



**Community Consultative Committee Meeting**  
**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> August, 2017**  
**Woodlawn Bioreactor Conference Room**

**Minutes**

**Opened:** At 5:33 pm

**Present:**

Henry Gundry (Veolia)	Judy Alcock (TADPAI),
Vanessa Toparis (Veolia)	Neil Shepherd (TADPAI)
Gill Shepherd (Chair)	Cr D Sturgiss (GMC)
Cid Riley (Community Rep)	Keith Hunter (Community Rep)
Scott Martin (GMC)	Andrew Lawry (Heron)
Brian Hearne (Heron)	

**Apologies:** Cr M O'Neill (GMC)

**Welcome:** The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed attendees.

**Minutes of previous meeting:** The previous meeting minutes were tabled and chaired. Moved Denzil Sturgiss, seconded Scott Martin

**Matters Arising:**

- In matters arising Cr O'Neill sought to have her vote against the change of meeting time recorded in the minutes.
- Henry discussed the Woodlawn Community Liaison Charter, and advised currently this document is acceptable in its current form. Nothing further has been received from Dept Planning to advise otherwise. Matter of conflict of interest to be discussed in general business.
- Status of community liaison representative from TADPAI was confirmed in email received from Gill Shepherd on 15 August.
- Henry updated committee on status of Larry Meng, directive from NSW Government to abolish supervisory licences. Scott Martin advised GMC was only advised in mid-June Larry's position was no longer required.
- Gill Shepherd raised a vote of thanks from the committee for all the work and knowledge Larry has committed to the project over many years. Henry suggested a letter of thanks to Larry from the committee. Andrew Lawry from Heron also acknowledged Larry's contribution

**Woodlawn Operational Update:**

**Odour Management**

- Two formal complaints received, one in May, one end of June.
- The operation has been pleased with the gas extraction initiatives this year, which resulted from a change of extraction system design starting in 2016.



- EPA provided Veolia with a letter following its most recent site visit last month, commended the appearance of the site, which Henry said was very much appreciated.
- Neil advised there were more reports of odour from the community, most recently at TSA meeting. Encouraged Veolia to do something to encourage residents to report odour issues formally. Henry suggested further articles in the Tarago Times to encourage people to report improvements or concerns
- Cid advised vast majority of people with issues have never reported.
- Henry still waiting on approval from EPA to use biofilter material, it is currently being used because the strategy implemented is proving to be successful.
- Working with University of Canberra on technology for monitoring areas of potential emission. Henry was hoping to provide a status update on this initiative at the next meeting. The Project will assist the operation to find emission points that are not obvious, which then can be controlled
- Neil asked whether Veolia could advise community in advance when there would be an odour problem, in a similar manner to bushfire danger alerts. Henry thought this could be difficult given the many variables involved. Neil said certain weather conditions could make the odour worse. Community could be advised via an SMS process. Further investigation into a notification process is required.

## Planning Matters

- Denzil asked about the water situation, Henry advised Veolia had always fought with water, now operation works with it. New leachate treatment plant approval to construct required Dept of Planning approval. Public Exhibition period has now been completed and Veolia has to the 15<sup>th</sup> of September to respond to the stakeholder comments.
- TADPAI had concerns with Veolia approach to bypass Planning approval to increase local waste limit from 50ktpa to 130ktpa. Henry stated that Veolia always had the approval of 130ktpa in 2012. Veolia was looking to seek approval from Dept of Planning earlier, due to the existing need to service regional councils and commercial customers. This requirement is evident due to conversations held with QPRC seeking further waste disposal and a commercial customer who has been forced to diversify due to EPA pressure on a small regional landfill.
- Neil said TADPAI's major concern was that secretary could sign off on above 50,000 tonnes.
- Judy asked if it was fair for the road to not to be repaired, prior to additional waste being accepted. Said there was concern in the community about safety if the road was used before being upgraded. Allowing these things to go ahead without safeguards in place can mean the community can be left behind. Said all parties need to work together.
- Henry said road (2km section) would be repaired if Veolia exceeds its existing threshold. Completing this road upgrade, and the Veolia consent commitment will only initiated with the commercial drivers in place, which is driven by the tonnage threshold on Tarago Road. Waste currently operating well below consent of 50ktpa,



with local waste tonnes currently around 25ktpa tonnes. Veolia is still bound by the 2012 planning consent requirements.

- Cid said road was of two standards across the two LGAs, with GMC being very proactive in road maintenance on their section. Henry mentioned that if road safety was an issue to the residents, that they should take this up with the relevant LGA.
- Henry discussed the leachate treatment plant proposed as part of the planning modification. Veolia has not received planning approval to construct the plant. EPA and a number of different parties proposed a number of questions to Veolia, specifically regarding the effluent quality and point of discharge and storage in the existing evaporation dams. Veolia proposed additional storage of the current treated leachate, this project is on hold for the current time. The key to the operation will be to enhance evaporation to maintain existing storage space for a longer period.

### WBE Generation

- Electrical Generation 23,809 MWh

### Waste Tonnage Disposal Data (YTD)

- Tonnes
  - Sydney to Bioreactor (Clyde/Banksmeadow) 387,353.667t
  - Local Waste Volumes 21,426.480t
  - MBT (Residual to Bioreactor) 10,936.420t
  - Sydney to MBT (Clyde/Banksmeadow) 20,918.706t

Henry reported 20,918 tonnes have gone through MBT since it was commissioned earlier this year. Current recovery is around 50% converted to compost, which has been very encouraging considering the early stages of commissioning.

Henry discussed a proposed new modification to the MBT, which included a drying and packaging process for the residual material from the MBT. This material otherwise known Residual Derived Fuel (RDF) is a product of value, and Veolia is seeking overseas markets for this, and plans to transport 55 containers via rail every 2 weeks direct for export

Keith Hunter asked about REC or LGCs regarding our electrical generation. Henry advised Energy Australia receives the RECs as party of a longer term Power Purchase Agreement for all power exported. Veolia is looking at options next year to supply its own needs, now the MBT is operational and has a high energy demand. In addition to that, Veolia is working through the current planning process with GMC to construct a 2.5MW solar photovoltaic farm at the site.

### Train Management

- Henry advised not much has changed since previous meeting, however Veolia has applied for funding from Transport NSW for the extension of the existing crossing loop in Tarago. This project will increase efficiency for all rail operators using the Canberra Branch line. Henry stated that he will keep the committee briefed of any changes or development



- Cid Riley provided some feedback regarding excessive horn sounds from the departing train on the 15<sup>th</sup> of August at around 8pm. Henry stated that he welcomed this information and would be more than happy to pass on the feedback to Pacific National about this type of disruption in the village.

#### **Woodlawn - MBT Project Status:**

- MBT is progressing well. With almost all positions filled to maintain the required 18 hours of operation per day.
- MBT Launch/Opening on 8 September, further information about the day's arrangements will be circulated prior to event.

#### **Elton Consulting:**

- Elton met with GMC yesterday re actions that came out of the workshop. Council staff will be attending the workshop on 22 August. Draft master plan is now on exhibition and community will be asked to provide feedback and prioritize items.
- Henry said it was a community-generated plan, funded by Veolia.
- Keith asked for information on the limit the Trust will fund items on the plan. Said the men's shed was holding off an application to the State Government waiting until they understood the level of funding which would be available for the men's shed.
- Judy said she saw the document as a plan for how Tarago village would progress over the next 20 years and become a better village.
- Denzil suggested if the men's shed was to receive funding from other sources it would leave more money in the fund for other local projects.
- Scott suggested the document could be used to leverage grant funding from many sources, not only the Trust and Council.

#### **Other Matters**

- Keith raised the matter of the independent committee chair.
- Gill said advice from Department of Planning was that she had been appointed to be Chair of committee, believed she could not continue as Chair as she was not operating within the guidelines. Concern from other organisations. Needs definition of independent chair. Asked what would happen if Gill resigns. Matter crosses into Heron CCC.
- Andrew Lawry advised that Stephen Shoesmith (DPE) said a representative from Planning would be in attendance at meeting. Definition of independent chair required – as TSA has received funding that could be declared but would not exclude Gill from being Chair as it was not a pecuniary interest.
- Letter from Stephen Shoesmith stated that existing committees do not need to adopt guidelines immediately, should be phased. He believed Gill would qualify as independent.
- Andrew said guidelines were not rules, Henry agreed.
- Andrew advised matter has arisen from Jupiter Windfarm CCC.
- Gill read advice received from the Department, said she would not be prepared to continue under the current guidelines.
- Andrew committed to obtaining clarification in writing from the Department.



- Henry said Veolia would be following its existing charter and procedures
- Keith said committee could transition when the committee's term is up in two years.
- Committee members expressed support for Gill remaining in the Chair.
- *Motion:* Veolia's CCC will continue to adopt the existing charter and procedures and Veolia will continue to provide the administrative support to the committee. Definition of an independent chair will be sought in writing. Committee will continue to use the current procedures until the election of the new committee in 2018

**Meeting Closed – 6.56pm**

**Next Meeting – Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November – 5.30pm**