite low and was asked if apprenticeship intakes would increase as a result of the upgrade works.</p> <p>BlueScope Steel acknowledged that it is low compared to 10-12 years ago. However, the number of apprenticeships and cadetships has ramped up over the last few years. Last year there were about 50 new places accepted by BlueScope Steel and their alliance partners, and this year there will be around 60.</p>	

Item	Matters Discussed	Action
9	It was questioned if coal mining would continue for the next 50 years. In response it was stated that BlueScope Steel has a 30-year contract with BHPB to supply local coal.	

Date	Wednesday 6 April 2005	Project Number	335588
Project	BlueScope Steel SEEs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No.5 Blast Furnace Reline Proposal; Pickle Line Cold Mill Upgrade Proposal; and Sinter Plant Upgrade Proposal. 		
Location	Lindenfels, BlueScope Steel	Start time	1800
		Finish time	1930
Purpose of Meeting	To brief BlueScope Steel Community Consultative Committee on the capital investment proposals BlueScope Steel is currently evaluating in the Port Kembla Steelworks Region		
Present at Meeting			
	Name	Organisation/ Representation	Suburb
	Deborah Murphy	AIG	
	Bill Wessell	Consultant/Rotary	
	Des Davis	Theatre South/ University of Wollongong	
	Canio Ferravanti	University of Wollongong	
	Marion Lacey	Cringila Public School	
Items Discussed			
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Context of BlueScope Steel in the region; 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purpose of the consultation; 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BlueScope Steel's operations and service locations; 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Details regarding Port Kembla Steelworks; 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible developments at Port Kembla Steelworks and (approximate dates of implementation) including the Hot Strip Mill (approved 2007), No.5 Blast Furnace Reline (2008), Pickle Line/Cold Mill Upgrade (2007), Sinter Plant Upgrade (2008) and Co-generation Plant (2008-09); 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional employment implications of the proposed projects; 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approvals processes for projects including NSW environmental planning, involvement of Wollongong City Council, DEC and DIPNR, and approval requirements of the BlueScope Steel Board; 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technical descriptions of the existing arrangements and possible development proposals for No.5 Blast Furnace Reline Project, Sinter Plant and Pickle Line Cold Mill; 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Critical considerations in the planning of projects including long lead times for equipment procurements and labour resource implications; 		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BlueScope Steels' impact on the Illawarra economy.
2 The floor was opened for general discussion and the attendees were invited to ask questions regarding the material presented. The matters discussed are captured below:
3 The discussion concluded at approximately 1930 and the BlueScope Steel group departed to allow the Community Consultative Committee to continue with their meeting.

Item	Matters Discussed	Action
1	<p>A question was asked whether two types of oil will be used for the Cold Mill since aside from coils for tin plating, CRFH will be produced.</p> <p>BlueScope Steel responded that the new synthetic oil to be utilized will be suitable for both products.</p>	
2	<p>A comment was given about the project acceptable so long as noise and odour impacts are addressed.</p>	
3	<p>A question was asked regarding blast impacts on health, its intensity as compared to No.4 Blast Furnace and advertising of the blasting activities.</p> <p>No.4 Blast Furnace is currently being demolished. Blasting has been undertaken and monitored, with daytime measurements indicating that noise and vibration impacts are within acceptable limits. Same contractor will likely be used for the No.5 Blast Furnace.</p> <p>Noise and vibration impacts will also be monitored for No.5 Blast Furnace for the first few blasts. The proposed schedule has also taken into account that blasting should only be done during the day. Scheduled blasting activities will also be locally advertised.</p> <p>It was noted that multilingual advertising would be required to cater for Cringila residents.</p>	
4	<p>A question was asked as to where labour support for peak requirements will be sourced from.</p> <p>BlueScope Steel explained that it was currently negotiating with six large labour contractors. Their ability to marshal resources and logistics would be a key consideration in their selection.</p> <p>The local community would be likely to be able to provide an estimated two-thirds of labour, with contractors and their subcontractors filling any remaining positions.</p> <p>Prior industrial relations will also be a key consideration.</p> <p>It was noted that the current skills shortage in Australia and internationally may be an issue. Accordingly, guest workers from overseas may be considered.</p>	
5	<p>It was asked: 'How will you ensure that quality of project is up to required standards?'</p> <p>BlueScope Steel responded that this would be addressed through continuous communications with contractor and other business units, proper selection of the contractor, and through the application of appropriate due diligence measures.</p>	
6	<p>A question was asked as to whether existing operational jobs would remain the same.</p> <p>BlueScope Steel responded that basically operational jobs would remain unchanged.</p>	

Item	Matters Discussed	Action
7	A comment was raised that the need for manpower, although short term, influx of people coming into the community, and BlueScope Steel's intention of long term operation of the steelworks could be viewed in a positive aspect as compared to previous years where a sense of uncertainty on Illawara's future of generating livelihood was experienced.	