

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

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

**4610 Old Northern Rd**

**1.00pm, 18th of November 2014.**

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**1 INTRODUCTION AND APOLOGIES:**

The meeting opened at 1.00pm.

**1.1 PRESENT**

Carolyn Hall (CH) (*Chairperson*)

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

Kristine McKenzie (KM) (*HSC*)

Noel Kenny (NK) (*Dixon Sand*)

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

Robert Buckham (RB) (*HSC*)

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

Patricia Schwartz (PS) (*Community Representative*)

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

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

**1.2 APOLOGIES**

Farley Roberts (FR) (*Community Representative*)

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

Elle Donnelley (ED) (*DoPI*)

Chris Gatehouse (CG) (*RMS Maintenance Services*)

### 1.3 *INTRODUCTIONS*

CH opened the meeting with introductions and acted as chairperson for the meeting. Meeting attendees introduced themselves for new CCC meeting member LA.

### 2 *PREVIOUS MINUTES*

CH went through the previous minutes from the CCC meeting undertaken in May 2014.

### 3 *BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES*

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

- Aerial photos have been updated using latest imagery from Six Maps (NSW Land & Property Information).
- A field pH meter was used during June 2014 groundwater quality monitoring, with results provided in the 2013-2014 Annual Environmental Monitoring Report.

### 4 *WORK ACCOMPLISHED IN THE PERIOD*

DD has had recent discussions with DoPI regarding application to mine deeper in Lots 1 and 2, and is in agreement with DoPI regarding draft approval conditions. Final approval will be issued shortly, prior to next CCC meeting. Installation of 2 new groundwater bores in Lots 1 and 2 is required, prior to approval being issued, and in accordance with the Maroota Aquifer Water Sharing Plan. Under the new approval, real-time groundwater monitors are to be installed on all currently operational groundwater bores. These monitors will give more detailed long term data to better understand the Maroota Sands and regional aquifers.

PS asked who will monitor and calibrate the monitors.

DD stated that once approval has been issued, contracts would be issued for installation and maintenance of the monitors.

NK described the works being undertaken throughout the Dixon Sand Quarry site.

NK explained that clay is still being moved to build tailings dam walls. Due to pending approval for Lot 1 and 2 modification, ground water bore installation pre-commencement works are proposed to start prior to Christmas. Sales have been good and the new workshop shed is currently under construction and progressing well.

## **MONITORING RESULTS**

HC and TM went through maps of monitoring locations for Old Northern Road and Haerses Road.

LA asked how close the quarry will mine up to the school.

DD explained that a 250m buffer is in place from the school boundary to the quarry, and a 7m high noise attenuation bund would be constructed along the buffer edge.

KM asked what the timeline is on reaching the buffer zone.

DD explained once the application to mine deeper has been approved, it will be 10 years until they start quarrying in Stage 3.

LA asked if fencing would be installed at the bund / quarry edge to prevent children from entering.

DD stated there is no requirement for fencing in the quarry approval.

### **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.

DD also explained the notification process if an exceedance occurs and which wind sectors relate to potential emissions from the quarry.

HC provided a comparison between data from 2012-2013 and 2013-2014. Most of the high readings resulted from fire events and have been explained in the May 2014 meeting. Since then there were two small exceedances due to bushfires or other unexplained reasons when the quarry was not operating over the Christmas break.

### **5.2**

#### **STATIC DUST MONITORING**

HC provided details of depositional dust monitoring over the 2013-2014 monitoring period. It was noted that one unexplained high result was received at Dust Gauge 6 at the school in November 2013. This high reading did not correlate with the TEOM, which is located directly adjacent to D6.

DD mentioned it would be worthwhile checking the results of PF formation depositional gauge nearby to see if this also received a high reading.

LA will look into any school activities undertaken in this area during November 2013.

#### **Action:**

- ***OSEM to check PF Formation monitoring results to see if there is a correlation with other high readings in the direct vicinity of D6.***

### 5.3 *NOISE MONITORING*

TM also discussed the locations of the noise monitoring sites which is undertaken every 6 months. TM explained the use of setback calculations as a more accurate method for deriving the actual quarry noise levels at the house and school.

### 5.4 *GROUND WATER DEPTH AND QUALITY MONITORING*

HC explained the groundwater monitoring results for the current period, and the differences between the new and old boreholes in regards to perched aquifers and the regional groundwater table. It was noted that field pH readings have been undertaken however these results were not provided in the presentation.

TM discussed the stability of water quality results from the old bores installed in perched aquifers. One anomaly was noted for high EC in February 2014.

PS stated that under normal circumstances that pH/EC results should stay consistent.

DD explained the installation of the old bores in terms of the underlying geology, and how they are more susceptible to fluctuations in water quality as a result of rainfall and activities on the surface, such as agriculture (pesticides, fertiliser etc.).

#### *Action:*

- *OSEM to include field pH readings in groundwater monitoring results at next CCC meeting.*

### 5.5 *BUSH REGENERATION WORKS*

PG presented the regeneration activities undertaken since the last CCC meeting, including hours worked during the period. PG explained how the daily site reporting method has been updated to separate between ONR and Hearses Rd sites, to make record keeping easier between sites.

#### **Hearses Rd**

Works focused on managing weedy grasses and Crofton Weed within the translocation area, via hand removal and spraying. A sweep along creekline also undertaken, with minimal Crofton Weed observed.

#### **ONR**

Plantings on SW boundary adjacent to old nursery are progressing well after a few years of establishment, and predation from wallabies has reduced. Weed management has focused on Crofton Weed on dam walls, Rhodes Grass around plantings, and Lantana in Lot 2 behind the school. A number of native species have been observed naturally regenerating on dam walls. A weaker solution of glyphosate has been used when spraying weeds to minimise impacts to native regeneration.

6

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

LA has replaced PH as the Maroota School Representative.

PS asked how impacts to the Kunzea conservation area are being monitored.

TM explained that annual monitoring is undertaken via patch count and photo points. No decline has been observed to date, with the new growth observed last monitoring period.

7

**SITE INSPECTION**

A site inspection was undertaken at Maroota Public School, to discuss potential future impacts from the quarry. It was noted during the inspection that no boundary fencing was currently installed delineating the school grounds from the quarry lease, which represents a potential safety issue for children.

LA stated that the school has funding available that could be used for fencing installation.

DD stated that the quarry could arrange for a surveyor to check the property boundary.

The next CCC meeting will be scheduled for the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday in May 2015.