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, 27 May 2026

Location: Taylors Road Resource Recovery Precinct (TRRRP), 890 Taylors Road, Dandenong South

ATTENDEES

MEMBER NAME	28/06/23	10/10/23	27/03/24	26/06/24	25/09/24	05/03/25	28/05/25	27/08/25	04/03/26	27/5/26
Jim Houlahan (JH)	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ian Jensz (IJ)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Thelma Wakelam (TW)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Tim Shannon (TS)										Yes
Bob Wilkinson (BW)										Yes
Cr Rhonda Garad (RG)									Yes	Yes
Matt Berry (MB)							Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

GUESTS AND STAFF

- **Community:** Ian Jensz (IJ), Jim Houlahan (JH), Thelma Wakelam (TW), Tim Shannon (TS), Bob Wilkinson (BW)
- **EPA**: Jo Prendergast (JP), Tim Saliba (TS), Richard Hook (RH), Jue Xiu (Josie) Lim (JL)
- **Veolia**: Nick James (NJ), Ashley Kelly (AK) and Mark Globan (MG)
- **City of Greater Dandenong**: Cr Rhonda Garad (RG) and Matt Berry (MB)
- **Facilitator**: Susan McNair (SMc)
- **Note taker**: Peter Somerville
- **Apologies**: Matt Berry, Jessica Keyt and Tai Truong

5.34pm WELCOME AND AGENDA

SMc opened the meeting, welcomed participants, facilitated introductions and explained how the meeting would proceed.

SMc welcomed new members Tim Shannon and Bob Wilkinson from Walkinshaw Group – a large employer located adjacent to the TRRRP site.

SMc reminded attendees meetings are audio recorded to aid the preparation of meeting minutes. Recordings are held securely by Currie and destroyed once minutes are finalised.

5.50pm GOVERNANCE and PREVIOUS ACTIONS

SMc reiterated the change in process for the acceptance of minutes. Minutes from the previous meeting have been finalised.

GENERAL UPDATE (Veolia)

NJ provided the following updates:

Upkeep works:

- Leachate Ponds
  - Upgrades to the leachate ponds have been finalised.
  - The ponds now have 9.9ML of operational treatment capacity.
  - This additional treatment capacity will be back online shortly, supporting overall leachate treatment capacity.

Landfill Gas (LFG) Wells

- In the western portion of the landfill, an underperforming well was redrilled by a contractor in mid-May.
- The drilling rig remained on site to drill 10 new LFG wells to improve the effective capture of landfill gas.

Operational update

- The site undertook a campaign to manage an odourous leachate pond.
  - Leachate Pond D had a minimal amount of leachate in it – below the threshold where aerators could function, this circumstance made the ponds vulnerable to odour.
  - As a result, staff responded by managing leachate across the site into one pond, to help dilute the leachate and allow for aeration to be applied.
  - Interested stakeholders were notified of the activity.
  - EPA was notified of the activity.

Proposed Cell 21

- Since the last meeting:
  - Veolia is finalising Cell 21 Development Licence application, to be lodged with the EPA by early July 2026.
- This will be followed by an assessment period where EPA can request more information from Veolia. EPA has four months to assess the application. Refer to slide for more detail on timelines.

JH – Does the contour of that cell tie in with the contour approved in the plan?
NJ – Yes, the picture shown on the slide is from our existing operating licence and that is the contour we're designing to.

TRRRP improvement notices and actions

- No active EPA notices
- Voluntary LFG monitoring program results are submitted to EPA monthly.
- Last site inspection was in May 2026. Inspectors looked at the landfill cells and soil wash plant. No actions resulted from this inspection.

JH – What was the impetus for the extra LFG wells you've drilled?
NJ – We identified a gap between the gas we were collecting from our existing wells and what the modelling showed should be available.
JH – When you're drilling these wells, do you know where the base of the cell is and do you go down to as near a depth as practical?
NJ – Yes, we drill to predetermined depths based on the location within each cell.

RG – What happens to the gas?
NJ – It is captured through the existing infrastructure and flared off through our existing flare.

PROJECT UPDATES (EarthSure)

MG provided the following update:

EarthSure Thermal plant:

- Seven weeks of campaign of production to date in 2026.
- Capex investment during Q2 2026 including:
  - Continuous Emissions Monitoring System (CEMS) computer system upgrade ~$0.5M
  - Evaporating Cooling Chamber replacement ~$1.0M. This has been designed by a local company and was delivered this month. Will start treating again next week.
  - Together, these two upgrades extend beyond minimum compliance requirements. They demonstrate continuous improvement and further strengthen Veolia's ability to monitor the plant's operation.
- EarthSure is now considered a depollution leader within Veolia globally and, following a recent acquisition, Veolia has strengthened its remediation solutions in Victoria.

RG – Is the real-time monitoring data from the CEMS publicly accessible?
MG – We collect the data as part of the monitoring requirements in our licence. It is not publicly accessible.

RG – What are you cooling?
MG – Gas. As it comes through the plant it cools and particles are captured and then the gas is sent on for further treatment. There is a lot of work that goes in around treatment at this site, and we're seen as a global remediation solution provider and probably one of the biggest in Australia after a recent acquisition in another area of our business.

EarthSure Soil Washing:

- Received operational licence.
- Thanks to CRG members for their interest and involvement throughout the process.
- Grant finalised with Sustainability Victoria under the Hazardous Waste Infrastructure Fund.
- Sustained demand by industry for remediation and recycled products.
- EarthSure team now 35 people strong.
- We hope to have an official opening with the responsible Victorian Government minister in the future.

RG – Where does the soil you're treating come from?
MG – We are receiving soil from the Suburban Rail Loop project, as well as other development projects that aren't necessarily State Government owned. The plant helps with the circular economy principles, as we're able to reuse the materials.

RG – As I understand it, the sand can only be used in limited applications?
MG – The sand we produce is clean fill and can go into concrete at plants here in Dandenong. There is aggregate that can go into road base. As with anything that's recovered, the product is safe; we are only held back by people's perception of it, as they think it can be inferior or somehow compromised.

RG – How do the costs for the materials you're recovering compare? Are they less expensive?
MG – It is cheaper. It shouldn't be, but it is. We're doing a lot of work around marketing the products and working with concreters and other industries to complete the tests they require so we can verify it meets their requirements.

JH – There's very high requirements for the integrity of sand in terms of meeting the structural integrity requirements of concrete. Is any being used for concreting?
MG – We sample the sand and it meets clean fill. We can't send it out unless it meets those requirements. There are also requirements imposed by EPA. Customers then have their own requirements on top of all those, which are also met.

A discussion followed about how customers purchase the products and where it is available. The products are not available in retail stores. Customers pick the product up themselves in bulk.

JH led a discussion with subsequent questions from TW about public availability of the air and weather data from Veolia's private monitoring station, including the timelines for this data becoming available to EPA.
MG advised that EPA must be immediately informed and get access to the data after incidents. Veolia is not required to make the data public, and could introduce cybersecurity vulnerabilities in doing so.
TS advised there had been no notifiable instances of Veolia exceeding its licence conditions in regards to air quality, and reiterated that if such a situation were to arise Veolia would be required to report it to EPA.
JP advised EPA's own air quality monitors are not deployed to monitor specific sites, but instead are sited to get a representative picture of the state's air quality. She said there is a licence requirement for all licensees to report breaches to EPA within 24 hours.

JH, TW and RG queried how news of a breach would be communicated to the public.
JP advised reports are sent to regional EPA teams and triaged. The EPA then determines if there's any threat to communities, how such a risk is best rectified, and how it is communicated.

RH advised that, if there was a threat to community health, health units would be advised and notifications would flow into the Vic Emergency app.
RH advised EarthSure facilities have undergone a thorough proof of performance process to be approved and licenced for operations. Sands, gravels and aggregates are also tested to check contaminants have been successfully removed. Veolia is currently working through a lot of commissioning-phase testing. If they can't prove the facility works, EPA won't licence it to operate.

JH queried the volume of water used in the facility, the water run-off, and the impact this potentially has.
MG advised the soil washing plant is self-sufficient for water. It does not constantly pull clean water in like other facilities. The facility is unique in that it has its own treatment plant. The treatment plant operates a bit like a sand filter used for a pool, but is instead filled with Granulated Activated Carbon (GAC), which pulls out all the contaminants and impurities.
NJ advised 2ML of water has been generated so far this year, for testing before discharge to sewer under the South East Water Trade Waste Agreement.

RG queried what happens to the material captured in the plant's sand filters.
MG advised the material is processed through the thermal treatment plant that is on the TRRRP site.

JH asked whether material from the Victorian desalination plant was processed at the site.
MG advised no material has been received from the Victorian desalination plant.

TW asked for more detail on the business Veolia acquired recently.
MG - Veolia has acquired the remediation component of Enviropacific.

There was a significant discussion regarding the proposed development of Cell 21, including:

- *RG - Whether the term "legacy condition" (used in the minutes of last meeting) applied to a licence condition currently in force, or since removed;*
- *RG - Whether independent studies had been done to determine whether the condition still applies;*
- *IJ - Why the legacy 35% condition is repeatedly raised by community members if it's not the intention for the new cell;*
- *RG - What evidence was used in arriving at the 35% licence condition.*

MG said the application being prepared is a development application for cell 21, and indicated Veolia would look to increase or remove the 35% (prescribed waste across the site) licence condition.
NJ advised that the "legacy condition" of 35% prescribed waste across the site was first imposed in the early 1990s, when prescribed waste and general waste were co-disposed in a clay-lined landfill cell.
NJ advised prescribed waste is now disposed of in dual-lined cell specifically designed for such waste.
RH explained Veolia will need to detail in its applications why the condition shouldn't apply going forward. EPA would then review the application and make a determination.
RH explained the pathway to potential approval in detail. He said there will be a period of community consultation after the application is lodged in early July and the EPA receives all required additional information. He said a page will be established on the Engage Victoria website outlining the application progress and providing information for the community to review.
MG explained the cell that's currently being filled with priority waste is one of the most advanced in Australia, highlighting that landfill technology had improved significantly since the 1990s.

RH said EPA had searched its archives for information around the 35% licence condition, however could not find a source. He explained the decision makers from the EPA at that time have since moved on.

JH questioned whether the Selwyn tectonic fault line runs through the site and the impact this could have on the landfill walls in the event of an earthquake;
RH advised slope stability is a key component of the assessment process for landfill applications and amendments.

JH asked the current value of the financial assurance held by the Victorian Government to guarantee the site is appropriately rehabilitated when it reaches end-of-life, how the figure is assessed, whether the bond value is linked to a site's commercial value and whether the value is linked to an operator's profitability
MG advised the Victorian Government holds a $30,000,000* financial assurance for the site, and it has increased over time. The amount is revised by the EPA every time a cell is developed or closed.
JP advised the EPA calculates financial assurances based on the cost the government would incur to rehabilitate a site, if its operator fails to do so.
** Note: Following the meeting, this figure was confirmed to be $37,000,000.*

RG asked TS and BW, as close neighbours to the site, whether they'd been adversely impacted in recent times.
TS advised the business recently raised a concern about an odour in the afternoon, and by 9am the next morning had an explanation of what happened and an invite to tour the site the next morning to see the situation for themselves.
TS advised they were attending the meeting to understand how Veolia's community engagement processes operate and to inform their stakeholders.

JH asked why the weather station data from the site is not publicly available.
NJ advised Veolia is not a company that specialises in creating web interfaces for such data.
JP advised community members can us the Bureau of Meteorology app to find the closest weather station.

RG asked, given VCAT's rejection of the Hallam Park Transfer Station, if any consideration would be given to using the TRRRP site for waste compression.
MG said no, and that such a facility would be better situated on a greenfield site.

OTHER BUSINESS (Veolia)

6:51pm MEETING CLOSE.

Action tracker:

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

Item	Action	Who	Date

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

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

TRRRP - Project Updates

Upkeep works:

Leachate Ponds

- Ponds finalised
- 9.9ML of operational treatment capacity will be back online shortly - supports the sites overall leachate capacity.

LFG Wells

- Western potion of landfill - well underperforming - redrilled w/c 18 May.
- Drilling rig has remained on site to drill 10 new LFG wells

The new bund wall is established and ponds lined

Drill rig

VEOLIA 2

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

TRRRP - Operational Updates

Stagnant Leachate

- The site undertook a campaign to reduce leachate
- The ponds had a minimal amount of leachate, below the limit where the aerators could function
- The site responded by:
  - managing leachate across the site into one pond
  - ensuring interested stakeholders were were of the actions
  - notified EPA

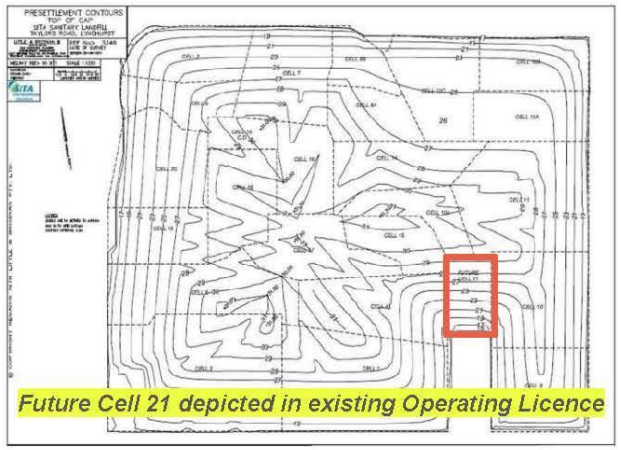
VEOLIA 3

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

TRRRP - Proposed Cell 21

- Since the last meeting:
  - Veolia is finalising Cell 21 Development Licence application and expects to submit early July 2026

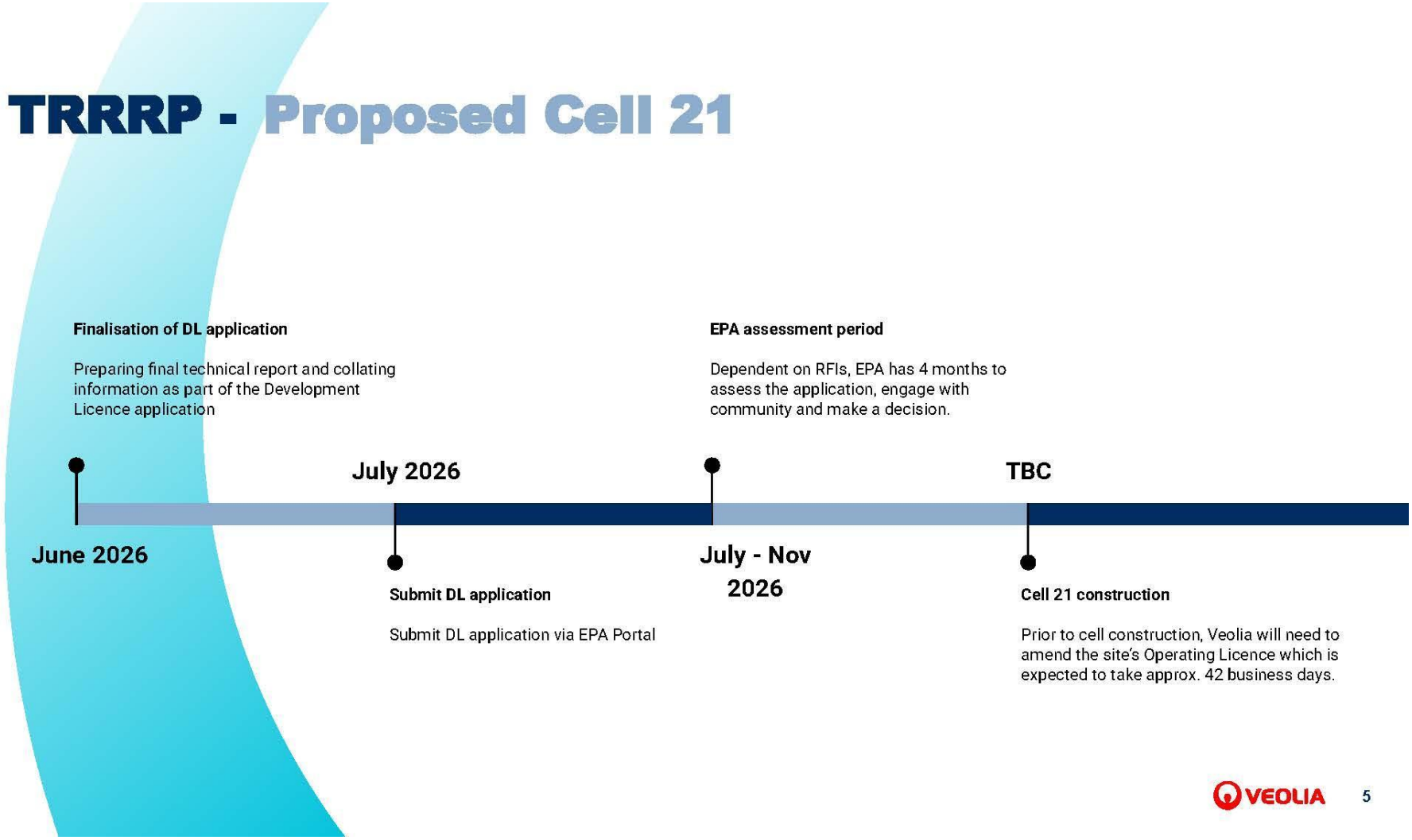
Cell 21 - location


Future Cell 21 depicted in existing Operating Licence

VEOLIA 4

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

TRRRP - Proposed Cell 21



5

Taylors improvement notices and actions

Notice	Description	Action	Status
No active EPA notices	NA	Voluntary LFG Monitoring Program submitted to EPA monthly	NA

Latest EPA inspections

- May 2026

TRRRP - EarthSure Thermal

Thermal Plant

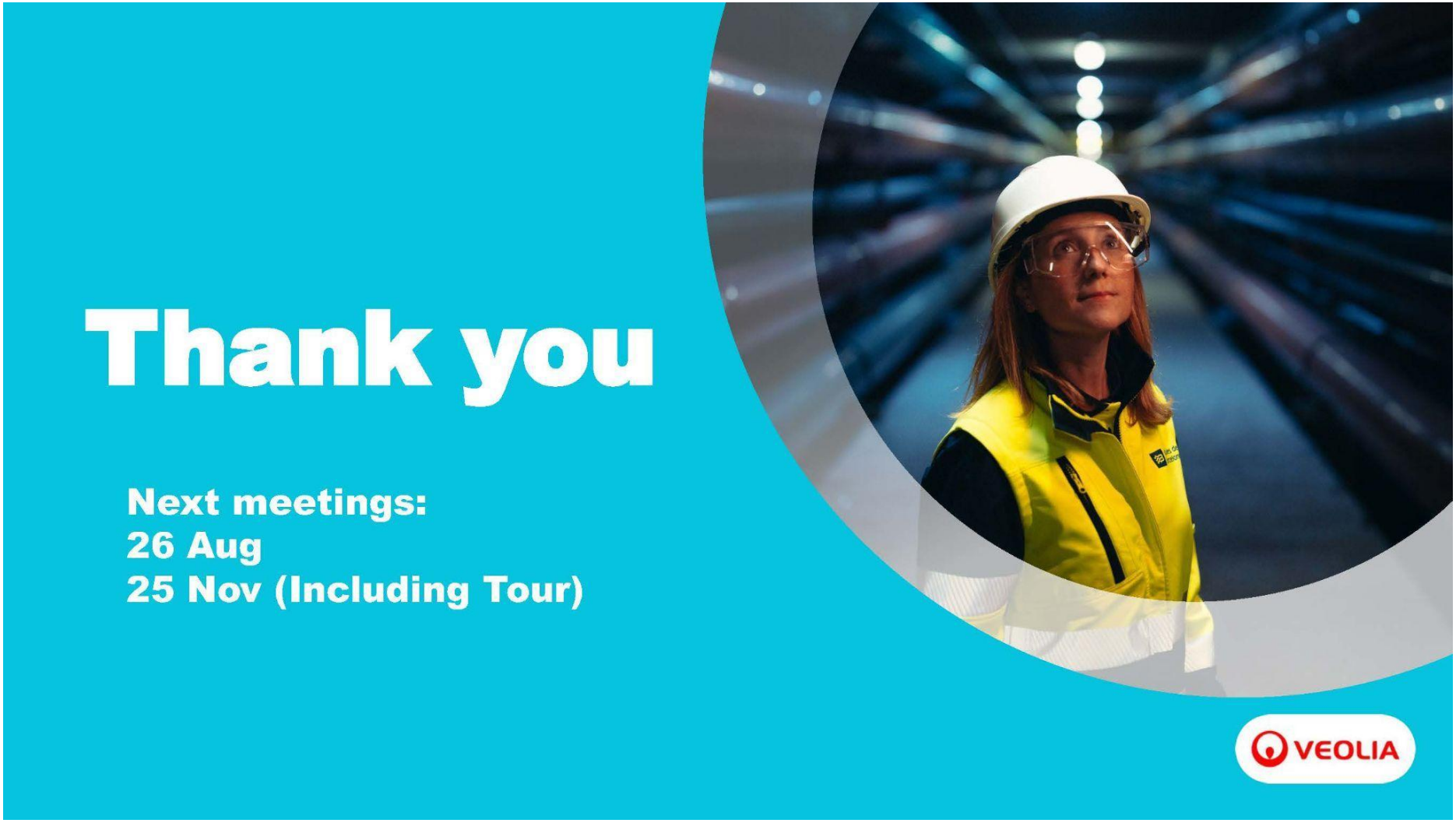
- 7 week campaigns of production in 2026
- Capex Investment during Q2 2026
  - Continuous Emissions Monitoring System (CEMS) upgrade ~$0.5M
  - Evaporating Cooling Chamber replacement ~$1.0M
- EarthSure considered a depollution leader within Veolia global for remediation solutions.

earthsure 7

TRRRP - EarthSure Soil Washing

Soil Washing

- Received operational licence
  - Thanks again for your interest and involvement through the process
- Grant finalised with Sustainability Victoria
- Continued to see demand by industry for remediation and recycled products
- EarthSure team now 35 people strong.

earthsure 8

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