

June unveiled expansion plans for the rejuvenation of the Whyalla steelworks.

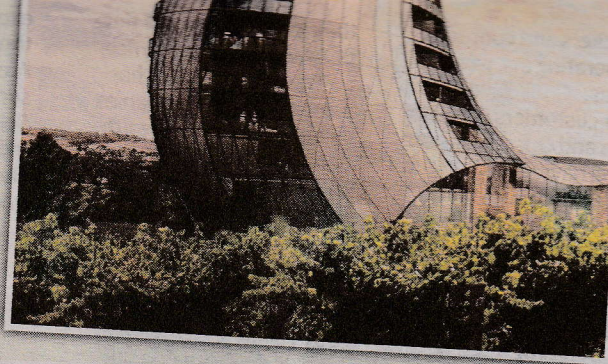
GFG Alliance's plans feature a "direct reduced iron facility" to produce iron from gas and later hydrogen at Whyalla, as well as an electric arc furnace to replace the existing blast furnace.

These will sit alongside a \$600m steel rolling mill. The projects have been set out as key

and a \$130m grid-scale Playford Battery, near Port Augusta, under a new power supply deal with the State Government.

The projects will cost a combined \$660m, with work due to begin before the end of the year.

Both projects will be delivered in partnership with SIMEC Energy Australia, owned by Mr Gupta's GFG Alliance.



costs of dredging the marina seabed, which was required under the terms of the lease.

The government evicted NWA from the marina in November for breach of lease.

The Australian Taxation Office has also lodged a petition of debt for \$253,834 for outstanding taxes due since September 2017.

In his report, Mr Martin said NWA might have been insolvent since July 2016, when "it first failed to maintain its

Freeway growth is a fire 'waiting to happen'

LYDIA KELLNER

OVERGROWN vegetation along the South Eastern Freeway is prompting fears of a firestorm.

With just two weeks until the start of the bushfire season in the region, Stirling resident Oliver Ocorfe has renewed his call to the State Government to clean up vegetation that has grown up along the highway.

Mr Ocorfe has been writing to the Department of Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) since January but says his requests have been largely ignored.

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That's despite assurance by former DIT minister Stephan Knoll in July, when he replied in a letter that "vegetation management...will be undertaken prior to the next fire season".

"Unfortunately, it appears,

this information wasn't passed on to current Minister Corey Wingard, who I've been told knows nothing about it," Mr Ocorfe said.

Mr Ocorfe urged other Hills residents to call for action.

"Anyone walking along the footpaths on either side of the South Eastern Freeway, between Stirling and Crafers, will observe dead pine trees, piles of dead wood, dried blackberries and other combustible weeds, which would burn fiercely in the event of a bushfire, and ignite the pine trees above them," he said.

Long grass between Mount Barker and Hahndorf is also causing worries for locals.

But despite the growing concern, DIT did not respond to questions by The Advertiser.

A spokesman for the state's Country Fire Service said vegetation along the freeway were at manageable levels and did not pose a bushfire risk.

"We have spoken with (DIT) and I believe a contractor has been appointed to do it quarterly - so at least four times a year," he said, adding that slashing was expected in the next two weeks.



Oliver Ocorfe, with Eastern Freeway. Pi

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