

MINUTES OF MEETING
STRATHALBYN COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Thursday 21 May 2009

@ 7.00 pm

Senior Citizens Hall, 6 Parker Street, Strathalbyn

PRESENT:

Charles Irwin - Chair	Fred Carrangis	Susan Jettner	Julia Currie
Barry Davis	Ben Brazzalotto	Mike Farrier	Trevor Riches
Tony Sheldon			Gallery 1

PIRSA:

Hans Bailiht	Holly Nicholls- Sec	Henry Andryszczak	Peter Riley, EPA
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TERRAMIN:

Anya Hart	Andrew Robertson		
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APOLOGIES:

Roz Twartz	Anne Woolford	Adrian Pederick MP	Greg Marshall
Ted Tyne			

Meeting commenced at 7.05pm (recording #13)

1.	<p>APOLOGIES Apologies were accepted, as outlined above. The meeting noted the death of Anne Woolford's husband, with condolences.</p>
2.	<p>WELCOME BY CHAIRMAN Chairman welcomed the committee.</p> <p>New member, Tony Sheldon, who will replace Trevor Riches as Eastern Fleureau School representative. Trevor thanked for contribution and Tony welcomed.</p> <p>Henry Andryszczak of PIRSA welcomed.</p>

3. REVIEW OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Minutes from 19 February 2009 accepted as true and correct.

Presented by Anya Hart:-

Re-injection of ground water:

- extraction bore- pump seized and pipe work corroded. Has been repaired.
- extra samples taken from bore and sent to Australian Ground Water Technology
- waiting for results of data measuring

Rain water tank survey and review letter has been circulated.

Background photographs:

- Government has updated the aerial photos of the site
- current photos taken prior to construction of the workshop
- the diagram for aerial photos is being reworked

Employee lead levels (blood tests)

- for privacy and background reasons, the individual results of blood tests will not be circulated but internally monitored due to privacy issues and variability of backgrounds
- SCCC will be informed of exceptions
- complexities dependant on individual circumstances
- **update to be provided at next meeting**

Odour monitoring

- sulphurous acid smell and taste described near at visitor area
- could be xanthate which is common in flotation
- xanthate breaks down to carbon disulphate- a very odorous chemical
- Terramin used Tonkin to look at similar operation
 - concern was carbon disulphate from xanthate decomposition, but the odour was measured as odour units only (catch all) so unable to determine exact cause
- possible reason for odour- visitor look out area is above ventilation fans- could be underground smells?
- minimum impact to surrounding residents and employees
- one local resident is particularly sensitive to sulphur fumes- Terramin working with this person
- odour fumes dependent on wind direction

Complaints line is being well utilised- no need for random checks! "Site Security" added to QER as requested to cover breaches and injuries to the public.

4.

REVIEW OF LEASE/MARP COMPLIANCE STATUS

This item is included to show that PIRSA is doing its job as regulator and to communicate any community concerns to both Terramin and the SCCC.

Report given by Hans Bailiht – Senior Mining Assessment Officer:-

Reasonably busy quarter- site inspections and meetings in Adelaide.

Site inspections found the following:

Vegetation plantings

- have been some survival problems- possibly eaten by hares/rabbits?
- Terramin to investigate put baiting program in place
- weeds to be sprayed

Over burden has silt close to the western boundary which is covering some existing trees. Terramin have been asked to pull it back.

Water TSF levels are on the high side. Not an issue at this stage but Terramin have been asked to try to get the levels down.

Terramin have asked PIRSA for approval to send water from inside the mine to Adelaide Hills Recycling which could be used to suppress dust. EPA looking at this in regards to pollution off site.

EPA have advised PIRSA that early warning systems for dust have been triggered. PIRSA and EPA held meetings- not a problem for health but purely as requirement under EPA license that once over a certain level the EPA must be advised. This has happened. PIRSA has sat down with Terramin and discussed how to rectify the situation and bring levels back down. Company need to have a number of approvals- lease, MARP, apply for EPA (air quality). EPA license requirements have been triggered. Terramin have come up with some proposals in response.

Anya Hart:-

Dust management

- dust deposition measured monthly at 12 locations on and off site (dust deposition gauge, high volt samplers- 6 day basis). Total solids/total particulates and lead content measured. Data is presented in QER.
- EPA license conditions differ from MARP criteria
- separate set of EPA licence conditions in addition to the PIRSA lead conditions and MARP
- recognition of non compliance of trigger limit

Peter Riley:-

- 315-466 licence conditions
 - to provide an early warning mechanism for levels so corrective action can be taken
- Terramin reporting level is 0.25 over 6 days- much tighter level when compared to MARP

Comment:

Is the location of dust deposition gauges adequate?

4. cont

Anya Hart:-

They are based on dust monitoring undertaken by Tonkin. Good baseline data exists before the mine opening so comparison to current data can take place. Would be very unlikely to change gauge location.

Dust gauges 5 and 7 and off site gauge 2 are the biggest concerns. Not surprising based on weather information.

Dust deposition is measured in milligram per kilogram. EPA trigger level is 750 milligrams per kilogram.

- there are several spikes above expected levels at gauge 7
- recognise the potential problem over time and will investigate what can be done to mitigate
- off site gauges are based on 150 milligrams per kilogram as trigger level
- gauge 2 biggest problem off site

Dust gauges have been adjusted as suggested at last meeting to be numbered in order of closest to furthest from site.

Limits levels and contours based on mine contribution- as levels rise off site can assume that other sources, such as dirt roads, are contributing to dust levels. Based on data, can't draw a conclusion.

Lead deposition

- dust gauge 2 in prevailing wind direction
- December reading of higher concentrations- very hot and dry with high wind conditions and low humidity
- May data- lowest readings ever including prior to mining start. Half of gauges below detection levels for lead.

Site has been running at full capacity for the last 3-4 months

Lead Contribution to Hi Vol data

- EPA reporting lower than MARP for early detection purposes
- two February spikes will be reported to EPA tomorrow
- aware of the need to keep an eye on lead levels
- dust section of QER to include reports against the MARP criteria and keep track of EPA trigger limits
- lab data comes in deposition rate- weight per square metre per sampling period. Number then converted to milligrams per kilogram.
- a basic calculation check showed that measurements were based on NEPM numbers in milligrams of lead in the sample per kilogram of total sample. Previous calculation was milligrams of lead per kilogram of insoluble component in sample. This miscalculation was exacerbating the issue.

Given that the triggers on site have been set off, the EPA now also requires figures each month. A management plan needs to be put in place on steps taken to reduce the problem.

4. contReporting timeline:

2 April- response received from EPA and installation of con shed shrouding

26 March- letter of certification sent to EPA

23 April- voluntary EIP and dust management plan sent to EPA

11 May- dust deposition trays placed for characterisation work

End May- implement dust management plan

Mid June- collect first dust characterisation sample

Mid July- receive analysis of dust characterisation

Ongoing site works- investigate and implement any additional mitigation measures such as sprinklers and sweeping roads.

Dust trays collect samples to indicate what is contributing to dust deposition, not a measurement of the deposition.

Potential lead dust sources include:

- cyclone tower
- ROM pad
- tailings (in dry areas)
- lead concentrate in shed

Measuring dust:

- static dust gauge
- dust deposition tray
- hi vol sampler

Dust mitigation measures:

- road sweeping
- con shed shrouding
- water truck
- sprinklers
- con she doors

Hans Bailiht:-

PIRSA link to EPA relate to lease conditions no. 49.

Caveat on title of mine lease land- land can't be used for any industrial purposes (post mine closure) because of tailings etc. PIRSA pursuing.

When TSF water levels are above the double liner, the company has 7 days to get the levels back to normal. It is not a problem yet, but it could pose a problem in the future.

PIRSA still talking with Terramin regarding sighting levels and TSF.

Comments:

Discussion of use of mine lease land post closure. Land used by Council for recreational purposes?

Re zoning of land for housing development has been denied by Planning SA on two occasions. Industrial use also to be prohibited. Caveat to be placed on all 6 mining titles to cover future use.

Community are beginning to ask about the use of land post mine closure.

Discussion of mine lease land post closure to go on agenda for November meeting.

Environmental improvement program- August meeting to detail further data

5.	<p>REVIEW OF MINE PROGRAMME/ACTIONS FOR NEXT 3 MONTHS</p> <p>Report provided by Anya Hart:-</p> <p><u>Upcoming activities:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- attended noise monitoring (late April)- info boards for visitor viewing area (May)- next shipment of zinc concentrate (mid June)- new safety coordinator commencing (mid June)- June community newsletter (now quarterly)- New aerial photo being developed <p><u>Comments:</u></p> <p>Information boards have been praised by visitors- perhaps newsletters or other flyers to be included at information boards so visitors can take away with them. Include a phone number for odour enquiries.</p>
	<p>BREAK 20.37-20.47</p>

6.

QUARTERLY ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

Report Provided by Anya Hart:-

Quarterly Report No 11 for January to March 2009

The Quarterly Environmental Report distributed in hard copy to committee members.

- 2.8 km underground development up until the end of March
- Attended noise monitoring
- 6 month visual/amenity

Water quality

Surface water monitoring

- a number of readings above the MARP criteria- no correlation between what Terramin are doing and the readings. Continue to track data.
- RG9 to be added to map in the future.

Some outliers in bore monitoring- not part of baseline data so no seasonal comparison available. Will continue to track data.

Noise monitoring

A round of attended noise monitoring took place in January during the heatwave. Due to high wind levels, much of the collected data was unusable. Another round completed in April. Looking at more complex method to monitor noise off site.

Wind

Wind data is hourly average compared to 15 minute average for noise levels. Noise interruptions such as wind are depleted from the overall results and hence intervals aren't always accurate. Some peaks in data may correlate with wind.

Comments: Some early noises start times. Perhaps it is outside noise such as birds?

Peculiar time changes on noise chart- dependant on non mine related noise and depletion.

Is Race Course data on wind speed really is comparable with actual wind speeds on site? It is used because it is official and all baseline data is comparable to it. Topography of mine can mean differences within site. Will stick with consistent ABS data.

Blast monitoring

149 blasts for the period. All within MARP guidelines. Will continue to monitor.

Drag out

Zero rating.

Recycling

Waste oil /grease rating quite high. Vehicle washing point has a catchment for 'sludge' which is as a total counted as waste oil/grease because it is treated in the same way.

'Sludge' from the truck wash will become its own category in future recycling as waste oil/grease has a limit.

To check- Scrap metal in January not recorded in handout. Possibly not removed from previous QER?

**6.
Cont**

Odour monitoring

CS2 monitoring carried out in January, February and March (monthly basis). A zero reading was recorded.

Random tests are not carried out- data from those 'experiencing' the odour will make it more comparable. Reports to be investigated and tracked in future in an attempt to pin down the source.

Flora and fauna monitoring

Revegetation

Spraying for weeds and rabbit management strategy are the most notable plans.

Complaints line

- 9 complaints recorded over period
- 1 lighting and noise complaint
- 8 complaints re: blasting
- if noise is recorded under the limit, then can only talk with people and find out what the issues are. Some people are just venting.
- one complaint related to a blast with different time delays compared to usual blasts. This person now keeping a diary to track blast reading against perception.
- Terramin working with people to help them manage their anxieties- give information, notification of blasts.

New column (ACTION) to be added in future to complaints detailing action/follow up taken.

Many visits in March- popular time.

One major sponsorship- football club.

Newsletter in February.

Follow-up issues outstanding from last meeting:

- Lighting report received- sent out cover letter.
- Regional soil and rainwater tank reports have been distributed.
- Letter sent to Angus Catchment Group re: TSF
- Unknown tree species on northern bun include: Grey Mulga and River Red Gum (self seeded)

Bat species onsite unknown.

Cadmium levels at LG2 which often record high. Some gaps on available information.

Overall average based on entire body of sample- all bores. Data displayed in graph.

Complaints received in March- some regarding April blast. Another with concerns about the gap under the fence at the viewing platform. Not seen as a huge issue, but will look in to.

Work with ETSA about redirecting lights.

- message was left with ETSA and ETSA to look in to
- resident who left complaint has been informed on progress

6. Cont	General comments: Wildlife inquiry- astonished that nothing observed over past few months despite the obvious need for rabbit bating. Suggestion that fauna should be noted in QER in future. Traffic, near misses and site security to be included in future QER's. Clarification that visual photos are taken from the same location each time. Yes they are.
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7.

REVEGETATION PLAN

Copy circulated via email. Copies distributed along with comparison table between original plan and revised plan.

Report Provided by Anya Hart:-

The general Plan is similar to original- some redefined areas. The Original Plan was put together prior to mine construction. Obvious that some amendments may need to be made once mine established. Matt then brought back in to re assess situation. The original plan was based on mining starting in 2006. The Revised Revegetation Plan will work on the actual opening date.

Complete but removed refers to the trees in front of mine entrance that had to be removed to put in road extension. Plan on replacing this year.

Western side

- many rabbit affected trees
- poor growth where exposed to wind
- hill plants aren't looking great since summer- looking to replace

Comment: The TSF wall is a major visual area yet there is little planned to be done with it in 2009. Why?

TSF wall

- still being worked on
- post mine closure will require some bulldozing of TSF back wall- anything between now and then will be temporary
- trying to strike a balance between expectations for amenity over next 5 or 6 years opposed to post mine closure to rehabilitate
- *Oxigen* landscape architects will provide possible options for wall; to work with existing contractors
- complexities exist over practicality and safety in short term, long term results and what is reasonable in the interim
- hydro seeding an expensive option for a temporary solution
- safety issues with slope present some problems
- sterile grass varieties an option- have to consider weed possibility
- mulch best short term option- will work on screening as opposed to vegetation
- landscaper and Anya liaising next week
- looking at including community groups in future beautification projects
- 40kg of seed in stock
- enough stock for tree replacement this year- some tube stock to be sourced on a needs basis
- some established trees on southern wall no longer need watering
- irrigation hasn't been given the TLC that it requires. Matt will be engaged to help with regular watering.
- extension of irrigation from septic system- could be diverted to irrigate other areas
- Matt's expertise will be used on an ongoing needs basis

7. cont	<p><u>Comments:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The 'scar face' look of TSF wall needs to be improved quickly - Company has made commitment to vegetate the wall, so it needs to be done! - Suggested media release to clarify and inform community on possible future involvement options and revision of plan. - Dripper maintenance and water supply is an issue for concern. Dead and damaged trees need to be replaced. <p>What does 'regularly' check of irrigation system mean? Ania to confirm with Matt. Terramin will abide with regular water restrictions. More vigilance and water checks will need to be carried out in warmer months.</p> <p>Anya to check exact obligations Terramin has to rehabilitate/screen TSF wall</p>
8.	<p>OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>Possibly involve the school in community plantings.</p> <p>The Chairman expressed his thanks to Trevor Riches for his role on the Committee.</p>
9.	<p>FUTURE MEETINGS</p> <p>Thursday 6 August 2009</p> <p>Meeting at Senior Citizens Hall @ 7.00pm</p> <p>Frequencies of SCCC meetings are once every three months on the third Thursday of the month.</p> <p>Future meeting dates are: -</p> <p>Thursday 19 November 2009</p> <p>Thursday 18 February 2010</p> <p>Thursday 20 May 2010</p>
10.	<p>MEETING CLOSE</p> <p>Meeting closed 10.02pm.</p>