

Background to Alcoa mining expansion and Dwellingup community response.

- **2015/2016** - Alcoa commenced exploratory drilling close to Dwellingup. In August 2016 the Dwellingup Community Compact (DCC) established a subcommittee called the Dwellingup Protection Group, to identify values and determine an area boundary around Dwellingup to protect these values.
- The DPG identified a proposed area for protection from mining around the Dwellingup township and called this the **Dwellingup Discovery Forest**, an area of 27,876 hectares (Ha) around Dwellingup. It includes forest, recreation areas, wildlife areas, water protection areas, and historical sites. Partly mined in the 1970s 1980s.
- **December 2016** - The DPG worked closely with the Shire of Murray who unanimously supported the following resolution. *“That Council delegates to the Chief Executive Officer to liaise and urgently negotiate with Alcoa and the Dwellingup Community to develop a draft ‘non-negotiable’ exclusion zone for future mining in and around the Dwellingup town site and adjacent to important trails in the area”*
- **January 2017** - The DCC/DPG worked with the support of the Shire of Murray to develop a Position Statement on the proposed **Dwellingup Discovery Forest**. The DPG met with Alcoa representatives on 13th January 2017 to put to Alcoa their Position Statement *Bauxite Mining in and around Dwellingup* which outlined the proposed **Dwellingup Discovery Forest** concept.
- **September 2017** - Alcoa wrote to Dwellingup landowners regarding their exploratory drilling around Dwellingup. *“Alcoa acknowledges the DCC position statement and is engaged in discussions with the group, as it is with other stakeholders in Dwellingup. Alcoa cannot support the DCC position in its current form as it calls for mining to be excluded in a large part of Alcoa’s mineral lease.*
- **2019** – The Dwellingup Futures Group was established through a partnership between Peel Development Commission and the Shire of Murray. The Dwellingup Futures Growth Management Road Map is anticipated to be released by May 2021.
- **June 2020** - A from Alcoa was received by Dwellingup landowners on or around Friday 19th June re an assessment request to the WA EPA for expanding their Pinjarra Refinery and mine in the Holyoake area about 5kms East of Dwellingup. The referral was made public by the EPA on 17th June with public submissions due by Tuesday 23rd June. A total of 1589 public submissions were received by the WA EPA in support of a **full public review** which was supported by the EPA.
- Alcoa has also referred their proposal to the Federal EPA /EPBC with submissions from the public closing on 20th August. PHCC is putting in a submission focusing on threatened species and indirect effects. On the Ramsar wetlands.
- **Community action- The Dwellingup Discovery Forest Working Group (DDFWG)** has been formed and is undertaking action following Conservation Council’s plan. Four working groups: Collecting Evidence, Forming Partnerships, Informing and Contacting and Community Engagement have been formed.
- On the weekend of 15th 16th August the DDFWG held a workshop with the **WA Forest Alliance (WAFA), Wilderness Society and the Jarrahdale Forest Protection group.**
- Actions have been planned for the rest of the year.