

CHALCO INFORMATION PAPER

PROJECT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The Chalco alumina refinery project will be subject to a robust environmental impact assessment process.

The project will likely be declared a significant project by the Queensland Coordinator-General for the purpose of preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). This process allows the public to make submissions on the EIS and for the Coordinator-General to prepare a report on the proposal. Chalco has committed to meeting all environmental controls and standards.

Environmental Impact Assessment

Preparation of an EIS may involve conducting baseline studies to establish the quality of the existing environment, as well as undertaking comprehensive specific studies to determine the potential impacts of the proposed development on the environment.

The environmental issues which may be required to be assessed under an EIS could include matters such as:

- Air & water quality
- Flora & Fauna
- Impacts on local road and rail networks
- Noise
- Safety
- Waste disposal
- Visual impacts
- Social and economic impacts

The EIS process

Environmental Impact Statements are prepared in accordance with Terms of Reference set by the Government. The Terms of Reference outline the matters relating to the project that are to be assessed. The EIS process includes community consultation.

The EIS process is a 3 stage process;

1. The State Government sets the criteria for assessment after consulting with key government departments and the local council.
2. When the assessment is completed, it is made publicly available and submissions from the community are encouraged.
3. Impacts are assessed and submissions are considered. The Coordinator-General makes his report.



Ongoing environmental standards

The State's EIS approvals process and all other approvals are conditional. These conditions will specify the technology and emission standards and the conditions with which the project must comply. The conditions will be contained in an Environmental Authority, which is issued by the Environmental Protection Agency.

Environmental performance would be monitored throughout the life of the project.

For further information please refer to the Coordinator-General's website www.coordinatorgeneral.qld.gov.au.

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