

# Woodlawn Eco-Precinct

<b>Date</b>	Thursday 27 April 2023	<b>Time</b>	5:00pm to 7.00pm
<b>Coordinator</b>	Justin Houghton, Site Manager, Woodlawn Eco Precinct	<b>Location</b>	Woodlawn Conference Room 619 Collector Road, Tarago

## Committee List ✓

Name	Present	Name	Present
Justin Houghton (JH) (Veolia)	✓	Wayne Baynham (WB) (Community Rep)	X
Cr Andy Wood (AW) (GMC Councillor)	✓	Mark Quinlan (MQ) (Community Rep)	✓
Scott Martin (SM) (GMC Director Planning & Environment)	X	Samantha Johnson (SJ) (Community Rep)	✓
Cr John Preston (JP) (QPRC Councillor)	✓	Fiona Jeffery (FJ) (Community Rep)	✓
Kym Wake (KW) (Community Rep)	✓		

## Visitors List ✓

Name	Present	Name	Present
Marea Rakete (MR) (Veolia)	✓	Andrew Lawson (AL) (Independent Facilitator)	✓
Skye McParland (SMc) (Veolia)	✓	Ray Choy (RC) (Veolia)	✓
Kathryn Whitfield (KLW) (Veolia)	✓		

## Minutes

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction and welcome</b>
1.1	Meeting opened with an Acknowledgement of Country and CLC members were welcomed to the first CLC meeting of 2023.
1.2	It was noted that ARC updates can be added to future agendas.
<b>2</b>	<b>ARC project update (see presentation for details)</b>
2.1	<p>Kathryn Whitfield (KLW) from Veolia provided an update on the ARC project.</p> <p>Submissions about the ARC project noted themes such as: air quality, human health, and farming.</p> <p>Next steps: Finalise the outstanding studies - will update the community bi-monthly and via website. Veolia's response to the Submission Report will go on the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) website and be made available to the public before the independent planning commission process begins.</p>
2.2	<p><b>Questions and discussion points</b></p> <p>KW raised the following questions and points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What was the ratio for and against the ARC project ? Veolia acknowledged that the majority of submissions were objections.</li> <li>Will Veolia speak with the new NSW Government? SMc: As standard business practice, Veolia does engage with the government. We haven't met the new environment minister yet since the election.</li> <li>There were three letters on the DPE portal - can these letters be included as part of this meeting? SMc offered links or copies of letters in meeting minutes (<b>Action<sup>1</sup></b>).</li> </ul> <p>The relevant letters:  <a href="#">DPE Community Engagement Outcomes</a>  <a href="#">Request RTS - DPE to Veolia</a>  <a href="#">DPE Issues Letter - Woodlawn AERC</a></p> <p>FJ raised that there is clear community opposition, so why is Veolia continuing with the ARC project?            There were 600 submissions on the ARC project and the wider region and state also needs to be considered. Veolia's experience indicates that typically with SSD (State Significant Developments) people do not make a submission if they are not opposed to the development. It will ultimately be a decision for the Government regarding the ARC proposal. Our business needs to stay in line with the sustainable waste management and environmental legislations decided by the government, such as moving away from landfilling. The ARC project is one of many ways we are doing this.</p> <p>MQ enquired about the proportion of submissions from Tarago community?</p>

	<p>Approximately 90 submissions received were from Tarago residents and organisations.</p> <p>AW confirmed that the Goulburn Mulwaree Council wrote a strongly worded response and affirmed that this represented opposition from the wider Goulburn-Mulwaree region. JP agreed that the QPRC council submission was likewise representative of QPRC resident opposition.</p> <p>SMc acknowledged it was clear there was opposition much greater than from just the local area around Woodlawn.</p> <p>AW noted that the volume of waste will become an issue, and decisions will need to be made whether it goes into landfill or energy recovery.</p> <p>FJ enquired whether Veolia would accept or challenge the finding if the Independent Planning Commission was opposed to the ARC project. Veolia has not made any decisions around this yet.</p> <p>AW asked if there had been any overseas legal challenges?</p> <p>Veolia did not know but noted that planning approval processes differ from county to country.</p>
<b>3</b>	<b>Present/Apologies</b>
3.1	Apologies: Scott Martin and Wayne Baynham
<b>4</b>	<b>Overview of the CLC charter and agreement on commitments</b>
4.1	<p><b>Veolia Community Liaison Committee</b></p> <p>SMc highlighted that the aims of the CLC are to: share factual information and respond to community concerns, increase transparency, build trust, and foster a stronger network.</p>
4.2	<p>AW suggested changing the wording of the CLC Charter to reflect that the Independent Facilitator will be the chair of the meeting (<b>Action<sup>2A</sup></b>).</p> <p><b>Questions and discussion points</b></p> <p>It was agreed that CLC meetings will be held quarterly. The CLC charter should be amended to reflect quarterly meetings, rather than two monthly. (<b>Action<sup>2B</sup></b>). There was interest from several CLC members in having an onsite tour. Veolia offered to hold these separately to CLC meetings for newcomers, but noted the importance of members going on site as needed to get an understanding of key matters as they arise. (<b>Action<sup>3</sup></b>).</p> <p>FJ requested the turnaround time of CLC meeting minutes be improved. It was agreed that meeting minutes will be available approximately 2 weeks after each meeting and the CLC will have a 2 week response time.</p> <p>SMc noted that community feedback is both vital and valuable.</p>
<b>5</b>	<b>Site update (provided by JH - see slides for details)</b>
5.1	<p><b>Bioenergy</b></p> <p>Energy generation and gas capture was presented. JH noted gas extraction is almost 95%.</p>
5.2	<b>Mechanical Biological Treatment</b>

	<p>A presentation of the MBT's year-to-date statistics was provided. It was noted that the Mixed Waste Organic Output (MWOO) is used at the landfill as an alternative daily cover (ADC) whilst Woodlawn Organic Outputs (WOO) material is being applied to tailings dams at the neighbouring mine site for rehabilitation.</p> <p>SJ asked: Where does the Canberra rubbish go? We are licenced to take 125,000t from local sources and currently approximately 110,000t of that is from Canberra.</p> <p>FJ asked: Which customers bring waste here? Veolia has a range of municipal and commercial customers (we cannot name for commercial reasons).</p>
5.3	<p><b>Bioreactor and Leachate Treatment Plant</b></p> <p>Provided a slide update on landfill waste YTD and leachate treatment YTD (27 April 2023). JH noted current leachate treatment at 4.8L/s is good as the facility was built to capture 4.2L/s and leachate treatment helps with the gas extraction.</p> <p>JH explained that if leachate is brought in from Clyde on the train (this stopped in October 2022). This leachate is generated from the waste that is collected in Sydney and that comes to Woodlawn by train (and has done so for years).</p>
5.4	<p><b>Site Water Balance and Leachate Treatment</b></p> <p>As a result of ongoing weather challenges, the site's water balance and water storage capacity have been impacted. Construction of additional coffer dams for the storage of treated leachate from the Leachate Treatment Plant (LTP) is progressing. LTP goes to ED3N 1-4 and ED3SS. Treated Leachate can only go into Cofferdam #1. Catchment water goes to ED1 (the old mine site).</p> <p>KW asked: How much water can you capture? 3000ML</p> <p>FJ asked:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How was Veolia addressing the water balance? JH: The short-term strategy was submitted to the EPA last year. In the short term we rely on natural and mechanical evaporation. For the longer term we are exploring further treatment and removal of water from the site for beneficial reuse and/or thermal evaporation.</li> <li>Are you moving leachate offsite? JH: We are producing more per day than we can truck out at the Woodlawn site so we are relying on natural and mechanical evaporation. The MBT site is smaller and has less leachate so some is trucked out of that site – this started on 1 November 2022. This goes to Spring Farm near Camden, they are licensed to take it. We only do it on trucks, we don't do trains any more. There are about 2 trucks per day x 5 days per week. However, we could do a maximum of 4 trucks per day, if needed. These trucks do drive through Tarago. This is a temporary measure and is required only when there is heavy rainfall.</li> <li>How long will you have to move leachate? JH: We are in the process of having a new dam approved at the MBT and it will not be required</li> </ul>

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<p>5.5</p>	<p>as often if at all after that - probably on and off until August. We move one megalitre per month.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Would you empty ED1? JH: No, not at this stage, it is too large. However, this dam is a part of our long term strategy and reducing the catchment and volume input is the first step after that we can look at lining areas of the dam in the future.</li> <li>• What is the chemical make-up of the leachate? Is it tested? JH: It's more organic. It is tested and the results are sent to Spring Farm so they can treat it.</li> </ul> <p><b>Leachate management</b> An overview of leachate management was presented.</p> <p>Veolia had to put leachate into ED1 against our license, and we notified this and are working with the EPA. Veolia has increased monitoring. We have 4 months of baseline data and there has been no change in groundwater water quality. An independent risk assessment was done prior to pumping from the coffer dam into ED1 and it confirmed that the impact was likely to be negligible. We have built another treated leachate dam (coffer dam #2) and will use this once approved. We will redirect to Coffe #2, and plan to build a third dam, so that we can have ample capacity and cycle through the dams.</p> <p>We could have trucked the leachate out instead of pumping it into ED1, but would have needed approximately 30 trucks per day, and there is no way we would put 30 trucks per day on the roads. We can evaporate the same if not more volume when weather conditions are favorable.</p> <p>5.6</p> <p><b>Odour management</b> An update on Veolia's gas capture improvement projects was explained to the Committee. This included rock and clay lining, gas capture, biofilters, monthly monitoring of 350 points, plus the carbon filtration unit will be trialed in areas that are identified as potentially problematic while we work on improving extraction in these areas.</p> <p>It was noted that there was one exceedance in surface monitoring in March 2023. This was fixed immediately. Also our annual independent odour audit was undertaken in March with the report to follow (see the completed list actions in the attached slides).</p> <p>SJ asked: How many Carbon Filtration units do you have? JH: We have two, as we are trialing these and if they are effective we will get more. SJ asked: Are they made in Australia ? Yes, I believe so.</p> <p>AW asked: Is there a correlation between the exceedance and EPA complaints? JH: There is no direct correlation, because sometimes odour is weather dependent e.g. temperature inversions. There has been a reduction in odour complaints since the gas extraction improvements late last year. However, we are still aware that odour gets out and we will continue to work on improvements.</p> <p>5.7</p> <p><b>Container management</b></p>
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	<p>An update on container management was provided. It was noted that the container design and construction is meant to be water tight. In addition, Veolia has a container maintenance programme. We have received reports about the leaking containers and one option might be to use a leak detection tray on the back of the container. However, someone independent will assess the viability of this. Veolia were not aware of the leaks until the community reported leakages when containers were being transported up the hill from Crisps Creek to Woodlawn as containers often only leak coming up that steep incline.</p> <p>SJ asked: Can anything be done about trains stopping in town (they are an eyesore)?</p> <p>JH: We need to do that otherwise we would have trains being unloaded until late in the day as not parking in town would impact the train schedule, which would result in trains running much later, and which we do not have control over. Only empty trains wait in town and the trains should not be waiting for a prolonged time and if this is happening please tell us so we can provide feedback to Pacific National.</p> <p>KW asked: How many complaints per year are there about leaking containers?</p> <p>JH: About 10. KW then asked how many containers you transport a year - about 30,000 containers.</p> <p>FJ asked:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have you thought about cameras to watch leaks? JH: EPA complaints are mainly dashcam footage, so that provides camera evidence. FJ requested that information about the new containers, leak management be conveyed to the community in the Tarago Times (<b>Action<sup>4</sup></b>).</li> <li>Is the EPA the best avenue to report leaking containers? JH: It is better to report directly to Veolia, as well as the EPA. EPA complaints arrive up to 1 month later. Reports to Veolia can be dealt with in real time. Containers are uniquely numbered, so we can then identify problematic containers, and get an Independent expert to recommend actions.</li> </ul>
<b>6</b>	<b>Environmental update (provided by RC - see slides for details)</b>
6.1	<p><b>Environmental compliance</b></p> <p>An update on Veolia's environmental compliance was provided to the Committee.</p> <p>KW asked: Where are the weather stations located and did they detect any Hydrogen Sulphide ? There is one weather station here onsite and there are two located in Tarago. One at the Tarago Recreation area, and the other at the Showgrounds. To-date no Hydrogen Sulphide has been detected at either station in Tarago.</p> <p>Data from the stations will be publicly available and more information will be shared with the community in the coming weeks. It may not be Hydrogen Sulphide that is causing the odour (there are many other causes of odour that can be generated by the landfill), and so residents may still smell odour even if the weather station does not record Hydrogen Sulphide.</p>
6.2	<p><b>EPL Variations</b></p> <p>A summary of EPL variations and actions was provided.</p> <p>KW asked: Was there a reading of Hydrogen Sulphide on site ?</p>

6.3	<p>RC: We have had some low readings on site.</p> <p>SJ requested larger fonts on the slides with tables and actions for readability (<b>Action<sup>5</sup></b>).</p> <p><b>PA Modifications and post approval applications</b></p> <p>PA modifications and approval applications were presented</p> <p>FJ asked: Is the leachate transport modification only for leachate from the MBT ?</p> <p>RC: Yes, it is only from MBT.</p>
6.4	<p><b>Regulatory enforcements</b></p> <p>Summary of enforcements, extreme events, and actions were provided.</p> <p>There was a request from several members for a glossary (<b>Action<sup>6</sup></b>).</p> <p>SJ suggested diagrams could be utilised for better explanation (<b>Action<sup>7</sup></b>).</p>
6.5	<p><b>Consultation items</b></p> <p>Discussed Crisps Creek IMF (train yard) and approved hours.</p> <p>FJ asked:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The modification proposes moving leachate from both the landfill plus MBT leachate - are you applying to do both? JH: Since we were applying for one we felt it would be better to apply to move both MBT and landfill leachate just in case it was required (e.g. extreme weather event).</li> <li>If you get approval to transport leachate offsite by both road and rail – will you use both? JH: We anticipate we would use rail 2 to 3 times per week when needed. We would prefer no extra trucks on the road but again when there are extreme rainfall events we may need to run up to 4 trucks (usually 2) a day for short periods.</li> <li>Are there different chemicals in the landfill leachate? JH: Still leachate and it is broadly the same. We need approval to transport liquid from Department of Planning (DPIE). Environmental impact will be assessed through EPA and DPIE before we get any final approvals.</li> <li>What if there is a spill at Crisps Creek (farmers rely on this water)? JH: We have spill control measures in place at the site already. A first flush system, which is a dam that captures any pollution in the event of an emergency. This is contained and can be pumped out when needed.</li> </ul> <p>KW asked:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How often do you have an independent audit of the site? RC: The independent environmental audit (IEA) is 3-Yearly, and the independent odour (IOA) and leachate and water management system (LWMS) Audit's are annual.</li> <li>Have all 17 non-compliances been dealt with? Can you communicate this information? RC: We can present these at the next meeting. (<b>Action<sup>8</sup></b>). MR explained that the IEA is an audit of compliance with project approval conditions, whilst the IOA and LMWS audits are mostly based on operational performance.</li> </ul>

<b>7</b>	<b>Community Q&amp;A</b>
7.1	<p>There was an endorsement to share information both ways more proactively.</p> <p>Several members encouraged the sharing of more good news stories from Veolia.</p> <p>AW voiced that whilst this was a great idea, social media as a channel for sharing can be fickle, once the keyboard warriors takeover.</p> <p>SMc asked: Is the Tarago Times is a good channel for communication, as this is the main one we use? Yes it is a good channel. Although, information could be shared through a variety of different channels, CLC members, emails, town meetings or the Woodlawn webpage.</p> <p>JH and SMC affirmed that the new voices and perspectives on the CLC are very welcome.</p> <p>KW asked if the meeting would ever be online? There was strong consensus for the continuation of in-person meetings. They are better for discussion.</p> <p>It was noted that there are still community questions and that these will be dealt with post-meeting.</p>
<b>8</b>	<b>Meeting Close</b>
8.1	Meeting closed by Chairperson at 7.29pm.

#### Action List

Item	Action	Assigned to	Origin	Expected Completion Date	Status (Completed, outstanding )	Comments
1	Provide links or copies of letters to DPE as attachments to minutes	Veolia	CLC 27Apr 23		Completed	



## Veolia Community Liaison Committee Meeting Minutes

Item	Action	Assigned to	Origin	Expected Completion Date	Status (Completed, outstanding)	Comments
2A	Change wording of the CLC Charter to note that the Chairperson will facilitate meetings	Veolia	CLC 27Apr 23	Next meeting		
2B	Amend the CLC charter to reflect quarterly meetings, rather than two monthly.	Veolia	CLC 27Apr 23	Next meeting		
3	Advised if there will be a site tour held separately to CLC meetings	Veolia	CLC 27Apr 23	Next meeting		Can do site tours at any time. just need to know who is interested
4	Information to be provided via Tarago Times about management of train containers	Veolia	CLC 27Apr 23		Completed	
5	Increase font size in tables for readability.	Veolia	CLC 27Apr 23	Next meeting		
6	Provide a glossary of terms.	Veolia	CLC 27Apr 23	Next Meeting		
7	Utilise diagrams for better explanation of the process where possible.	Veolia	CLC 27Apr 23	Next meeting		
8	Present status of actions on the 17 non-	Veolia	CLC 27Apr 23	Next meeting		

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Item	Action	Assigned to	Origin	Expected Completion Date	Status (Completed, outstanding )	Comments
	compliances at next meeting					

**Attachments:**

1/ Veolia CLC Meeting #13 Operational Presentation

2/ Responses to community questions.

# Woodlawn Eco-Precinct Community Liaison Committee Meeting

Thursday 27th April 2023

*NSW Woodlawn Eco-Precinct  
619 Collector Road / Tarago / NSW 2580 Australia  
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# Welcome

*Veolia acknowledges Ngunnawal people as the traditional custodians of the lands and waters in which we live and work and their continuing connection to land, water and community. We pay respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.*

*Welcome and thank you. Effective community consultation is a participatory process that underpins genuine community development. The purpose of the Woodlawn Community Liaison Committee is to help us better understand what the community values and keep us informed of issues that the community finds important so we can provide feedback and continually improve our processes.*



# MEETING AGENDA

Item	Topic
1	<i>Introductions / Welcome</i>
2	<i>ARC Project Update</i>
3	<i>Present/Apologies</i>
4	<i>Overview of the CLC charter and agreement on commitments</i>
5	<i>Woodlawn Eco-Precinct Operational Update</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Bioenergy &amp; Mechanical Biological Treatment Plant</i></li> <li><i>Woodlawn Bioreactor &amp; Leachate Treatment Plant</i></li> <li><i>Odour Management</i></li> <li><i>Leachate Management</i></li> <li><i>Container Management</i></li> </ol>
6	<i>Environmental Compliance Update</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>General Matters</i></li> <li><i>EPL Variations</i></li> <li><i>Project Approval Modifications</i></li> <li><i>Consultation</i></li> </ol>
7	<i>Community Q &amp; A</i>
8	<i>Meeting Closed</i>

# Introductions / Welcome

# ARC Project Update

# VEOLIA ARC

## UPDATE SINCE PUBLIC EXHIBITION

**End Dec:** Veolia received over 600 responses to submissions

**Jan - Feb:** Veolia reviewed and categorised the submissions to commence response process.

Key themes include (but are not limited to):

- Air Quality
- Human Health
- Farming

Development of additional information commenced, where required (such as traffic).

**March:** Veolia shared an update with the community in the Tarago times. Additional Govt department submissions were made to Veolia.

**April:** Veolia continues to seek clarity from some submissions and work on the response to submissions report.





# VEOLIA ARC NEXT STEPS



## **Finalise Response to Submissions Report**

Timing dependent on additional studies needed to satisfy the issues raised. We are working as quickly as we can. We will continue to update the community bimonthly - or you can check the website.

## **Independent Planning Commission**

Once Veolia's Response to Submissions Report is submitted, the department will refer the project to independent planning commission for review.

## **Contact us**

If you have questions, don't hesitate to contact us.

# | Present / Apologies

# VEOLIA COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE

## OVERVIEW

### What we're aiming to do:

1. Increase **transparency** and build **trust**
2. Ensure **accurate** and factual information is **shared** with the community
3. Establish a **stronger network** between Veolia and the community through the CLC

- **Committee chair nomination**
- **Time and frequency of meetings**

Quarterly from today, unless otherwise required

- **Location**

Woodlawn Eco Precinct, with every second CLC being a site tour (weather permitting)

# VEOLIA COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE

## OVERVIEW



### Veolia will:

- Pass on the CLC advice and recommendations to relevant Veolia staff;
- Give CLC feedback on how their recommendations have been used;
- Report on project progress and monitoring and seek feedback from the Committee;
- Encourage all Committee members to present their views;
- Respond within agreed time frames to requests for information;
- Support the smooth operation of the group by supplying a Coordinator and administrative assistance as necessary;
- Help promote the CLC existence and objectives to the community and Veolia employees;
- Consider suggestions made by the CLC on how the functioning of the Committee may be improved;
- Work within the framework of the CLC Charter and Procedures; and
- Advise any impending media coverage of the Community Liaison Committee.

# VEOLIA COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE OVERVIEW

## CLC Members will:

- Attend meetings and actively participate in discussions;
- Report their views and those of the wider community to Veolia;
- Give feedback from the meetings to the wider community;
- Allow all Committee members to present their views;
- Suggest agenda items;
- Make suggestions on how the functioning of the Committee can be improved;
- Work within the framework of the Community Liaison Committee Charter and Procedures; and
- Advise the Chair of any impending media items relating to the Community Liaison Committee or the Veolia.



# Eco-Precinct Operational Update

# ECO-PRECINCT OPERATIONAL UPDATE

## BIO-ENERGY & WOODLAWN MBT PLANT

### Bioenergy

#### 2023 Biogas Capture

- Energy Generation 18,974 MWh till 26/04/2023
- 111,038 tCO<sub>2</sub>-e CH<sub>4</sub> captured till 31/03/2023
- In 2023, averaging 37,013 tCO<sub>2</sub>-e monthly, equivalent to removing 96,554 cars off the road each month till 31/03/2023

### Mechanical Biological Treatment

#### YTD Waste Processed (27 April 2023)

- Sydney Waste 36,544T - (licence 144,000t)
- MWO to Bioreactor (ADC) 1,433T
- WOO to Tailings Rehabilitation 138 T
- Ferrous Recovery 120.24 T





# ECO-PRECINCT OPERATIONAL UPDATE

## WOODLAWN BIOREACTOR & WOODLAWN LTP

### Bioreactor Landfill

#### YTD Waste Processed (27 April 2023)

- Regional Waste 72,042t - (licence 125,000t)
- Sydney Waste 445,266t - (licence 900,000t)

### Leachate Treatment Plant

#### YTD Leachate Treated (27 April 2023)

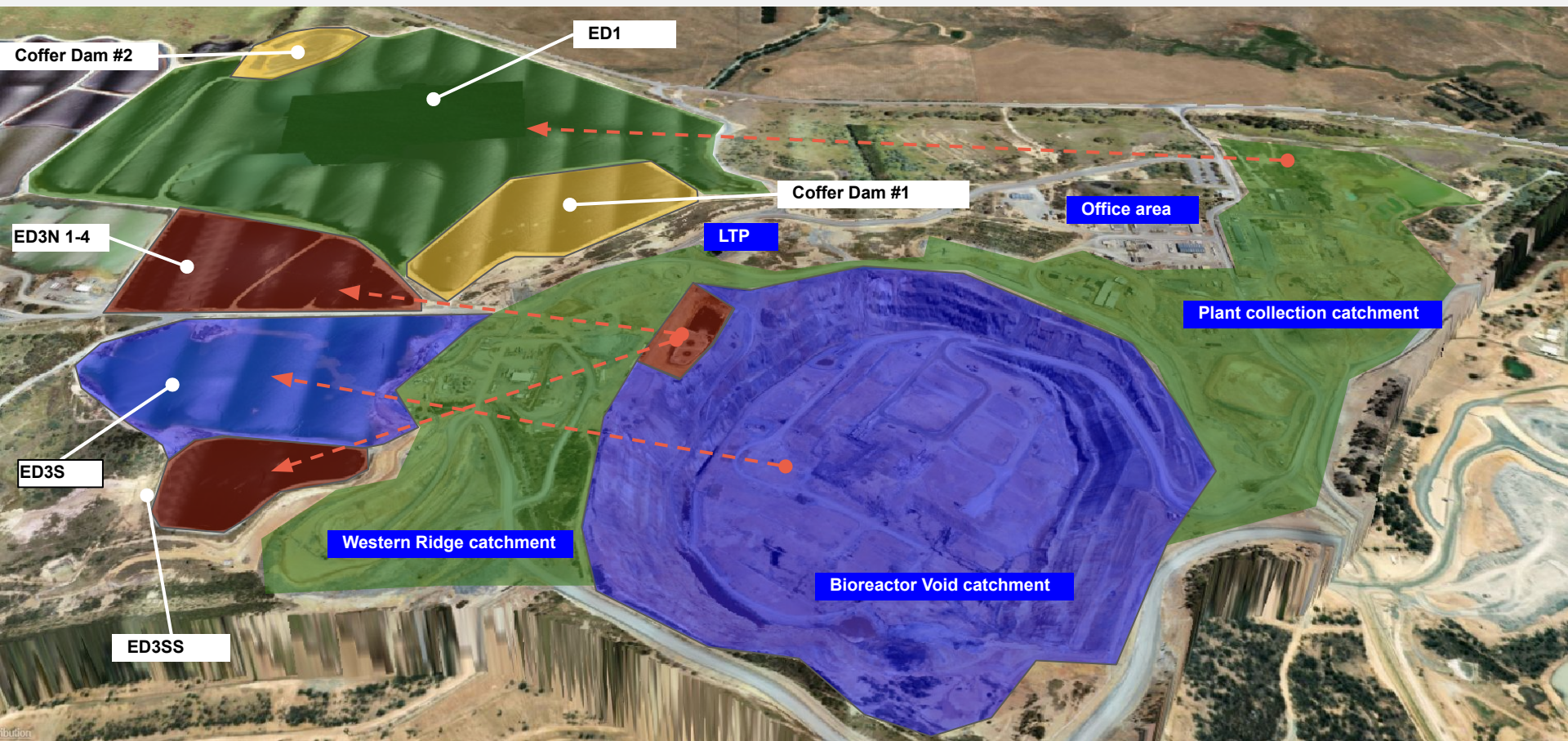
- Current treatment rate of 4.8L/s
- Average treatment rate 4.95L/s
- No effluent quality exceedances
- Licence requirement 4L/s





# Water Management

Storage status and location (27/02/2023 to 24/03/2023)



## Volume change from 27/02/2023 to 24/03/2023

	ED3N1-4	ED3SS	Coffer 1	ED3S	ED1	Overall
	(ML)	(ML)	(ML)	(ML)	(ML)	(ML)
Direct Rain input - <b>18</b> mm	1.4	0.5	1.3	1.9	8.3	13.4
Operation input	2.9	-1*	0	1.6	22.7	26.2
<b>Total input</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>39.6</b>
Natural evaporation - <b>76</b> mm ET	2.9	1	3.4	6.3	29.6	43.2
Mechanical evaporation	5.2	3.4	4.8	8.1	35.9	57.4
<b>Total output</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>65.5</b>	<b>100.6</b>
<b>Net volume change in March 2023</b>	<b>-3.8</b>	<b>-4.9</b>	<b>-6.9</b>	<b>-10.9</b>	<b>-34.5</b>	<b>-61</b>
<b>Net volume change since Nov 2022</b>	<b>-14.4</b>	<b>-10.9</b>	<b>-20.7</b>	<b>-25.8</b>	<b>-56.1</b>	<b>-127.8</b>

# Water Management

## Increases in evaporation system

	Evaporators	Qty	Overall peak Throughput	Evaporation loss (15% efficiency)
2022	Floating mist spray	21	24L/s - 86.4 m³/hr	13 m³/hr
	ED1 - High flow spray*	2	60 L/s - 216 m³/hr	32 m³/hr
	ED3N - Cannon spray	4	15 L/s - 54 m³/hr	8 m³/hr
	ED3N - Floating spray	6	12 L/s - 43 m³/hr	6 m³/hr
	<b>Total existing</b>		<b>51 L/s - 184 m³/hr</b>	<b>28 m³/hr</b>
2023	Floating mist spray	4	6 L/s - 21 m³/hr	3 m³/hr
	ED1 - misting spray**	30	65 L/s - 234 m³/hr	35 m³/hr
	ED3S - Void wall spray	10	10 L/s - 36 m³/hr	5 m³/hr
	<b>Total increasing</b>		<b>21 L/s - 76 m³/hr</b>	<b>11 m³/hr</b>
To be delivered	Floating mist spray - 31/Mar	8	8 L/s - 29 m³/hr	4 m³/hr
	High flow floating spray - 31/Apr	5	60 L/s - 216 m³/hr	32 m³/hr
<b>Total potential</b>			<b>200 L/s - 720 m³/hr</b>	<b>108 m³/hr</b>

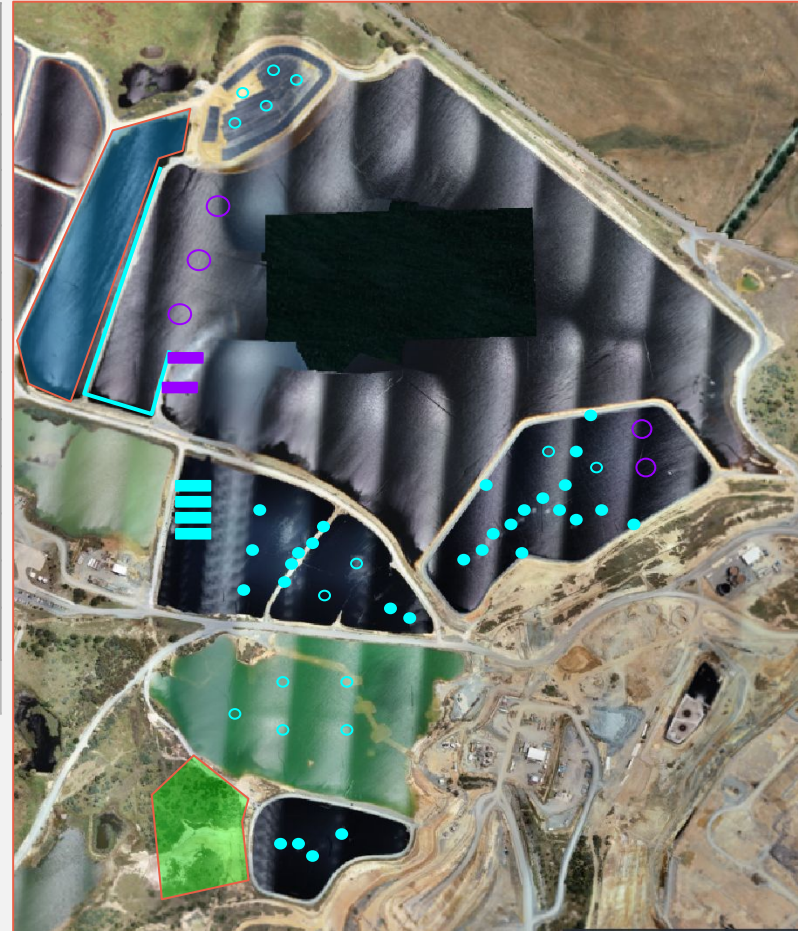
50% increase in mechanical evaporation 2023 = +11m³/hr

1 truckload of liquid = 20m³ (108m³/hr = 5.4/hr)

Site producing treated leachate at 4 L/s - 14.4 m³/hr



Nom de la présentation





# ECO-PRECINCT OPERATIONAL UPDATE

## LEACHATE MANAGEMENT

- Treated Leachate continues to be transferred to ED1
- Monitoring of downstream groundwater system continues - no changes water quality recorded (no TARP trigger)
- Construction of Coffer Dam 2 (for treated leachate) - completed pending approval to use
- Seeking approval for a 3rd treated leachate dam - DPIE (Oct 23)
- Increase mechanical evaporation



Coffer #1 April 2023



Coffer #2 2023



# ECO-PRECINCT OPERATIONAL UPDATE

## ODOUR MANAGEMENT

Maintaining LFG capture continues above 5,500 m<sup>3</sup>/h on average.

- **Completed**

- Waste surface redesign better manage stormwater
- Rock/waste interface - crack between rock and waste
- ED3N Aeration - maintaining aeration of treated leachate
- MBT Biofilters - refurbishment 2023 (Dec #1 March #2)
- Weather and H<sub>2</sub>S monitoring Tarago
- Monthly surface monitoring - 350 points, 1 exceedance in March 2023.
- Independent odour audit - March 2023

- **To do**

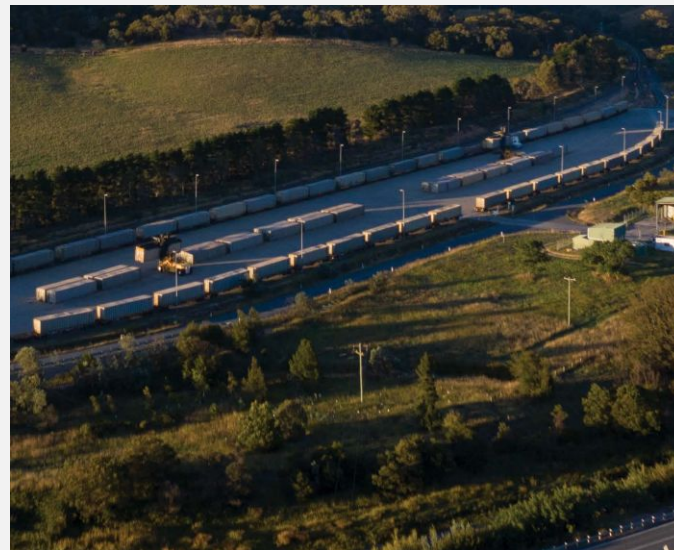
- Finalise Audit and actions
- Carbon Filtration - winter inversion control
- Further investigation of impacts of weather conditions



# ECO-PRECINCT OPERATIONAL UPDATE

## CONTAINER MANAGEMENT

- **Container Design and Construction**
  - All containers are designed and constructed by qualified and experienced contractors to prevent leakage and odour from containers during transport and handling activities. All containers are water tested prior to distribution.
- **Container Maintenance and Inspection**
  - A container maintenance programme is in place, which is intended to ensure the prevention of emission of offensive odour and leakage of leachate from containers during transport and handling activities.
  - Identified containers are assessed and repaired at both Clyde and Woodlawn.
  - 80 new containers have been put in use over the last 4 months, replacing older infrastructure.
  - 100 new containers on order for delivery in October 2023.
  - Options for review, trialing drip tray leak detection.
  - Independent expert assessment of the construction and maintenance of the containers.



# Environmental Compliance Update

# ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE UPDATE

## GENERAL

### ➤ **Site Inspections / Visits / Meetings**

- NSW EPA staff conducted a site inspection on 30 March 2023.
- The site visit brought together EPA officers, many of whom were visiting the facility for the first time and were from Queanbeyan and Wollongong
- Monthly meetings are ongoing

### ➤ **Tarago Weather and Hydrogen Sulphide (H<sub>2</sub>S) Stations**

- Weather and Hydrogen Sulphide (H<sub>2</sub>S) monitoring stations in the Tarago Village have been completed.
- Currently preparing landowner access agreements - Veolia access to site and insurance purposes
- Continuous data from the stations will be made publicly available in May 2023

### ➤ **Independent Environmental Audits**

- Annual Independent Odour Audit completed and awaiting audit report.
- Annual Leachate & Water Management System Audit completed and awaiting audit report..

### ➤ **Development Control Order**

- Short to medium and long term strategies have been submitted to the Department for approval.
- Veolia has already begun implementing these strategies.



# ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE UPDATE

## EPL VARIATIONS

Topic	Description	Licence	Status
Leachate Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adding ED1 Cofferdam #2 to monitoring programme</li> </ul>	EPL 11436	Submitted
Administrative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aligning operational hours with Project Approval, and Woodlawn Landfill</li> <li>Disposal of sewerage through an authorised waste services contractor.</li> <li>Amended/removed typographical errors referencing legacy conditions</li> </ul>	EPL 11455	Preparing
New additional air quality monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Installation of new Meteorology and H2S Monitoring Stations in Tarago, and upgrade of existing site weather station to align with same parameters.</li> </ul>	EPL 11436 PRP U1	On Track
Water and Leachate Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leachate &amp; Water Management Improvement Plan</li> </ul>	EPL 20476 PRP U1	On Track
Air Quality Management Measure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Odour control system improvements by carrying out complete refurbishment of Biofilters 1 and 2.</li> </ul>	EPL 20476 PRP U2	Completed
Leachate Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approval to receive treated leachate from the MBT and the Woodlawn Landfill for transportation by rail to the Banksmeadow Transfer Terminal.</li> </ul>	EPL 11455	Preparing

# ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE UPDATE

## PA MODIFICATIONS & POST APPROVAL APPLICATIONS

Approval	Type	Description	Status
MP 10_0012	Post approval	Revised Soil and Water and Leachate Management Plans prepared in consultation with the EPA and Water NSW to include Coffey Dam #2 constructed in the footprint of Evaporation Dam 1. This is a requirement in order to begin discharging into the new Dam.	Pending approval
MP 10_0012 AWT 06_0239	Modification	Veolia seeks to modify the existing project approval for the Bioreactor and MBT to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Construct an approximately 15 megalitre (ML) dam at the MBTF to hold leachate pumped from the existing approved leachate dam via a pipeline.</li><li>• Construct an approximately 100 ML dam at the Bioreactor to hold leachate pumped from the existing approved leachate dams via a pipeline.</li><li>• Transport leachate from the existing and proposed dams to Veolia's Spring Farm Advanced Resource Recovery Facility (ARRF) via road and/or rail.</li></ul>	Scoping request submitted

# ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE UPDATE

## REGULATORY ENFORCEMENTS

EPL/PA	Date	Facility	Description	Context	Action
EPL 11436	24/10/2022	Woodlawn Bioreactor	Prevention Notice	Dam liner failure in Coffe Dam 1, and the pumping of leachate from Coffe Dam 1 to ED1.	Veolia has engaged experts to assist in rectifying the dam liner, and developed and implemented corrective actions.
EPL 11436	03/04/2023	Woodlawn Bioreactor	Official Caution	Failure to publish monitoring data within 14 days of obtaining it.	Veolia has agreed to publish data prior to receiving the Final Report with associated QA/QC documentation and data validation information
EPL 20476	22/03/2023	Woodlawn MBT	Official Caution	Exceedance of 0.5m freeboard limit on Leachate Aeration Pond.	Veolia is in the process of implementing short-terms and long term measures to increase the liquid storage capacity at the Premises
EPL 11436	28/11/2022	Woodlawn Bioreactor	Official Caution	Failure to maintain the run-time log for the mechanical evaporators	An automated continuous logging system is now in place.
EPL 11436	28/11/2022	Woodlawn Bioreactor	Penalty Notice	Offensive odours being emitted from the Woodlawn Landfill.	Veolia is implementing improvements to landfill gas capture, leachate extraction, treatment, storage and evaporation.
EPL 20476	28/11/2022	Woodlawn MBT	Official Caution	Failure for Stormwater Dam to contain all runoff generated at the premises during a 24-hour duration 1-in-100-year ARI rainfall event	Veolia is in the process of implementing short-terms and long term measures to increase the liquid storage capacity at the Premises (updating the water balance)

# ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE UPDATE

## CONSULTATION ITEMS

Facility	PA/EPL	Description
Crisps Creek IMF	MP 10_0012 EPL 11455	<p>An EPL variation will align the operational hours at the IMF, with the PA and EPL for the Woodlawn Bioreactor (Approved hours are 6am to 10pm will be Monday to Saturday, no Sundays, Good Friday or Xmas Day)</p> <p>An EPL variation is being prepared for approval to receive leachate from Woodlawn Facilities for transporting to Sydney by rail</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ EPL 20581 (Banksmeadow Transfer Terminal) was varied to permit receipt of leachate from Woodlawn on 4 January 2023.</li> <li>○ Veolia seeks to modify the EPL to permit the receipt of treated leachate from Woodlawn Landfill and MBT by road, in alignment with Condition L3.1 of EPL 20581.</li> </ul>
Woodlawn MBT	AWT 06_0369 EPL 20476	<p>Currently transporting leachate by road for treatment at Spring Farm ARRF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ As an emergency contingency measure to prevent uncontrolled overtopping of leachate storage dams, freeboard management, and off-site discharge following unprecedented weather events.</li> </ul> <p>As part of the PA modification, Veolia proposes to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Utilise three 22 tonne tankers to transport leachate via road from the site, twice per day to Spring Farm ARRF on an as needs basis (likely to be every 2-3 days in a rare scenario). Each tanker will hold 22 m3 of leachate.</li> <li>○ Also utilise two 27 tonne tankers to transport leachate to Crisps Creek IMF for transportation to the BTT via rail twice per day (again likely every 2-3 days in rare scenarios). Each tanker will hold 27 m3 of leachate.</li> </ul>

# | Community Q & A



# Next Meeting

*The next Community Liaison Meeting will be held at the Woodlawn Eco-Precinct in July 2023, or otherwise agreed.*



## **Odour:**

### **1. Odour registers**

- **The odour registers are very difficult to find on Veolia's website. Can they be made available on the Woodlawn page?**

Yes, as discussed on the night of the meeting we're working on adding a link to the complaints register on the Woodlawn page so that residents can easily find them. We'll keep you posted on the progress of this.

- **The odour registers are in various small files requiring the reader to download numerous files to access all the complaints. Can they be compiled into a single file on the Woodlawn page (e.g. updated at the end of each month) so it is easy to view all complaints in one file?**

Following our discussion at the meeting, we're taking a look into how we can consolidate the complaints register for better visibility. However there are some rules around the format and information we display so we just need to make sure we still comply with this. We'll keep you posted on the progress of this.

- **The complaint registers all feature the same 'copy and paste' response in the column "Response/action taken to resolve the complaint". This doesn't help the community understand the action taken to resolve odour issues. Can the response column responses include how the report was investigated, when it was investigated, what was done, and what the findings were (as specific to each complaint)?**

We'll endeavour to be more specific where possible moving forward - we also include an odour update into Tarago Times every month which highlights odour updates / actions on a we will look into making these available too.

- **Residents report they have not been contacted by Veolia in relation to odour complaints they make despite experiencing odour issues at their properties for years (over a decade in some cases). How often does Veolia make contact with a complainant to discuss the issues the resident is experiencing? Why/why not?**

Veolia is only able to follow-up with complainants that provide their contact details upon making a report and/or have requested a call back. This typically would only happen when a report is made directly to Veolia by email, website or by calling the community feedback line, and is missing information that we need to investigate (i.e we don't need to call if we have all the details in the explanation). All reports made to the EPA are submitted to Veolia anonymously therefore no contact can be made. As we've mentioned in previous communications, we prefer to speak with complainants directly therefore invite the Community to call us alongside the EPA, if they also wish to contact the EPA. That way we can carry out investigations when the odour is present or being detected, as we cannot always do this when the reports go to the EPA.

### **2. Odour penalty notice:**

- **Can Veolia make a copy of the penalty notice available on the Woodlawn page and note what remediation measures have resulted from this? All penalty notices are**

**publicly available and we have also now added a link to these registers on our website so that local users know where to find them.**

We have been updating the community on specific site information and remediation measures in our Tarago Times updates, as this is the right channel and format for us to use for this kind of communication. As above, we can look at including our Tarago Times updates to the webpage also if this will be helpful to the community.

### **3. Odour monitors:**

#### **• How will the data be made available to the community?**

The data will be available to the community by link from our website to an interactive webpage where a number of weather and H<sub>2</sub>S parameters will be presented by way of interactive graphs and tables (we are developing this at the moment). We will share more information with the community about this in the coming weeks.

#### **• Who is responsible for collecting/collating the data? (How can the community have confidence it is being recorded properly/accurately?) The data is automatically collected from the system itself.**

Veolia is required to collate and present data as specified by the environment protection licence (EPL) set out by the EPA. The EPL will also include detail on the management and monitoring procedures that have been approved by the EPA, who then go on to monitor them, ensuring the data is accurately verified. It is in our interest to get accurate data so it can help with our investigations.

#### **• Will the data be available in real time? (People in the community would like to be able to cross- reference this data with times that they smell odour)**

The data will be uploaded to the webpage as it is collected. The intervals will be identical to the required averaging frequencies mentioned above.

#### **• What action are you planning to take in regard to this data?**

Veolia will be utilising this data to cross reference and correlate with odour events, to help us better understand and trace odour and the associated weather conditions. If it is coming from the site, we can work to rectify any issues.

#### **• Noting the discussion last night that H<sub>2</sub>S is only one small factor that may cause odour that residents smell, it would be helpful if Veolia provide information on the various causes of odour from operations and why residents may smell odour even though the monitors don't record H<sub>2</sub>S.**

To clarify, H<sub>2</sub>S is odorous but is only a small portion of the landfill gas. As such the extremely low levels that will be collected in Tarago could be from other sources. This will form part of the investigations such as if there were also odour complaints on that same day as H<sub>2</sub>S was detected and the weather conditions supporting the odour travelling to Tarago.



It isn't well understood whether H<sub>2</sub>S generation from Woodlawn is a significant or insignificant contributor to odour complaints, which is something we hope to better understand through these monitoring programs.

The new monitors can detect very low levels of HS<sub>2</sub> (in fact this technology is new and has not been available to us before). We believe the technology can detect similar levels to the human nose so they should depict an accurate view of what is happening in town where they are placed.

As we mentioned the other night, it is important to note that HS<sub>2</sub> can be found in many things, such as the breakdown of organics used in farming or even in car fumes. So if a reading is detected, we need to consider these factors in the context of wind direction and weather conditions, to help us understand the travel of odour. We are hoping the monitors help to broaden our understanding of odour, but it will still be important for residents to continue reporting any incidents of odour they experience as the monitors are just one dimension of information we will use.

**Various:**

**1. When will the third party independent reviews and reports on the current operations be made public for the community to see?**

The annual Independent Odour Audit and Leachate and Water Management System Audit were recently conducted. As these are Project Approval requirements, it is necessary that the Department of Planning and Environment first review and approve the final reports prior to publishing on our website. These are expected to be publicly available in the second half of the year.

**2. Please tell us more about Veolia's corporate social responsibility activities, and activities done to improve the local environment.**

We are very passionate about being a good corporate citizen and are proud of all we have contributed over the 20 years we've been in operation, to build a better Tarago and surrounding region. To answer your question at a high level, we want to note the purpose of work we do at the Woodlawn, which is to rehabilitate a derelict mine that was left behind when the mining company went into liquidation. This is especially important as acid forming rock (from the mining) was polluting the local land. We came to the site with a business purpose (to run a waste facility) but also with the intent to build it as a zero discharge site, so that we could contain the issues left over by the mining company. We made a commitment to rehabilitate the land back to its original state and we have been working to do that ever since.

During the past two decades we have turned the site into a complete eco-precinct, to get more environmental value back from the waste process, by recycling and recovering (for environmental value) and creating more jobs for locals (for social value). We now operate a bioreactor landfill, a bioenergy plant, a mechanical biological treatment plant, fogo operations, a solar farm, a wind farm, a fish farm and a working farm (with cattle and sheep). All of these activities go beyond the original intent because we wanted to build upon the

site's sustainability credentials, meaning that we invested in the area because we felt it was the right thing to do.

Importantly we also created the Veolia Mulwaree Trust upon site establishment, where we have supported over 1400 community projects with more than \$13M in funding since it was established. The people of Tarago are huge beneficiaries of this fund, such as the mens and womens sheds, the schools, the parks, the Town Hall, however we would like to support more local projects (but never have enough community submissions - so spread the word on this please as we want more Tarago groups to apply!). We also support surrounding towns and regions. As one example, in Goulburn our Trust allowed the Veolia Arena to be developed - which as you know is a huge hub for local sport and skill development, and it has allowed Goulburn to host major sporting (tourism) events. This generates significant value for local businesses.

In addition, we contribute host fees to Goulburn Mulwaree Council as part of our licence and road contributions to both Goulburn and QPRC councils, to help rebuild the roads.

Our contributions to the local community in the form of the Veolia Mulwaree Trust, host fees and road fees has been over \$30M in total, which is huge, but just as importantly we have created a site that is a major employer for the region, and we are protecting the environment from the damage it would have had if the mine was left unoccupied - we think this is a noteworthy contribution overall.

**3. Veolia owns the land behind residential properties in Tarago and the land is covered in blackberry bushes. How can residents get issues like this resolved? They need to alert us to them - call, email or use the form on our website.**

We are more than happy to address any issues on our land such as noxious weeds. We just need people to let us know and we can do something about it. Last year we did the same thing with slashing the grass on that same plot of land after a resident made us aware through an email and we addressed it immediately. This is our responsibility and we are happy to comply.

**4. The amount of cash allocated by Veolia to community grants is small considering its revenue and impact on the community. Has Veolia considered granting money to help struggling community organisations, for example by paying the insurance costs for community facilities?**

As above - our contributions to the local community are in no way small, so we disagree with this comment. There are strict rules around the trust as it is a registered charity with eligibility conditions, but please ask the groups with questions to get in touch with us so we can help them navigate any workarounds.

The amount the Trust currently receives is more than enough for the projects that are submitted. The Trust would like to work more closely with the Tarago community to plan and support worthy causes around the town.

**6. Could Veolia offer special waste removal/recycling options for the local community to supplement Council offerings? E.g. Could Veolia offer an e-waste recycling/removal option for locals? Or a bulky waste collection? Or additional recycling options? \*\*I know Veolia has been using additional recycling options onsite - could there be a community collection bin for these items that people can add to? Given the small amounts of waste produced by the community, it would not be feasible to allocate a collection round, but we are certainly open to a local drop off point. Can we come back to you on this?**

This is certainly something we can look into.