TAYLORS ROAD RESOURCE RECOVERY PRECINCT

COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP

ENVIRONMENTAL FEEDBACK HOTLINE: **1800 368 737**
EPA ENVIRONMENT LINE: **1300 372 842**

MINUTES

Date: 5.30pm, for 5.45pm start, Wednesday, 26 June 2024

Location: Taylors Road Landfill, 870 Taylors Road, Dandenong South

ATTENDEES

MEMBER NAME	24/2/21	23/06/21	20/10/21	12/10/22	14/12/22	29/03/23	28/06/23	10/10/23	27/03/24	26/06/24
Jim Houlahan (JH)	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
Ian Jensz (IJ)	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Thelma Wakelam (TW)	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Tony O'Hara (TOH)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

GUESTS AND STAFF

- **EPA**: Adam Rayner (AR), Jo Prendergast (JP)
- **Veolia**: Nick James (NJ), Ashley Kelly (AK), Jessica Keyt (JK)
- **Earthsure**: Tai Truong (TT)
- **City of Greater Dandenong:** Warren Wood (WW)

FACILITATOR

- Susan McNair (SMc)
- Lilith Palmer (LP)

APOLOGIES

Mark Globan (Veolia)

5.35pm WELCOME AND AGENDA

SMc welcomed participants and explained how the meeting would proceed.

All participants introduced themselves for the benefit of Jessica Keyt, joining Veolia in the role of Environment Manager for Victoria and Tasmania.

OPERATIONAL UPDATE – Veolia and Earthsure

Landfill

- Disposal activities slow with very little waste coming in
- An upgrade to the landfill gas (LFG) flare has been installed, should be commissioned within the next couple of weeks
- Approval to progress rebuild and structure of the leachate ponds is sitting with the EPA

Earthsure

- Running as per business as usual
- Had some scheduled maintenance this week

De-packaging facility

- Up and running, almost at full capacity
- Four truck loads a day including packaged organics from major supermarket chain
- Current rate of removal is a third to two-thirds
- Aiming for 90% mark, depending on the waste that comes in
- Controls include:
    - Rapid shutter doors
    - High velocity fans
    - Concrete pad
    - Traffic management

TOH: What kind of organics are being received, and where do they go once they have been removed from the packaging? Could the items go to an organisation like Foodbank?
NJ: The organics portion of the waste is taken off site to a composing facility. Any type of food is accepted. We receive lots of greens and bread, and a small amount of meat. The supermarkets have their own arrangements with food recovery and redistribution groups. What we have been receiving is past the point where it would be appropriate to be redistributed.

TOH: There was something being done with conveyors when I last came through the site?
NJ: The facility was still in construction at that point, it's probably come a bit further along since then. There are three more screw conveyors to be installed.

IJ shared with the group that he had completed a site tour with AK and that he felt the de-packaging plant was running well, in a suitable location, and operating quietly.

GENERAL UPDATES – Veolia

Environment

JK gave an update on the sites environmental compliance including EPA notices issued.

Remedial notices are issued to bring duty holders into compliance with the Environmental Compliance Act (2017). There are currently three EPA remedial notices on site:

1. Leachate management
    - Engineered bund to ensure leachate or surface water is captured

- Works underway to install a float and automatic pump.

2. Landfill gas
   - Reviewing system performance of landfill gas management at site
   - Early stage with consultants engaged and auditor will review
3. Dust controls
   - Extensive dust controls are in place across entire site with a 'continuous improvement' approach
   - Trialling dust suppressant sprays on haul roads and thermally treated material (TTM) stockpiles
   - Also implementing a dust management plan that will guide responses to dust management dependant on weather conditions

TOH: What was the cause of the middle notice? Does it relate to the new construction on the top of the hill?
TT: The construction is for the soil washing plant.
JK: The observations that relate to the notice aren't related to the construction of the soil washing plant specifically. As the notice covers anything within the site boundary, we will look at that site as well. The area has an extensive plan in regard to dust controls.

WW: This is probably more relevant to EPA. There was a media release issued, what was this in regard to?
JP: It was about these three notices.
WW: What triggered the notices?
AR: Inspections as well as previous observations and documentation. It's not all about what's happening right now, some historical incidents as well. Health checks for the system to function properly.
WW: Council received media enquiries about the release. An email was received but it didn't provide much context, so we didn't know how to respond to these enquiries. We thought a major incident or something similar may have occurred at the site.
SMc: The response from the community was that they had further questions?
WW: Yes.
AK: For improvement purposes, would it be good to make the distinction that these are compliance advice items rather than abatement issues? Would that be right?
AR: Not quite. We found some issues with the system which is why we issued that type of notice.
SMc: Does Council need more notice, would that be helpful?
WW: More notice that this was being issued and the context and source of the notices would be helpful.
SMc: Given this is outside the scope of the CRG to resolve, this conversation will need to be continued between Council and the team at EPA.

Category C Cover Overview
TT gave an update on the use of Category C soil:

- Category C soil has contaminants above a specific threshold, as described in EPA Publication 1828
- There are four categories for contaminated soils
- Category A is the most hazardous and Category D the least hazardous

- Category C is approved for use as an alternative daily cover (soil laid each day) at Taylors Road

Buffer sand and thermally treated materials (TTM)

- We use sand as a buffer between the cell and waste
- To use TTM there are some specific requirements, which we have met previously but our approval from EPA to use this product has since expired
- Veolia has applied for EPA approval to use TTM once again

TOH: What category is buffer sand?
TT: Ranges between fill material and Category C
TOH: That would include immobilised categories? So for example, Category A is followed by Category B 'immobilised', which is Category A but treated?
AR: No, those categories aren't used anymore. It's just whether or not you exceed the relevant threshold for each category.
TW: Is any soil acceptable for daily cover?
NJ: No, there are restrictions around the condition of the soil. For example, if it's wet or muddy we won't take it in.
JK: The EPA guidelines are very strict. The levels are different depending on the contaminant in the soil, how hazardous it is, it's leachability and so on.
TW: I guess it comes back to consistent use of testing.

PROJECT UPDATES

Soil washing facility
TT gave an update on the soil washing facility.

- Planning permit has been issued for the soil washing plant development, with works commencing in June
- An independent contractor determined the most suitable location to be Cell 5
- Currently preparing the site for construction by stripping away the top layer of grass to find soft spots and remove, then applying a layer of mud stone
- Program works will aim to be completed by November, but could extend to end of year
- Goal is to start treating soil by latter end of 2025

TOH: How far below the surface is the liner after this process?
TT: There's the clay liner, the fill, and where there would normally be grass over the top, that will be removed and replaced by topsoil. When completed it will exceed the requirement of landfill cover, because the site needs to be firm enough to support construction.
TOH: Is there any subsiding still expected on that cell?
TT: I don't think so because the site was specifically selected it's for stability, compared with rest of site.

Thermally treated material
TT gave an update on thermally treated materials:

- Veolia have applied to EPA to recycle thermally treated soil
- The soil would be used as sub-fill such as underneath concrete slabs, as buffer or for leachate drainage material

- Material has been tested and complies with properties needed for use in construction
- If this soil could not be used, the alternative would be to import another material for this use

Summary of applications
TT and NJ gave an update on applications currently with EPA:

- Reapplication to use TTM as buffer sand
- Temporary storage facility
- Leachate pond maintenance

IJ: For the soil washing facility, we can't know about what noise until the site is up and running.
TT: We have completed noise studies, but yes the proof will be when we put it to work and validate our testing results in the field.

Renaming site to Taylors Road Resource Recovery Precinct
AK gave an update on the change of site name from Taylors Road Landfill to Taylors Road Resource Recovery Precinct as well as an overview of the key projects for Earthsure and the resource recovery precinct

- Earthsure
  - Continuing to provide thermal treatment
  - An application with EPA for temporary storage
  - Soil washing plant in development
- Resource recovery precinct
  - Continue filling Cell 12C
  - De-packaging plant supporting circular economy by preventing compostable materials from going to landfill
  - Restoration of leachate ponds will support on site treatment of waste

TOH: Theoretically, once all cells are finished, would the site be closed? It was my understanding that if the landfill operations cease the site won't be used for other services.
AR: Once landfill closes, Veolia will still have site management requirements.
TOH: Are there other areas of the site that you intend to build on?
AK: Not at this stage.

Action #1: AK to clarify terms of site if no longer in use as landfill

TW: Majority of people in the area wouldn't know this site takes in high hazard waste. The name of the facility should reflect its purpose. Is that something Council can consider?
WW: The naming of the site is not something Council can control.
AK: All of our facilities and services are listed on the website.
TW: I don't think people would think to check the website. The Dandenong South site used to have signage demonstrating it was a hazardous industry.

IJ: The landfill takes a wide range of materials. What about what comes back out of the gate? The wheel wash was removed and taken to Hallam Road. It could be put back.
NJ: There is a wheel wash on-site, just here around the corner.

IJ: No, the one that was taken was a really good one. That one is the same wash that was put in 30 years ago. This site needs a high-pressure model to manage the large volume of trucks. Do all trucks use the current wash? My biggest concern is the dust and dirt coming out of the site. JK: We are taking a proactive approach to the site in terms of additional traffic. There haven't been issues to date which indicates our controls are working together to effectively manage. We are always monitoring and will review or make changes if the current controls are not sufficient. SMc sought any further questions from the group of which there were none.
6:30pm MEETING CLOSE.

Action tracker:			
Item	**Action**	**Who**	**Date**
Action March #1	Veolia to share the outcome of the Development Licence Exemption application to the CRG when received.	Veolia	When outcome is received
Action March #2	EPA to share resources regarding truck requirements with Veolia.	EPA	Next CRG meeting
Action March #3	EPA to source list of operators managing and treating Cat A waste, and share with CRG.	EPA	Next CRG meeting
Action June #1	Veolia to clarify terms of site if no longer in use as landfill.	Veolia	Next CRG meeting

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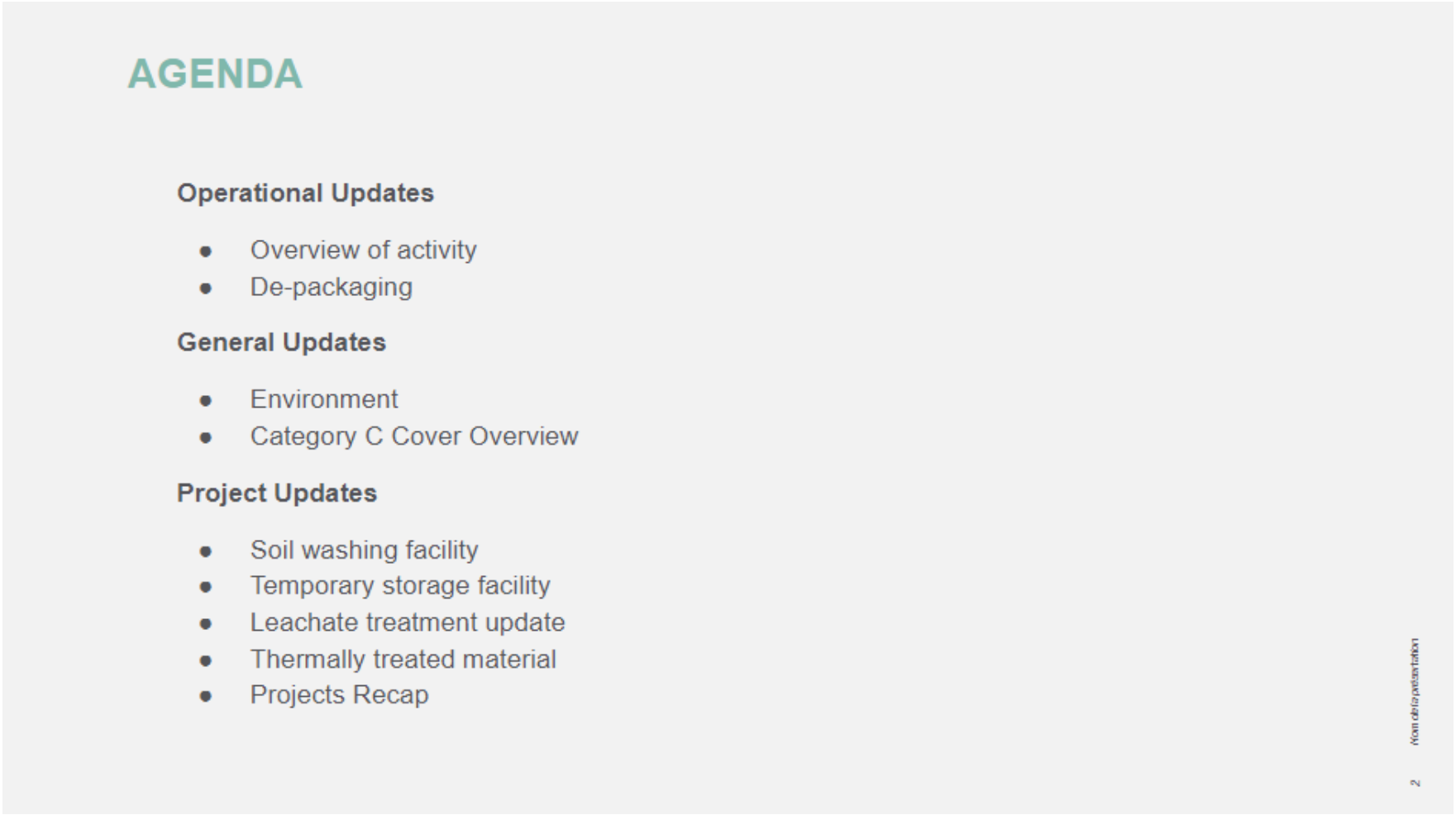
AGENDA
Operational Updates
Overview of activity
De-packaging
General Updates
Environment
Category C Cover Overview
Project Updates
Soil washing facility
Temporary storage facility
Leachate treatment update
Thermally treated material
Projects Recap
2

OPERATIONAL UPDATES

EARTHSURE AND LANDFILL OVERVIEW

- **EarthSure**
  - Soil treatment continues as market demand requires
- **Landfill**
  - Slow disposal activity
  - LFG flare upgrade installed
  - Leachate pond maintenance awaiting EPA approval
- **Depackaging**
  - The facility is now commissioned and operational (further details in later slides)

New landfill gas flare installed

OPERATIONAL UPDATES

DEPACKAGING

Purpose
- Reduce waste to landfill

Process
- Separated
  - Food Organics
  - Recycling
- Resources transported and processed off site

Controls:
- Rapid shutter doors
- High velocity fans
- Concrete pad
- Traffic management

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GENERAL UPDATES

ENVIRONMENT

Notice	Description	Action	Status
IMPN-00006639	Proactive 12C leachate management	Bund install around 12C	Works being finalised.
IMPN-00006892	Management of landfill gas at leachate sumps/ surface emissions	To mitigate the concentrations, in addition to the cells existing gas infrastructure the sumps will also be connected to the flare. This plan is being assessed by our consultant, auditor and Run Energy.	Works being finalised.
IMPN-00006902	Stockpile/ haul road dust controls	Monitoring and trial of suitable sealing agent as an additional control	Works being finalised.

12C bund works

TTM stockpile monitoring and control

12A and 12B sumps

GENERAL UPDATES

CATEGORY C COVER OVERVIEW

What is Category C Soil:

- Category C soil that has contaminants above a threshold outlined in an EPA Publication 1828. There are 4 categories for contaminated soils with Category A being the most hazardous and Category D, the least hazardous

How it is used?

- Daily cover on Cell 12C
- Cat C material is approved to to be used as an alternative daily cover

Other material uses in cell:

- Veolia require buffer sand to be placed between the cell and waste
- Re-Application for TTM use is currently with the EPA for approval
- This Thermally Treated Material would be used as a buffer sand as it has suitable properties

PROJECT UPDATES

EARTHSURE SOIL WASHING

- Planning Permit has been issued for the SWP development
- Sustainability Victoria Grant fund agreement is finalised
- Civil works commenced 11 June

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PROJECT UPDATES

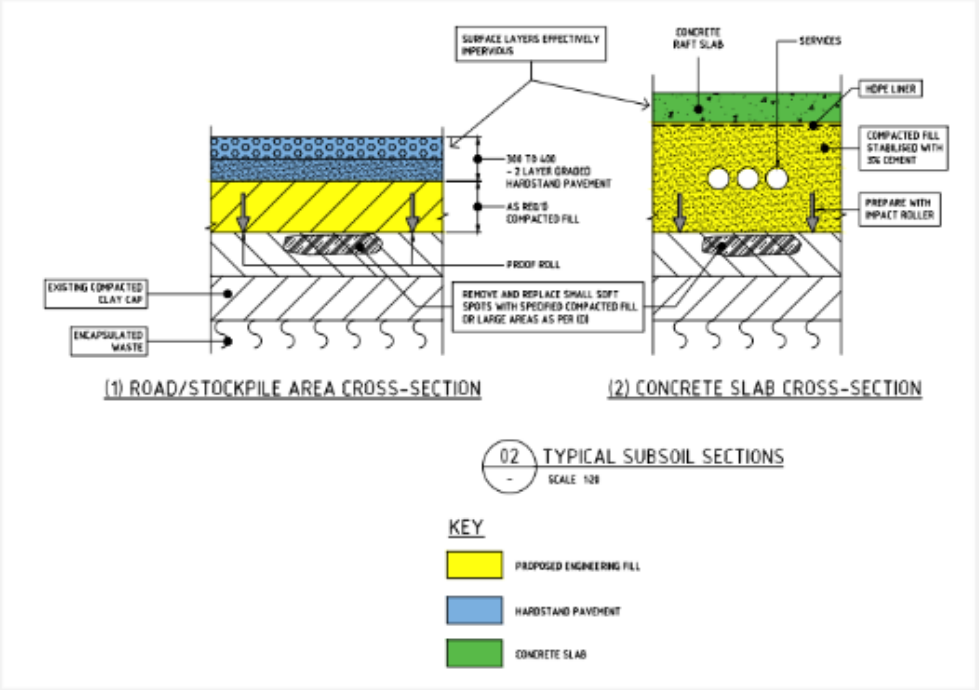
EARTHSURE SOIL WASHING - TTM RESOURCE

TTM USE:

- Is considered a resource that can be used as an engineering solution
- Its tested for engineering and environmental properties

TTM Waste Code:

- Engineered fill
- Buffer sands
- Leachate drainage material



PROJECT UPDATES AND PERMISSION PATHWAY
SUMMARY

Application	Detail	Submitted	Status
Reapplication to use TTM as buffer sand	This documentation allows TTM to be applied with approval. With no approval TTM can not be used as it is considered a waste product.	Sept 2023	In Review
Temporary Storage Facility	The temporary storage facility would allow EarthSure to support spikes in project demands. The facility would be capable of storing up to 40,000 tonnes of low odour, non PFAS impacted Category C soil.	Nov, 2023	In Review
Leachate Pond Maintenance	Maintenance work for the upkeep of the existing leachate ponds located at the south-east of the site. This work will support the longevity of the leachate ponds used to treat stormwater that has come into contact with waste.	Dec, 2023	In Review Size TBC

TAYLORS ROAD RESOURCE RECOVERY PRECINCT
KEY FOCUS 2024 RECAP

EarthSure

Continue to provide thermal treatment

- Generally sources of material come from government, private construction or remediation jobs including:
  - Road
  - Rail
  - Tram
  - Remediation / clean up

- **Temporary Storage Facility**
  - Supports surge capacity in the construction industry - allowing up to 40,000 m³ of Cat C soil.

- **Soil Wash Plant**
  - Establishment of the soil wash plant will enable EarthSure to provide a closed loop system by treating and removing contaminants from the environment
  - Recycle and return cleaned material to market

Resource Recovery Precinct

- **Continue to fill Cell 12C**
  - The only priority waste landfill in Vic
  - Averages 2,000 tonnes per month
  - At these rates expected to be filled in 2032

- **De-packaging**
  - Commences April 2024
  - Supports the circular economy by preventing material going to landfill by sending organics for composting and the recovery of recyclable materials

- **Restoration of leachate ponds**
  - Supports the on site treatment of site wastewater