

**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**STRATHALBYN COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**

**Thursday 18 November 2010**

**@ 7.00 pm**

**Senior Citizens Hall, 6 Parker Street, Strathalbyn**

**PRESENT:**

Charles Irwin - Chair	Fred Carrangis	Susan Jettner	Julia Currie
Barry Davis	Mike Farrier	Anne Woolford	Mark Dale (new member)
Rhonda McCarthy (new member)	Malcolm Twartz (new member)		

Gallery 7

**PIRSA:**

Hans Bailiht (retiring)	Henry Andryszczak	Nicole Edkins	Merri Tohill – Sec
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**TERRAMIN:**

Anya Hart	Robert Howie
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**EPA:**

Peter Riley (retiring)	Glen Sorenson
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**GUESTS:**

Andrew Hodgkinson, Parsons Brinckerhoff	Leno Cavarra, Veolia
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**APOLOGIES:**

Ben Brazzalotto, Adrian Pederick MP, Stephen Marlow, Karen Hawke (new member)

Meeting commenced at 7 pm

**1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Hans Bailiht has a new role, monitoring the new Kanmantoo mine. Nicole Edkins is the new Mining Regulator for Terramin. Nicole is a Mining Engineer with 10 years experience across Australia. Welcome to Nicole. Hans was thanked for his integral role with the Committee since its inception and particularly for his role in educating both past and current Committee members and chairmen in mining matters and for ensuring the group operated smoothly for over four years. It was noted that Hans would remain available to the committee should his knowledge of the mine's history be required.

Peter Riley is handing over to Glenn Sorenson who has experience in physical mining and water policy. The Chair thanked Peter for his role over four years, particularly for his efforts in guiding the group through the technicalities of dust and water management.

Merri Tohill was introduced as the group's new minute taker.

Henry Andryszczak introduced new committee members and handed out letters of appointment to Mark Dale, Rhonda Mc Carthy and Malcolm Twartz. The 12 month appointment process has resulted in a good balance and good reach into networks.

Charles Irwin welcomed all.

2.	<p><b>APOLOGIES</b></p> <p>Apologies were accepted, as outlined above.</p>
3.	<p><b>REVIEW OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING</b></p> <p>Corrections to 19 August 2010 minutes: No corrections</p> <p>19 August 2010 minutes accepted as true and correct. NB minutes are available on the PIRSA website.</p>
4.	<p><b>PIRSA REPORT</b></p> <p><b>Future Roles</b> - Nicole is replacing Hans, however, Henry Andryszczak's role will remain the same.</p> <p><b>New Mining Act (Nicole Edkins)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Main themes include a revised definition of environment; improved land holder liaison and improved regulation tool and some new terminology.</li> <li>▪ The bill was passed on 9 November 2010. The regulations are still under review, to be implemented in 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2011. Amendments can be viewed in detail on <a href="http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/minerals/public_notices/mining_act_amendments">www.pir.sa.gov.au/minerals/public_notices/mining_act_amendments</a></li> <li>▪ For the Terramin Angus Mine there is little change expected.</li> <li>▪ Sue Jenkins congratulated PIRSA on assisting the involvement of landholders in the consultation process.</li> </ul> <p><b>Report on compliance and current status (Nicole Edkins)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The importance of the SCCC is recognised.</li> <li>▪ PIRSA is satisfied that all reasonable action is being taken to resolve the water management issues although timing remains uncertain. The site complies with MARP requirements in all other respects.</li> <li>▪ The Bond has been increased from \$5 mill to \$5.3 mill. The increase of \$300,000 is to cover additional operational costs due to the increased volume of water in the TSF should the Mine close. The bond is not for unexpected events (i.e. as insurance).</li> <li>▪ The site will be inspected using a risk based approach. It has not been physically inspected for over a month but PIRSA is regularly liaising with Terramin and making sure that the main issues are resolved.</li> </ul>
5.	<p><b>REVIEW OF MINING OPERATIONS FOR ONCOMING 3 MONTHS</b></p> <p>Please see Terramin PowerPoint presentation, spoken to by Anya Hart. The presentation will be available on the PIRSA website <a href="http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/minerals/sa_mines/approved_mines/angas">www.pir.sa.gov.au/minerals/sa_mines/approved_mines/angas</a> under Wider Community Engagement.</p> <p>The main issues which will be the focus for next few months include:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Continuation in refining water treatment processes</li> <li>▪ Ongoing trial of paste fill plant</li> <li>▪ Noise monitoring</li> <li>▪ Weed management</li> <li>▪ Newsletter</li> <li>▪ Continuing exploration</li> <li>▪ Supervisor training of 40 out of total of 100 employees aiming to change culture and increase awareness. Has received very good feedback and while it was an in-house development, accreditation is being sought</li> </ul>

- Regional soil and rainwater report

**6. QUARTERLY ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT**

Please see Terramin Quarterly Report #16 (July to Sept 2010), by Anya Hart, available in full on the PIRSA website [www.pir.sa.gov.au/minerals/sa\\_mines/approved\\_mines/angas](http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/minerals/sa_mines/approved_mines/angas) under Wider Community Engagement.

The Chairman noted that the purpose of this segment is to look at issues by exception. If issues are compliant and trends satisfactory there is no need to go through them in detail at the meeting. That said, all members receive a copy of the report and can also view it on the website; members should continue to review the full report and not hesitate to ask any question that might arise.

Terramins' compliance summary includes –

- Noise monitoring
- Dust/air quality
- Weed management
- Revegetation
- Community feedback
- Water management (dealt with separately as Item 8 in these minutes)

**Noise monitoring**

In September noise loggers were hired to monitor out of the ordinary noise. There have been issues with the loggers (accuracy) so the test has been re-run. Eastern side showed some unexplainable results. However, nothing logged over upper level and no major issues. Monitoring will be ongoing.

**Dust**

Data from high volume samplers was presented up to September with no concerns highlighted. With the dust deposition gauges, 3 results above EPA limits. Note that EPA measure is an early warning system and very conservative.

Implementation of the Voluntary Environmental Improvement Plan (EIP) for dust has begun and includes installation of fully automated shed doors (now complete) and hosing down equipment. The Tonkin report has highlighted some other key focus areas i.e. concentrate shed, crusher and stockpile. Supervisors are aware of this through training process and formulating and taking responsibility for dust management.

Peter Riley (EPA) commented that still some problems. Previously assumed source was the concentrate shed, but door management has not shown expected reduction. Need to look again at where dust comes from i.e. is it just concentrate or is it also ore? As even in wet and cold conditions, still getting dust. Dust results go to the EPA monthly to make sure process is on track.

**Weed and pest management**

Report by Cooe Consultants tabled at meeting. All committee members given a copy. The plan will be used as a tool for prioritising areas and weeds to target. Note that this year is particularly bad for weeds.

Rabbits are not found in warrens but harbour under rocks, so not suitable for fumigation control. Will begin baiting program and will report on this in next quarter.

Slashing for fire breaks and revegetation is being monitored.

	<p><b>Revegetation</b></p> <p>Terramin requested input from both Council and the community. Terramin did own a 32 ha block of land that was originally earmarked for revegetating to enable carbon neutrality. The block was unsuitable for revegetation (soil and slope). Instead Terramin is looking to support community projects.</p> <p>Comment from the committee – it is a requirement of the MARP intended to balance carbon footprint and assist water balance; therefore this process must be driven by Terramin. Delay to date will now require faster (larger?) offset action. Could engage with the Goolwa/Wellington Local Action Planning Group (LAP) and the Angus River Catchment Group and now would be a good time as projects seeking NRM grants are being developed. However Terramin’s contribution must be additional. It is noted that this issue has been going on for 2-3 years already. More direct approach is required.</p> <p>Proposed revegetation to the west of the mine (the piggeries) is also still pending.</p> <p><b>Action: Terramin to propose alternatives to the 32Ha project and present to next meeting.</b></p> <p><b>Community Feedback</b></p> <p>Five complaints received including noise from blasting and odour.</p> <p>Efforts have been made over last 12 months to monitor the odour situation in close consultation with residents with no conclusions made. This work will now be formally concluded. The gearbox has been replaced with one that has different casing. The noise levels are still within compliance but the sound made is different.</p> <p>No ground water and surface water quality issues and blasts are all within guidelines.</p> <p>Question from committee – are there any plans for another flora/fauna survey. Not currently, as this is not a requirement in the MARP.</p> <p>Three internal incidents have been reported, including slurry overflow, reinjection tank overflow and pinholes located in tails discharge line. Although internal incidents are not required to be reported to the SCCC, they are logged in the same system and will be included for transparency and to indicate the willingness of employees to take responsibility. External incidents will be highlighted in future.</p>
7.	<p><b>MINE CLOSURE PLANNING</b></p> <p>This was raised at Council meeting on 9 November. The Council has advised that it’s position is that the site should be left in the condition as described in the MARP. However, the MARP sets out principles and processes but does not include details. The Closure Plan must address the details and involve stakeholders in the process.</p> <p>PIRSA will talk with Council about these details early in the new year (2011) as there is a new Council and a new CEO. Noted that consultation should also include Council staff.</p> <p><b>Action: PIRSA to provide update to next meeting.</b></p>
	<p><b>BREAK 15 minutes from 8.45pm</b></p>
8.	<p><b>REVIEW OF ANGAS MINE WATER BALANCE AND TSF ISSUES</b></p> <p>Rob Howie summarised the TSF design and planned operations.</p> <p>The dam is designed to hold waste tailings for the life of the mine, with the liners minimising infiltration into groundwater. The ‘cement’ slurry is to be put back underground. From January</p>

to November this year there has been an increase of 2m in dam level. The Reverse Osmosis (RO) plant treats the outflow and excess goes in the STEDS. The back up for the RO is to reinject water underground and this has now has full EPA approval. This has only been done once in last few months.

The original design of the mine plant assumed mine leakage of 6 litres per second. Outflow in the last year has been double this, up to 14 litres per second at times due to heavy rain (with 6 week delay). It is expected that in summer outflow will go back to 4-6 litres per second. Salts removed from the water are re-used and treated water goes into STEDS.

TSF level currently 71.13m (cf spillway 75.5m) and area now 57,325sq m, roughly equating to 200 million litres of excess water. Full production of the RO has been delayed due to chemical and system problems; membrane filters have clogged and one set has been replaced. The plant is currently running 16hr/day processing 400 m<sup>3</sup> (design 600 m<sup>3</sup>). To date, the plant has processed only 6 not planned 16MI. Veolia is the company running the RO.

Andrew Hodgkinson, from Parsons Brinckerhoff, presented on the RO plant.

There are currently two existing RO plants, both running well and running consistently. The 2 existing and smaller RO plants will be maintained and are treating different water but both are keeping water out of the TSF.

The new RO plant is a very advanced and sophisticated treatment plant, necessary due to the complex chemistry of the water. The original TSF design was based on the assumption that the water would be relatively consistent in character. The increased sampling rate is now indicating that the water characteristics are changing at each sampling and this is a problem for the working of RO plant. There is a need to deal with the dynamic daily variation in chemical characteristics, including acidity/alkalinity (pH), which has arisen due to wetting/drying cycles and leaching of TSF beach material under recent intermittent rainfall. Mud clogging and chlorine scale problems on RO membranes have restricted output.

The RO plant needs to be running 24 hours a day and currently it is only 16 hours per day, with three staff to overcome communications problems between four component control systems. Note that it has been made operational in only 3 months. Work has begun on upgrading and improving the control system. The final objective is to have a day shift operator only. Once it stops raining, the system will naturally work better, as there will be less variation.

Modifications to on site processes have also been made to improve the chemistry including putting overflow from the saline channel into the process pond and ultimately into the slurry.

Eventually there will be turbidity and pH monitoring systems in place before the water gets to the RO plant, so there will be an automatic response to change.

The new RO plant will work; it is just taking some time to get up to speed. There has been a noted improvement in the past week. It is important to be methodical in this approach. The water management techniques introduced in January are back in place with monitoring of the water balance. The STEDS has very good capacity and reinjection bores are still an option. A revised graph projecting TSF Level draw down was presented based on 600 m<sup>3</sup> per day (but excluding the output of the previous, smaller, RO plant which would now be retained for longer to reduce the TSF load). This graph will be updated over coming months and distributed by e-mail.

The Chairman thanked Andrew for giving the committee a better understanding of why there has been a delay in the new RO plant achieving full capacity, and thanked both Andrew and Leno Cavarra of Veolia for attending. He noted that the monthly update email from Rob is also appreciated and would continue over summer.

## 9. OTHER BUSINESS

### Newsletter

Could have a more interesting front page (not graphs) – something to attract reader interest. While very few are mailed out to the community, mailout could include mine neighbours who are not part of the committee. Note that the newsletter is available on the Terramin website.

	<p><b>Committee contact details</b></p> <p>With new membership it is timely for contact details to be up dated. Anya Hart to co-ordinate this and send onto Merri Tothill.</p> <p><b>Action: All members to update contact details with Anya.</b></p> <p>Note that new members requiring explanations or answers to questions can contact:-  Charles Irwin 0412 161 908 or email (preferable) <a href="mailto:alongshore@bigpond.com">alongshore@bigpond.com</a> or  Anya Hart 8536 5950 or email <a href="mailto:ahart@terramin.com.au">ahart@terramin.com.au</a>  A 24 hour hotline is available to report urgent matters or to seek an urgent response -  8536 8010 or email <a href="mailto:angas_community@terramin.com.au">angas_community@terramin.com.au</a></p> <p>Introductory site tour to be organised for new members (prefer 3-4 people at one time)  <b>Action: New Members to email Rob Howie to coordinate appropriate times for this tour.</b></p> <p><b>Round Table Discussion of other issues (Not discussed above)</b></p> <p>Thanks from Hans and Peter to the committee. There is recognition that there are still challenges, however, the SCCC is a very good example of a successful community group.</p> <p>Request for next meeting to have a brief overview of mine production and current financial status.</p> <p><b>Thanks to John and his wife Ruth for hall and catering and thanks to all in attendance.</b></p>
12.	<p><b>FUTURE MEETINGS</b></p> <p>The next meeting will be held on Thursday 17 February 2011 at the 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>Thursday 19 May 2011  Thursday 18 August 2011  Thursday 17 November 2011</p>
13.	<p><b>MEETING CLOSE</b></p> <p>Meeting closed 10.30pm.</p>

### ACTION LIST

Terramin	Terramin to propose alternatives to the 32Ha vegetation project and present to next meeting.
PIRSA (Henry Andryszczak)	Provide update re mine closure discussions with Council.
Terramin (Anya Hart)	Up date committee contact details and email to Merri Tothill
Terramin (Rob Howie)	Coordinate Mine Tour for new members
Terramin (Ian McAleese)	Brief overview of mine production and financial status