

DIXON SAND (PENRITH) PTY LTD

MINUTES OF THE BI-ANNUAL COMMUNITY CONSULTATION COMMITTEE MEETING

4610 Old Northern Rd

1.00 – 3:00 pm, 17th November 2015.

1 INTRODUCTION AND APOLOGIES:

The meeting opened at 1.00pm.

1.1 ATTENDEES

Carolyn Hall (CH) (*Chairperson*)

Noel Kenny (NK) (*Dixon Sand*)

Hunny Churcher (HC) (*Dixon Sand-OSEM*)

Brooke Weber (BW) (*Dixon Sand-OSEM*)

Kristine McKenzie (KM) (*HSC*)

Robert Buckham (RB) (*HSC*)

Patrick Gregson (PG) (*Bush-It*)

Patricia Schwartz (PS) (*Community Representative*)

Lisa Aylward (LA) (*Maroota Public School Representative*)

1.2 APOLOGIES

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

Farley Roberts (FR) (*Community Representative*)

Robert Semaganda (RS) (*RMS Maintenance Services – DownerMouchel*)

Elle Donnelley (ED) (*DPE*)

Action:

HC to contact Farley Roberts.

1.3 INTRODUCTION

CH opened the meeting with introductions and acted as chairperson for the meeting.
BW was welcomed to the CCC.

2 PREVIOUS MINUTES

CH reviewed the previous CCC minutes from May 2015.

3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

CH went through business arising from previous minutes including action item:

HC to locate the missing Dec 2014 GW samples and review the QC system to prevent repeated incidence. Action closed.

4 WORK ACCOMPLISHED IN THE PERIOD

NK discussed:

- A portion of the vegetated area in Lot 2 was cleared about 2 weeks ago.
- Silt pond in the western end of Lot 29 will be backfilled and rehabilitated with the vegetation and topsoil from recent clearing – a translocation method.
- New silt ponds in Lot 29. Base of walls are currently being installed. It's a work in progress building up the walls.
- Stage 5 at Haerses Road currently cutting out sandstone blocks, big demand from Council.
- Compliance audit by the DPE has been conducted since the last meeting.

HC discussed:

- Mod 4 for ONR DA was approved which allows Dixon to excavate deeper in Lots 1 and 2; to 2m above regional groundwater levels. As a result a new biodiversity offset area of 8.7 ha is required which is located at Haerses Rd.
- It is also proposed to reinstate a natural corridor of approximately 6.83ha of native vegetation.
- Direct translocation is being utilised.
- The remaining of Lots 1 and 2 will be rehabilitated to Class 4 Agricultural land as per the consent.

HC discussed:

- All Management plans are currently under review.
- A Biodiversity Management Plans are required under the new consent. This is being prepared by Cumberland Ecology.
- A compliance audit was conducted in August by the DPE. Dixon received questions/preliminary feedback but still waiting for the final review. Have been advised this should be sometime in November.
- Main point from audit is that better record keeping is required.
- Had minor non-compliance such as the disused and empty fuel tank being kept on site with no bunding. This was 'low risk' non-compliance.

KM raised the point of the possibility of regular audits being undertaken now that the Department has a new compliance team.

HC explained that Dave Dixon is proposing a Mod 5 in 2016 to trim down Mod 4 which includes obsolete items from earlier conditions. This will assist in complying with conditions as current conditions are very convoluted due to the number of modifications.

KM pointed out that perhaps a new DA is required so that there is only one consent.

HC explained the requirement of an Independent Environmental Audit every 3 years under the DA conditions. This will be organised within 3 months of receiving the final report from the DPE compliance audit.

5 MONITORING RESULTS

HC explained the monitoring requirements for the Quarry and recap the locations of TEOM, static dust gauges, groundwater bores, sensitive receivers and noise monitoring. Two new GW bores have been installed as a requirement for Mod 4.

5.1 TEOM MONITORING

HC explained how the TEOM stations works, what is recorded and how the data is interpreted including the criteria's and what each criteria means. HC explained:

- PM10 all in acceptable criteria except one exceedance on the 6th of May 2015.
- Management received a text alarm to notify the exceedance.
- Dixon self-reported to the EPA.
- The EPA advised that there was also a dust storm likely to attribute to the exceedance.
- On site resident had lit a fire and the adjacent neighbour had a bonfire. Due to No machinery operated in the area due to wet grounds. It was concluded the cause of the PM10 exceedance was not attributed to the quarry.

5.2 STATIC DUST MONITORING

HC provided details of depositional dust monitoring over the 2015-2016 monitoring period. It was noted:

- Front gate dust gauge has been put on hold due to adjacent rehabilitation works since September 2015 and monitoring should recommence in early 2016.
- All dust monitors doing well.
- D5 at bund wall has data missing for July 2015 due to access issue.
- D10 higher in the last two months due to onsite resident slashing in dry weather. The resident has been asked to only slash after wet weather to reduce dust generation.

HC presented the rolling average dust results for all dust gauges.

5.3 NOISE MONITORING

HC discussed:

- Locations of the noise monitoring sites which is undertaken every 6 months.
- The use of setback calculations as a more accurate method for deriving the actual quarry noise levels at the house and school.
- Additional noise monitoring was done at Haerses in October due to an exceedance in setback calculation.
- Noise monitoring does not take into consideration topography and attenuation from buildings.
- Screening at Haerses Rd has been reduced. This will ensure we are in compliance with noise parameters.
- Dominant noise is from road noise and trucks. Noise from actual quarry is generally inaudible.

5.4 GROUNDWATER DEPTH & QUALITY MONITORING

HC explained:

- GW depths are taken monthly.
- Old bores monitor perched aquifers and new bores monitor regional water table.
- Haerses and ONR results are fairly consistent.
- Long term trends also consistent.
- MW4 to be removed as it is a WHS issue and is no longer accessible.
- Issue with pH results from field and lab as the results seem to be inconsistent

Actions:

- **HC to purchase a new field pH meter and investigate the tolerance for the difference between field vs lab pH. Check with the lab.**
- **HC to investigate the interpretation for EC and implications from potential impacts from quarry operations.**

PS explained that field pH should be superior to lab pH where correct methodology is adopted and that numerous factors influence pH results.

5.5 BUSH REGNERATION WORKS

PG presented the results are from May 2015 – Nov 2015. There are 3 different areas within the Haerses Road offset area. These receive different treatments.

A total of 171 hours was spent at Haerses and 33 hours at the Mine Site (ONR).

Area 1 – Sandstone capping, soil translocation, planting and fencing

- Area 1 is doing the best due to soil translation. Only canopy planting was conducted in this site with ground cover regenerating naturally.
- Area 1 was fenced off to help keep the wallabies out.
- The community in Area 1 is well established and so fencing is now cosmetic and can be removed if need be.

- KM suggested that the fence be retained so Area 1 can be identified easily for future audits etc.

Area 2 – Sandstone capping and planting

- Area 2 is largely weed free.
- No formal survey has been conducted for this area.
- This area was not fenced and lots of evidence of wallabies present. Plants stunted due to being eaten so growing a lot slower than Area 1.
- Mid layer not doing as well as Area 2 but still growing ok.

Area 3 – Clearing of Hakea forest and planting

- Area 2 has lots of Hakea which was cleared and planted.
- Crofton is being monitored in several areas of the quarry.
- Crofton weed present at Area 3 due to bare ground. Creek lines comprise of dense established vegetation so Crofton weed is unable to penetrate through these areas. Creek lines have been scouted and no Crofton weed is present.

PS explained that the three distinct areas at Haerses Road offset area were not strategic. Translocated topsoil and seed banks were only sufficient for the application in Area 1 translocation.

6 GENERAL BUSINESS

LA is applying for the school zone hour at Maroota Public School to be extended due to high school students catching the school bus after 4pm. LA may need local business, including Dixon Sand, to support this application.

7 SITE INSPECTION

No Site inspection undertaken. A site inspection at Haerses Road Offset Area is scheduled for the next CCC Meeting.

8 NEXT CCC MEETING

The next CCC meeting will be scheduled for Tuesday 10th May 2016.