



Whyalla Blast Furnace Recovery



Whyalla Blast Furnace Recovery Operation July 2024

The blast furnace restart operation, which began after an unexpected delay following routine maintenance in mid-March, is nearing completion following a series of breakthroughs which has seen the hot metal temperature and chemistry move to optimal levels in recent days.

As preparations begin for a return of steelmaking activity, workers in power and services, maintenance and steelmaking divisions who were on a temporary day work roster are progressively transitioning to their regular shift rosters from Wednesday, July 3.

Liberty Primary Steel Managing Director Tony Swiericzuk said there is still work to be done, and this is a positive step forward.

“We are now at the pointy end of the recovery operation which means we can start preparing the steelworks to do what we do best - making high quality steel”, Tony said.

Before molten iron can be received by steelmaking for conversion to steel one, of the Steelmaking furnaces will need to be ‘burnt in’. The fume from this will be sent through the electrostatic precipitators as they are prepared for operations again, but because of the load there is likely to be some visible fume from the burn in process. This will mark a major milestone in the blast furnace recovery process occurring just prior to the first batch of molten iron being received by steelmaking.

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