



Covered containers are tops at Port Lincoln

Lincoln Minerals has several prospective projects across South Australia's Eyre Peninsula. It plans to use the latest in containerisation technology for its flagship Gum Flat project, which lies just 20kms from Port Lincoln.

CONTAINER tippler specialist, Rotainer has developed a covered container, which aims to eliminate almost all dust emissions.

Dr John Parker, Lincoln's managing director, said the company had firmly settled on Rotainer's covered containers as its preferred material and storage handling system.

Lincoln Minerals expects to begin exports for stage one of its 500m tonnes per annum DSO Gum Flat project in the final quarter of 2012. It has a 120m tonne resource, with further exploration targets on

its lease. The company hopes to ramp up to a total of 12mtpa of ore and concentrate by 2015.

Lincoln claims the project, out of all others in Australia, is the closest to an existing port facility. Port Lincoln is a mere 20kms away, however its shallow draft will limit bulk carriers to panamax size.

"There are ships coming into Port Lincoln that can handle the Rotainer system. They have got their own gear that can handle containers," Dr Parker said.

He explained that superphosphate is unloaded in con-

tainers by a Rotainer system. "We are looking at reversing that system and sending iron ore out," he said.

The covered Rotainer system removes the lid as it picks up and rotates a container into a ship's hold. Above it, a dust suppression system reduces fugitive emissions.

Opportunity

"There will be very little, if any, dust from [the containers]. They will be covered. And being covered, there is no opportunity for the dust to get out."

Dr Parker said that because ore trucks would need to move through town to reach port, an uncovered container was not a viable option, due to the requirements of the development application.

He explained that traffic pressure on the town was not an issue, due to the modest 500ktpa export rate.

"We are not anticipating a lot of trucks going through the city. About two or three road trains an hour. They would have a 30 tonne container on each of the wagons," he said.





IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA: Map (left) shows location of Gum Flat project on the Eyre Peninsula. A handymax carrier (below) unloading superphosphate. The ship carries its own loading gear.

