St Helena Airport

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Airport Buildings Make Good Progress

Combined Building (May 2014)

The Airport buildings at Prosperous Bay Plain are now well advanced. The structure of the Combined Building which will house Air Traffic Control and Rescue and Fire Fighting Services is now 79% complete. Brickwork is 74% complete and plastering 9% complete. The Control Tower structure is also in place and the steel structure of the control room is being painted prior to erection.

Work on the Terminal Building is also progressing with 53% of the structure complete. Brickwork is 14% complete and section 1 of the first floor slab has been finished. Reinforcing steel is being fixed at present.

Hennie Strydom from Basil Read's Building Team said:

"We are satisfied with the progress we have made on the Combined and Terminal Buildings. The Control Tower will reach its full height in June, brickwork is nearing completion and we have already started with plaster work.

"On the Terminal Building all ground floor columns have been cast and construction on the first floor slabs has started. The brickwork will commence shortly. We are confident that we will complete the buildings on schedule."

To mark the construction of the Terminal Building, the laying of a Commemorative Stone, burial of a Time Capsule and Blessing of the Airport Terminal Building will take place at the Airport site on Saturday 28 June 2014.

A competition is currently running in schools to encourage young people to submit a drawing, poem or essay – with winning entries to be placed in the Time Capsule and buried at the Terminal Building.

Combined Building (May 2014)

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Wharf Resident Engineer on Island

David Colominas, Wharf Resident Engineer


Placing boulders at the root of the Wharf in Rupert's (14 May 2014) © Halcrow

Currently on Island is Wharf Resident Engineer David Colominas. David works for the Halcrow Project Management Unit and his job is to oversee Rupert's Wharf construction - he will remain on Island until completion of the works in the latter part of 2015. David has more than 10 years experience working with maritime construction projects.

Ongoing works at Rupert's Wharf include the casting of CORE-LOC® elements and precast hollow blocks, to be placed on the outside face of the breakwater to provide protection for the structure once construction of the main Wharf begins. Initial foundation works at the root of the Wharf (placing the base core) have also commenced and rock to be used in construction is now being transported from Prosperous Bay Plain to Rupert's.

Annual Environment Report

The Annual Environment Report for the St Helena Airport Project was officially launched on Tuesday 6 May 2014.

The report presents an overview of the environmental performance of Airport Contractor Basil Read for the 12-month period from July 2012 to June 2013. The purpose of the report is to present an honest, transparent and concise picture of the work being done, balanced against the difficult and challenging circumstance of working on a remote Island with limited access to scientific expertise and specialist equipment.

Included in the report are: The environmental governance structure, Progress in building relationships with stakeholders, Environmental risks posed by the construction of the Airport, Environmental activities and results of the environmental monitoring systems, and Targets and challenges for 2013-14.

Project Management Unit Environmental Monitor Robert Kleinjan said:

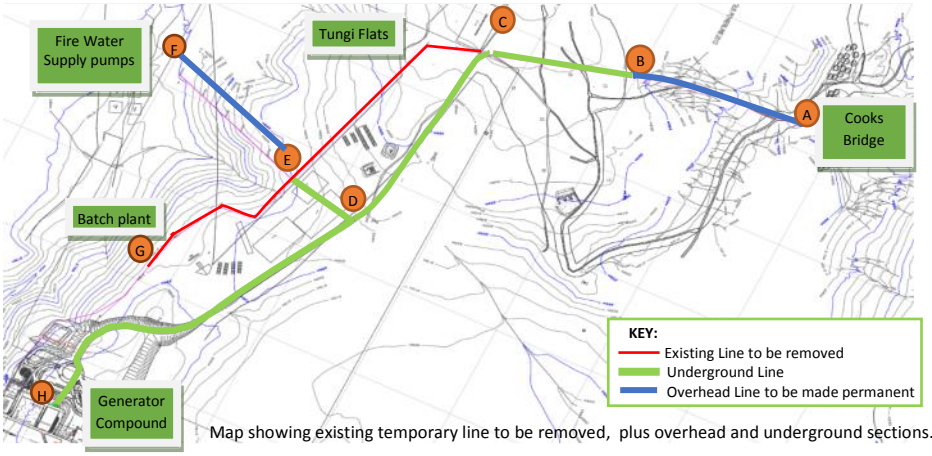
"Considering the logistical challenges of this project, Basil Read has made significant progress in achieving the required environmental management standards for a project of this magnitude at a relatively early stage. Basil Read has managed to maintain and further improve these standards as the project has progressed. This is demonstrated in the Annual Environment Report which shows that lessons were learnt and processes adapted in response to practical issues on site."

The full Annual Environment Report is available on the St Helena Access website at http://sainthelenaaccess.com/application/documents/Environmental-Statement/Annual-Report/SHAP-Annual-Environmental-Report-2012-13.pdf

Airport Electricity Supply

Executive Council agreed on Tuesday 20 May 2014 an application for the permanent electricity supply to the Airport to be installed mainly via underground cabling. Currently there is a temporary electricity supply provided by overhead power lines.

Underground cabling reduces the visual impact of poles and power lines and achieves the Obstacle Limitation Surface for the Airport. This is the height that provides an aircraft with a certain minimum obstacle clearance in the Airport area. The underground cabling will mainly follow the alignment of the road, further reducing the construction footprint of the Airport and avoiding environmentally sensitive areas. The area where overhead lines will be removed will be extensively rehabilitated as construction works conclude. Two existing short sections of overhead power lines will be retained as an exceptional case, as provided for in the Environmental Statement 2007, where the impact of trenching for underground lines away from the road would cause greater environmental disturbance and where the visual impact is minimal. These sections include a continuation of the overhead line from Cook's Bridge to just below Tungi Flats, and from the fire water supply in Dry Gut towards the top of the valley. The proposed route is most in keeping with the legislative and contractual requirements, both from the technical aspects of the contract and from the environmental management perspective within the Environmental Statement and the Environmental Management Plan for the Airport. Further information is available in the Planning Statement for the electricity supply, available online at http://www.sainthelenaaccess.com/application/documents/ The new power supply to the airport will be utilised later this year, when installation of the first navigational aids will begin.



Map showing existing temporary line to be removed, plus overhead and underground sections.