

West Australian railscene e-Mag

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West Australian Railscene e-Mag is published weekly by Jim Bisdee on rail happenings on West Australian Railroads

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K205 & K206 being hauled through Middle Swan on way to Bellevue February 25th. Photo Matt Hayes

First of 22 CBH new locomotives have rolled off the MotivePower Inc production line in Bosie Idaho this narrow gauge locomotive is painted in CBH livery light blue car body with large areas of dark blue and black bogies and frames. This is a heavy 120tonne narrow gauge Co-Co, 2386kw [3200hp] locomotive the first of six under construction that will be hauled to an east coast US port for export to WA with arrival anticipated in mid May. There is also eleven lighter 96tonne narrow gauge Co-Co, 2013kw [2700hp] locomotives together with five 132tonne Co-Co 2386kw [3200hp] standard gauge units in various stages of assembly. All these units have DPU capacity that will again see grains trains with head and rear end power operating on the wheat lines. Apart from trials previously conducted by ARG these CBH locomotives will introduce DPU operation to standard gauge grain trains. These locomotives fitted with Cummings [QSK60 V-16 2013kw or QSK78 V-18 2386kw] engines will be US Tier 2 emissions standard compliant with the improved fuel economy of a late model engine.



VL357 runs 5WG2 light engine Forrestfield to Kwinana at Kewdale on March 1st.

Photo Jim Bisdee



DAZ1906 & DAZ1905 run 5303 grain train through Mandogulup on dual gauge Cockburn South Kwinana single line on March 2nd.

Photo Murray Rowe

First service operated by Watco in WA occurred when leased CFCLA locomotive VL357 ran light engine from Forrestfield where it had been serviced and modified to run on internal WA services by Gemco Forrestfield workshop. VL357 was also turned on Forrestfield turntable around midday March 1st by QRN following its release by Gemco.



VL357 and two pack CBHS grain wagon runs 6WG3 out of Grass Valley March 2nd. Photo Jim Bisdee

VL357 ran down light engine from Forrestfield on March 1st while a CBHS to pack wagon was railed and commissioned at CBH Kwinana. Watco ran it first train on behalf of CBH on March 2nd when ran 6WG3 Kwinana to West Merredin to conduct riding tests and speed trials of CBHS two pack wagons. These trials saw the wagons run at 110km in track speed and riding test in usual test area between Meckering and Cunderdin where over the years speed trials have been conducted for new locomotives and railcars. 6WG3 ran to West Merredin yard to stable returning as 7WG2 to Kwinana on March 3rd.

Latest QRN 6000 locomotive to be allocated to internal WA operations 6011 arrived behind LDP006 & 6006 on QRN intermodal 5MP1 in early hours of February 26th. 6011 ran 1155 light engine Forrestfield to UGR plant Bassendean around midday on 26th to enable its modification to operate in WA. 6011 has never operated on QRN intermodal services to WA having been used on Hunter Valley coal trains in NSW prior to be withdrawn and hauled to WA.

LZ3106 has had its short end nose painted yellow with a QRN loco while its long end is also painted yellow but has not had QRN logos applied.



LDP006, 6006 & dead 6011 on its delivery run on 5MP1 at Parkeston February 25th. Photo Peter Donaghy



DBZ2308 & DBZ2312 stabled in Albany yard February 19th.

Photo DeeJay Page



DBZ2312 on woodchip train at Albany February 20th.

Photo DeeJay Page



6008 & 6007 on 6MP1 crosses NR80 on 7PX4 in engineers siding Parkeston 19/02.

Photo Peter Donaghy



DAZ1904, AD1521 & P2514 on 7342 narrow gauge grain at Seabrook about to be passed by 7030 ore on standard gauge passing through Seabrook loop February 11th. Photo Sean McGarraghy



Rio Tinto 8181 & 8180 with GE 905 & GE2020 under test at Erie PA February 25th. Photo Ian White



ACB4405 & Q4005 on 1414 empty ore at Binduli February 25th.

Photo Peter Donaghy



LQ3121, LZ3111 & [dead] LZ3117 on combined 6058 grain and 5474 salt train at Toodyay February 17th following the failure of LZ3117 earlier on salt train.

Photo Sean McGarraghy



DAZ1906 & DAZ1904 on empty grain at Midvale February 16th.

Photo Sean McGarraghy



NR13 & NR117 cross SCT002 & SCT009 on 1PM9 at Millendon February 26th.

Photo Simon Barber



LQ3121 & LZ3111 on 7055 empty grain at Stratton February 18th.

Photo Simon Barber



ACA6010 & ACB4402 on 7035 empty ore at Bellevue February 25th.

Photo Matt Hayes



K205 lifted of road transport then being put on rail at Bellevue February 25th.

Photo Matt Hayes



P2502 on loaded grain crossing P2516 & P2503 on empty at Narngulu February 14th.

Photo Phil Melling



P2508, DFZ2402, DFZ2404 & P2517 haul loaded ore into Geraldton Port February 16th. Photo Phil Melling



S3306 on 6556 export coal train to Kwinana at Benger February 15th.

Photo Simon Barber

Downer EDI announced to Australian Stock Exchange on March 2nd it had been awarded a contract to supply a number of EMD SD70ACe/LCi to BHP Billiton Iron Ore over the next five years. The first of these new locomotives are at present being built in by EMD in Progress Rail Muncie Indiana plant with them expected to be delivered mid 2012. This \$292million contract with options [if exercised] could see total value exceed \$400million. These locomotives will be built in the USA with minor work to install extras like fire suppressant equipment etc fitted on arrival. This order will see the replacement of Goninan /General Electric CM40-8M and General Electric CW6000 locomotives over next few years.



6011 dead attached on 5MP1 at Parkeston February 25th on its delivery run to WA. Photo Peter Donaghy

Armadale line south of Cannington to Armadale was closed from Friday evening February 24th till first service on 27th to enable Wannaping Road level crossing in Kenwick to be rebuilt. The Australind service to Bunbury terminated at and ran from Armadale on 25th and 26th. Rail replacement busses operated from Cannington to Armadale.

Rio Tinto ES44DCi 8182 underwent works trials on General Electric Erie test track February 28th.