

# Boral Asphalt – North Coast

Building better roads in the Northern Rivers

June 2017

***Boral Asphalt is pleased to offer this update to the community about the Boral Alstonville Asphalt plant and its activities since our last newsletter was issued.***

## Taking a closer look...

Following last year's planning approval process, which was completed in August, Boral Alstonville Asphalt opened the plant's gates to local residents for a 'community inspection'.

We were pleased to host three separate visits on 3 November, attended by almost 40 local residents as well as 10 Councillors and staff from Ballina Shire Council.

Our guests were able to hear about the entire asphalt production process from the sourcing of appropriate aggregates (rock) through to the delivery of the finished asphalt to work sites.

Questions were also raised and answered, with our team taking a lot of helpful feedback which we have been integrating into operational improvements through the course of this year.



Many of our visitors had never seen a facility like the asphalt plant before and remarked that despite having lived next to it for years, they felt much better informed about its workings.

Others appreciated the opportunity to take a look inside the Council-owned Tuckombil Quarry and observe the extent of extraction undertaken over the years.

We viewed the event as a great success and enjoyed the chance to meet with residents, form new relationships and clarify our understanding of the community's expectations of us.

Consideration is now being given toward another event at the end of this year so that interested residents can see the progress we've made using feedback offered on the day.



## Find us online!

One matter discussed during November's community day concerned improving the information available to Alstonville residents about the plant.

Specifically, residents suggested that where possible, it would be good to know in advance when night production is scheduled.

Under the site's planning approval, production is allowed to take place across 24 hours **up to 60 days per year**. This can be done for **no more than four nights in a row (not Sundays or public holidays unless approved 'emergency' works)**.

An idea emerged that Boral should create a website for Alstonville Asphalt, with any planned night hours indicated on the site's homepage.



In line with this suggestion, we've now created the new website. You can log on at any time via [www.boral.com.au/alstonville](http://www.boral.com.au/alstonville).

The website contains a range of useful information about the asphalt plant, including how to contact the site if any concerns arise.



## Asphalt and you...

During the planning process last year, a frequent concern raised was whether the proximity of the plant to residences had any potential effects upon community health.

While there have been many studies on this topic, the results of which can be found on the internet, the sheer volume of information available can make finding the most current and accurate information a challenge.

To clarify our position, we have updated our brochure on how we operate in communities such as Alstonville.

*Boral Asphalt in Your Community*, a copy of which accompanies this newsletter, has been published to give you an overview of the basics of asphalt production, and the materials we use in the process.

### What do you think?

You can offer your thoughts on Boral's local operations at any time. Simply send an email with your views to [feedback@boral.com.au](mailto:feedback@boral.com.au), or visit [www.boral.com.au/feedback](http://www.boral.com.au/feedback) to participate in our on-line survey.

Copies can also be downloaded from the new Alstonville Asphalt website.

## Protecting our platypus

Boral Asphalt aims to operate with minimal effect upon the environment surrounding its sites. At Alstonville, a particular focus is the need to protect the waters of Branch Creek.

The presence of the creek has resulted in the installation of several mitigation measures to keep any potential pollutants well away.

While these can be monitored, during January we received a very strong indication about the health of the creek when a family of platypus was discovered living under the Gap Road bridge by workers from Council.

The young monotremes, found during bridge repair work, were checked over and, with the help of local WIRES volunteers, relocated to a safe location further along the creek.



## Asphalt to the rescue

We were pleased to make a valuable contribution to the local community last year through the supply of materials to the Ballina Marine Rescue tower project.

Boral provided asphalt from Alstonville for the access roads and car park, while additional rock from the Boral Teven Quarry was also used to finish this important community asset.

Marine Rescue volunteers moved into the new tower last October, with the facility's official opening taking place during April.

