



QUEENSLAND ALUMINA LIMITED

A. B. N. 98 009 725 044

PARSONS POINT GLADSTONE QUEENSLAND 4680 AUSTRALIA

TELEPHONE: 4976 2211 (Area code 07; International dialling code 61-7).

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MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

Final Baghouse Installed in Boilerhouse

Fly ash emissions from Queensland Alumina Limited's (QAL) three boilerhouse stacks are no longer visible, following the installation of the final baghouse this month.

QAL Health, Safety Environment and Communities Manager Ross Greenhalgh said at a cost of \$48 million, the project commenced in 2003 with baghouses being fitted on the seven coal fired boilers during their four yearly statutory maintenance shutdowns.

"The boilers feed into three discharge stacks, so visible changes have been gradual as the baghouses progressively replaced the old technology of electrostatic precipitators," Mr Greenhalgh said.

"Each baghouse contains around 2,150 self cleaning filter bags, which essentially work like a vacuum cleaner to filter the particulates from boiler flue gases prior to their release into the atmosphere," he said.

"With the installation of baghouses, fly ash emissions have been reduced by 85%, from an average of 80 milligrams per normal cubic metre (mg/Nm³) to less than 10 mg/Nm³. At these levels, stack emissions are no longer visible."

Managing Director Johann van Zyl said the completion of the project marked yet another milestone in QAL's commitment to environmental improvements.

"One of the major focus areas for our improvement plan has been the reduction of fugitive dust emissions from the plant. The completion of this four year project clearly demonstrates our commitment to actively addressing community concerns, particularly in relation to dust." Mr van Zyl said.

Baghouses have also been installed in each of the three units in the Calcination plant and in the transfer towers of the alumina conveyor belt which transports alumina from the island storage shed to the wharf.

The projects are part of a five year commitment of over \$230 million in capital environmental improvements on site.

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For further information, contact:

Mellissa Case
Community Relations
Queensland Alumina Limited
Ph: +61 7 4976 2448
Email: casem@qal.com.au
www.qal.com.au