# MIDWEST - ENEABBA NEWSLETTER



#### **DECEMBER 2023**



### 🖇 Eneabba Operations Manager Update

#### As the year draws to a close, it provides a good opportunity to reflect on all that has been achieved over 2023. The past 12 months have been busy, and 2024 promises to be as eventful as ever at Eneabba.

The year began with the completion of the Banksia Village upgrade works, increasing the number of rooms at the existing camp from 124 to 197. In addition to the extra rooms, the camp facilities also underwent an upgrade providing even more amenities for our teams while staying on site.

While works were underway to refresh the existing camp, construction on the new, 360-person accommodation village on the Three Springs-Carnamah Road continued. Phase 1, which includes the roll-out of the first 100 rooms, will be completed and ready for hand over by the end of January 2024. Completion of the remaining 260 rooms and the camp's landscaping work will progress through February and into early March, with handover of the completed camp expected at the end of March 2024.

Elsewhere, bulk earthworks were successfully completed in October, with more than 2.5 million cubic metres of materials moved to prepare the pad on which the refinery will be constructed. Works are now focused on ground improvement activities with a view to the commencement of detailed earthworks early in the new year to support the construction of the Tailings Storage Facility.

You may have noticed that the main access road to the mine is currently being refurbished. These works are being undertaken to prepare the road for the additional traffic expected during the construction of the refinery. Detours are currently in place, rerouting commuters via Mineral Sands Road from the Eneabba township. Completion of this schedule of works is expected by the end of the year, when we will turn our attention to the resurfacing of Newman Access Road from Three Springs Road (to the new camp).

Due to the challenging Western Australian project environment, commissioning of the project is now scheduled to take place in 2026.

We look forward to keeping you updated on activity in 2024.

– Rich Soares



Construction of the new camp is well underway

# 🖇 Merry Markets

### Christmas came early for the Eneabba community when the Merry Markets – and Santa Clause – came to town on 21 October.

The Eneabba Rec Centre came alive with more than 30 stalls showcasing some of the very best in local wares, including plants, fresh baked goods, arts and crafts, jewellery, quilts, a stall from Desert Blue Mental Health, a freshly squeezed lemonade stall – and much more!

The Markets have become an annual tradition, with residents coming from all around to get a head start on their Christmas shopping.

A big thank you to Chloe Scott, who volunteers her time to make sure the event is bigger and better each year.



Locals enjoying some festive fun

#### Summer on a stick

Shopping up a storm can be thirsty work, so lluka teamed up with two local suppliers to provide a sweet treat for the steady stream of shoppers stopping by this year's Merry Markets.

<u>Northern Valley Fruit Pops</u>, from Lennard Brook, and <u>Lickety Sticks</u>, from Geraldton, helped to keep shoppers' strength up while they took in the best the markets had to offer.





# $\S$ Hive of activity at Eneabba leads to sweet success

After an increase in bee swarms began impacting operations, Eneabba Site Senior Executive, Dave Kennedy, reached out to the WA Apiarist Society for help.

"We had started to see an increase in the number of swarms on site", Dave said. "On one occasion, the crew came back from their lunch break to discover their drill rig was literally covered in bees – and that resulted in the rig being shut down for 10 days while we treated and removed the bees to a safe location.

"We knew that we didn't want to exterminate the bees, so I reached out to the WA Apiarists Society for some advice on what to do."

WAAS' John Chadwick and Wayne Passmore attended site to deliver training to Iluka's Safety and Medical teams, and helped to implement a swarm mitigation plan and collection procedure.

The team now has Safe Work Instructions and bees are collected on site in site-based hives.



The sweetest success of all is that the honey they produce is now bottled and goes into Iluka's own Rare Earth Honey. Bee-autiful.

lluka's Mobile Spiral Display

## ર્રટ્રે Out and about in the Community

### lluka's sustainability and operations were once again on display at this year's Mingenew Midwest Expo.

The expo was bigger and better than ever, with hundreds of attendees taking part in two days of exhibitions and fun.

Those who stopped by the Iluka exhibit in the Community Pavilion were treated to a demonstration of the separation process from Eneabba's Senior Environmental Specialist, Russell Browne.

"It's a great, hands-on way to show people how we turn the mineral sands into everyday items," Russell said. "It's always a hit with the younger event goers."

Eneabba's rehabilitation work was also on display, with dozens of entries in the "guess the number of seeds in the jar" competition.



It was a tight race with the winning entry taking home a portable Bluetooth speaker.

Expect even bigger and better things from the Expo in 2024 as it moves to a Thursday and Friday to attract an even larger crowd.



Visits

Eneabba has been flush with visitors over the last few months as some very distinguished guests stopped by to check out progress on the refinery.

In October and again in November, Iluka was pleased to host members of the Yamatji Southern Regional Council (YSRC) at Eneabba. During their first visit, the group completed a cultural heritage survey, viewing the proposed project footprint and reviewing some of the successful and historical mining and rehabilitation in the area. In November, the group met with Midwest Rehabilitation Manager Geoff Dyer, Senior Advisor, Indigenous Affairs, Isabelle Martin, Group Manager – Communities & Indigenous Affairs Australia, Jeremy Kenna, and other members of the Iluka team to discuss the Project and strengthen our relationship with the Council. We look forward to continuing to work with YSRC as the Project progresses.



Minister King with Iluka Managing Director, Tom O'Leary and Head of Rare Earths, Dan McGrath

November was a busy month on site, with the team also hosting the Federal Minister for Resources, Madeleine King. Minister King and her team were on site to review the refinery's progress.

#### Happy Holidays from Iluka

Iluka would like to wish you a happy festive season as 2023 comes to a close. Best wishes for the New Year and we look forward to seeing you in 2024.



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