

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Worsley backs Leschenault Oval project**

The first stage of an ambitious program to establish three new sporting ovals and associated facilities in the fast-growing suburb of Australind is nearing completion.

The million-dollar plus project adjoining the Leschenault Leisure Centre is being paid for by the Shire of Harvey, Government grants and from corporate donors.

BHP Billiton Worsley Alumina is one of the major corporate contributors, with the company confirming a \$75,000 donation to the project.

Worsley general manager Julius Matthys met with Shire President Peter Monagle earlier this month to inspect progress on the first stage of the project.

Bulk earthworks, a new bore and reticulation have been installed and grass will be planted in the next month on the first of the three ovals.

Mr Matthys said that there were about 300 Worsley employees living in the Australind area. The company's operations and expansion activities had contributed to the growth in Australind.

He said that Worsley had worked closely with local governments and community groups over many years to support improved community amenities.

"The expansion of sporting grounds has been identified as a high priority by the Shire. By supporting this development we will be contributing to social benefits for our employees and their families, as well as the community in general," Mr Matthys said.

Mr Monagle said the Shire had been experiencing increased demand for sporting facilities as subdivisions like Kingston and Treendale brought new residents to the area.

He said the support of corporate sponsors like Worsley meant the Shire was in a better position to attract other grants and to be able to move ahead quickly with the project.

"The sponsorship from Worsley is appreciated by the Shire and I am sure it is also welcomed by our ratepayers and residents," Mr Monagle said.

The first oval is expected to be ready for use in 2011. Future stages of the project include multi-purpose clubrooms, new roads and parking, and two new ovals.

BHP Billiton Worsley Alumina is a Joint Venture partnership between BHP Billiton (86%), Japan Alumina Associates (Australia) (10%) and Sojitz Alumina (4%). Further information on BHP Billiton can be found on our website: [www.bhpbilliton.com/worsley](http://www.bhpbilliton.com/worsley)

(**Picture:** BHP Billiton Worsley Alumina General Manager Julius Matthys and Shire of Harvey president Peter Monagle on site at the Leschenault Leisure Centre oval development.)

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