

Press Release

24 August 2016

Information sessions about proposed solar salt project

People in Exmouth and Onslow are invited to attend information sessions for the proposed Ashburton Salt facility, to learn more about the project and meet some of the team designing it.

K+S Salt Australia Managing Director Gerrit Gödecke said the project team was keen to meet local people, discuss early plans and learn local views on how the project should be developed.

“We are planning a new solar salt project which is set to bring jobs and exciting business opportunities to the nearby communities of Onslow and Exmouth. The project site is located 40 kilometres south-west of Onslow.

“Members of the project team including myself and environmental scientists will be on hand to talk about the project and hear your views.

“We are at the start of a long design and approvals process and will be working with local stakeholders to ensure the Ashburton Salt project is developed to become one of the world’s most modern salt facilities, with strict environmental standards and long-lasting benefits to the community.

“Our aim from day one in planning this project is to minimise or avoid environmental impacts. This early focus means we have the flexibility to change the project design as environmental studies are completed and therefore avoid or reduce impacts.

“If you are in Exmouth on 6 or 7 September or Onslow on 8 or 9 September please drop-in to learn more about the project and share a coffee.”

Community information sessions

Exmouth

Exmouth Shire Hall

6 September 2016: 11.00am – 3.00pm; 5.00pm – 7.00pm

7 September 2016: 9.00am – 12.00pm; 5.00pm – 7.00pm

Onslow

Onslow Beach Club

8 September 2016: 3.30pm – 7.00pm

9 September 2016: 10.00am – 2.00pm

In September K+S Australia will refer the project to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA), which will determine the level of assessment the project will be

subjected to. The referral information will be available for a seven-day public comment period which will be advertised on the EPA's consultation hub at <https://consultation.epa.wa.gov.au/>

Members of the public and interested stakeholders are invited to provide comments to the EPA, to help the EPA make its decision on the level of assessment. K+S welcomes feedback on the project through this process.

The entire approvals process is expected to last two to three years, and only when the necessary permits have been granted will K+S make a final decision on whether to build the solar salt production facility. This would occur in 2019 at the earliest.

Should the project go ahead, K+S will make a long term commitment to the region, with a project life of at least 40 years. The company believes the project will be a sustainable commercial operation with benefits for the economy and the people of the Onslow and Exmouth regions and Western Australia.

Annual production capacity would be approximately 3.5 million tonnes (Mtpa) of solar salt, with early K+S estimates anticipating an approximate capital expenditure of AU\$350 million.

During construction the project will employ approximately 200 full time workers and once in production will provide at least 75 sustainable, full-time local jobs. K+S is committed to employing locally where possible. There will also be opportunities for a range of local businesses to provide goods and services.

Ashburton Salt represents K+S' entry into the Australasian region. The project will supply the expected growing Asian market.

More information about Ashburton Salt can be found at www.ashburtonsalt.com.au

Ends

K+S is an international resources company and the world's largest salt producer. Operating at more than 30 locations in Europe, North and South America, the company has been mining and processing mineral raw materials for more than 125 years.

K+S' potash and salt products are used worldwide in agriculture, food production, road safety and industrial processes.

Learn more about K+S at www.k-plus-s.com

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