

# **DIXON SAND (PENRITH) PTY LTD**

## **MINUTES OF THE BI-ANNUAL COMMUNITY CONSULTATION COMMITTEE MEETING**

**4610 Old Northern Rd**

**1.00pm, 13th of May 2011.**

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**1 INTRODUCTION AND APOLOGIES:**

The meeting opened at 1.00pm.

**1.1 PRESENT**

Kristine McKenzie (KM) (*HSC*)

Daniel Giffney (DG) (*HSC*)

Farley Roberts (FR) (*Community Representative*)

Tim Mouton (TM) (*Dixon Sand-OSEM*)

Rebecca Storey (RS) (*Dixon Sand-OSEM*)

Neridah Davies (ND) (*Bush-It*)

Peter Harkins (PH) (*Maroota Public School representative*)

Mick Munnach (MM) (*Dixon Sand Representative*)

**1.2 APOLOGIES**

David Dixon (DD) (*Dixon Sand General Manager*)

Carolyn Hall (CH) (*Chairperson*)

Patricia Schwartz (PS) (*Community Representative*)

David Gathercole (DG) (*DECCW*)

Tim Baker (TB) (*Bush-it*)

Kane Winwood (KW) (*Department of Planning*)

### 1.3 INTRODUCTION

Due to the absence of CH, TM opened the meeting with introductions and acted as temporary chairperson for the meeting.

### 2 PREVIOUS MINUTES

In relation to previous minutes TM commented on the need for flashing lights at Maroota Public School (MPS). TM informed the CCC members present that DD has done all he can in terms of influencing the installation of flashing lights for MPS, it is now up to the RTA.

PH commented that from his understanding, with the change of government the flashing lights will be approved and eventually installed but again it is the decision of the RTA, although he is uncertain of the timing of when they will be installed.

### 3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

PH discussed how trucks driving past MPS are still an ongoing issue of concern. There have been incidences of where trucks have been witnessed speeding past MPS during school zones and regardless whether they may or may not be Dixon Sand trucks it is still a major issue.

PH suggested that DD continue to enforce the importance of speed limits to his truck drivers. Although PH appreciates that truck drivers and their speed is hard to control considering that a lot of the trucks speeding may not be from Dixon Sand Quarry, it is still an issue that needs to be consistently addressed.

### 4 WORK ACCOMPLISHED IN THE PERIOD

MM described the works being undertaken throughout the Dixon Sand Quarry site, including the new strip undertaken on the Old Northern Rd within Lot 1.

TM mentioned how DD has undertaken various assessments such as groundwater assessments and EEC Ecology assessments from an independent company and is preparing to lodge new modifications for DA.

**Action: TM to follow up on status of the DA modification .**

### 5 MONITORING RESULTS

#### 5.1 TEOM MONITORING

TM supplied examples of monthly TEOM PM<sub>10</sub> reports to the CCC to review. The reports indicate that dust levels have been acceptable during this time period (Nov 2010-Jan 2011).

PH asked why there was a slight increase in PM10 levels at the end of January

TM responded it is a possibility that stripping in Lot 1 may have contributed to the slight increase in dust levels received by the TEOM towards the end of January, however the wind directions and timing of works would need to be analysed. Data from the static gauge nearby (DG5) also correlated with the TEOM rise at the end of January.

TM overall concluded that all results received to date during this monitoring period have been well within the NEPM and EPL limits.

## 5.2

### *STATIC DUST MONITORING*

TM distributed a graph illustrating the monthly static dust results of each static dust monitoring location (from July 2010-March 2011). As well as the rolling average dust results for July 2010-March 2011 and individual graphs illustrating the monthly dust results for each separate dust gauge location during July 2010-March 2011.

TM then described the location of the dust gauges and how many there are as well as the criteria for the static dust gauges.

TM mentioned the reason for the high dust reading from the front gate is due to the close proximity of the dust gauge to passing trucks on the outside bend of the entry/exit to the quarry, which results in the localised deposition of heavy sand particles. This has also been mentioned and explained in the previous CCC meeting indicating that these high results are not indicative of offsite impacts from the quarry, and that it will be an ongoing issue due to the location of the gauge.

TM suggested that a process be undertaken to remove this dust gauge from its current location, and potentially relocate the gauge on the inside bend of the quarry entry access road to reduce this localised deposition from truck movements.

KM was curious to whether approval would be needed to remove and relocate the front gate dust gauge.

TM stated that the gauge could be moved in accordance with the Australian Standard, however was unsure whether approval was needed under the project approval and EPL. TM said he would review the conditions in the DA and EPL to see if a specific location is mentioned.

DG suggested talking to David Gathercole in relation to the need for approval in terms of removing and relocating the front gate dust gauge.

TM commented that a location more indicative of offsite dust impacts would be beneficial in further understanding the static dust situation at the Dixon Sand Quarry.

TM discussed how all other dust results besides the front gate and bundwall dust gauge location (DG5) were under the set criteria. The bundwall dust gauge location experienced an increase during January which and, as already mentioned, would be investigated further.

TM mentioned that this exceedance may need to be reported in the EPL Annual Return if further high levels are received at the bundwall dust gauge bringing the annual average above 4g/m<sup>2</sup>.

FR commented on how he has observed a decrease in the amount of visible dust deposition his property since Sept 2010.

KM suggested that more sweeping at the front gate is needed and possibly at the road intersection.

TM mentioned how he would like to suggest scraping instead of sweeping due to the fact that if the front gate is swept high amounts of dust are likely to fall into the front gate dust gauge, which does not represent an accurate indication of the static dust situation at the site. TM also suggested the watering down of the roads.

TM again mentioned that he will investigate other possible locations for the front gate.

DG commented that perhaps better indication of the dust could be received if the dust gauge was located at the front intersection instead.

***Action:*** *TM to follow up on whether approval needed for the relocation of the front gate dust gauge.*

***Action:*** *TM to investigate other possible and appropriate locations for the front gate dust gauge within the same relative area so as to still comply with any relevant conditions.*

***Action:*** *TM to monitor dust levels at Bundwall location to detect any increasing trends in dust levels due to quarry works in Lot 1, and whether possible mitigation measures need to be looked at or implemented.*

### 5.3

#### NOISE MONITORING

TM provided a noise monitoring report with graphs which illustrated the noise levels of the different noise monitoring sites.

TM then described and explained the noise monitoring results and how noise is monitored and the results interpreted. TM also discussed the locations of the noise monitoring sites and the timescale on which the locations are monitored (monthly).

TM explained that due to background noise such as foreign trucks, traffic, birds, dogs, wind etc, the results are generally higher than the criteria,

however does not mean that the Dixon Sand Quarry works are above the set criteria. TM then explained that a quarry only noise prediction was calculated for each sensitive receiver, including increases due to temperature inversions (6am-7am), with all these results within the acceptable limits.

TM stated that from noise monitoring the main issues in terms of noise have been truck movements at the front gate.

PH mentioned how he personally does not think noise in relation to MPS is an issue.

FR commented that he experiences audible noise from Wisemans Ferry Road in the form of air brakes.

MM in response to FR commented that he will address this with DD.

#### **5.4 GROUND WATER DEPTH MONITORING**

TM distributed groundwater depth graphs and then explained them. TM commented on how there are many inconsistencies in previous groundwater depth data which either indicates that they do not represent the actual groundwater table but instead a perched aquifer, or that the boreholes were installed incorrectly.

TM mentioned how DD has since had a groundwater survey done and has had four new boreholes installed that reach the regional groundwater table. Monitoring of these bores has commenced and hopefully more indicative and consistent groundwater depth results will now be recorded with the new boreholes, although previous boreholes will still be monitored as it is in the consent.

DG showed curiosity in relation to the fluctuations in December.

TM responded that in may have been a period of dry weather.

#### **5.5 BUSH REGENERATION WORKS**

ND produced a Bush-It report with useful images that helped the CCC better understand and visualise the bush regeneration process and progress. ND further described the works, the main achievements, methods and hours worked.

ND commented that the revegetation has been effective and has seen positive and pleasing results. In terms of weeds they have been effectively managed and a higher diversity has been observed.

ND mentioned that a joint plant day with MPS would be a positive idea to get the children involved in the revegetation and should be suggested to DD.

TM expressed his support and approval of this idea.

PH also expressed his support of this suggestion and believes that the school would be enthusiastic and open to it. PH also suggested the planning of it should begin as soon as possible. ‘

TM suggested that the planting could be undertaken in conjunction with the planting of a vegetation noise buffer zone between MPS and the Dixon Sand Quarry.

6 *ANNUAL THREATENED SPECIES SURVEY REPORT*

TM began by describing the annual threatened species survey report, the sites that were surveyed, the method used and the results obtained. TM also handed out a copy of the report to the present CCC members.

TM also explained that we undertook photo points and the purpose of them in the effective monitoring of vegetation growth health and death.

7 *GENERAL BUSINESS*

KM requested that the next meeting be held in the first or second week of November.

KM also suggested that email addresses of all CCC members be obtained so that invites, notices, etc can be sent electronically as well as through the mail as she did not receive her invite in the mail and it would make correspondence a lot easier and effective.

*Action: TM or RS to obtain email addresses off CCC members.*

8 *SITE INSPECTION*

All present CCC members participated in the site inspection which was a look at the north-western corner of the quarry and then a walk around the back of the processing plant and back to the office.

MM described the works being undertaken at this area of the site.

DG noted that there was steel and tyres lying around the site and reminded MM of site tidiness.