

Minutes from Community Forum #30, 12 July 2006, Bob Druitt Training Centre

Forum attendees: Beven Newitt, Frank Bowen, Sam Ricciu, John Feddersen, Errol Page, Annemieke Grosser, Melissa Russell, Mike O'Neill, Johann van Zyl, John Clark, Courtney Brown, Mellissa Case (new member)

Apologies: Betty Gosschalk, Grant Firth, Kelvin Banks, Ross Greenhalgh

Agenda

- Welcome and introduction – M O'Neill
- Standing items:
- Complaints database – M Russell
- Revegetation plan/tree planting update – M Russell
- Environmental project status update – M O'Neill
- Community activities update – C Brown
- Odour Program Status – M Russell
- Port Curtis Integrated Monitoring System (PCIMP) – M Russell
- Discussion items – J Feddersen
- Calcination/Demolition update – M O'Neill
- Questions and answers – M O'Neill
- Next forum meeting date – C Brown

Minutes and actions resulting from meeting

Minutes / Action	By Whom	By When
Welcome and introduction:		
Feedback information from the Forum meeting will be published in the Port Curtis Post, The Observer and on the QAL website.	Mellissa Case (ongoing)	26 July 2006
Standing items:		
<i>Complaints Database – M Russell</i>		
Presentation on community complaints including alkali, dust, noise and odour year to date. Reported year to date is better than previous year with dust complaints significantly reduced, however odour complaints still high.		
<i>Tree Planting Committee Update – M Russell</i>	Mellissa Case	18 July 2006
700 trees were planted on 10 May 2006. Next tree planting date will be 26 July 2006 when 720 trees will be planted.		
<i>Environmental Projects Update – M O'Neill</i>		
All coal dust reduction projects complete.		
Boiler 7 is offline for turnaround and baghouse installation. By 10 August, 6 out of 7 boilers will be fitted with baghouses.		
Lime Kiln demolition will be complete by end of July. Alumina loading chute is on site and due for installation by the end of the year.		
From an environmental point of view, most projects have completed.		

Community Activities – C Brown

Update on community activities presented. Ecofest was a great success with 6,000 attendees.

18 first year apprentices were officially welcomed on 17 May. Fourth year Fitting & Turning Apprentice Brent Stiller was named QAL Apprentice of the Year.

Two Broncos players Michael Ennis and Corey Parker visited the plant on Wednesday 28 June through Ergon Energy's partnership with QAL.

Relay for life is scheduled for 20 August. Fundraising is well underway for QAL's SLAM Cancer team.

Melissa Case

August 2006

QAL has again partnered with Ergon Energy to sponsor a Solar School in the Gladstone region. This year, Toooloa High School will be the recipient of a solar installation.

Odour Program Status – M Russell

Judging from results from the first odour study in 1999, it was stated that about 40% of total plant odour is captured in the Thermal oxidiser, commissioned in 2003. Map of site was displayed to show the reduction of odour, particularly in digestion where oxidiser now operates.

Hedonic tone was explained as a measure of the offensiveness or un-pleasantness of an odour. *Modelling* Mathematical model of dispersion of air emissions from QAL into the surrounding areas, including Gladstone city. Model is complete and the Feasibility study to prioritise emission sources for control is in progress. Potential engineering controls will be identified by Dec 2006 with a Cost/benefit analysis.

Port Curtis Integrated Monitoring Program

Collaborative approach to monitoring Gladstone's harbour health with 14 members from government, industry, and research institutions.

Last year QAL conducted bio-monitoring with oysters and (DGT's) with other members of PCIMP and is scheduled to again in 2007.

Oil spill sites will now also be covered in intertidal monitoring due to lack of monitoring planned for impacted areas.

As a result, the community will have access to an Eco-health report card which gives information, colour coded maps and health ratings in July 2007

Discussion items:

Community Participation

Follow up from interest expressed from forum members to provide community representation within GAIN Environment. Melissa Russell advised that forum members could raise issues at QAL community forum meetings, which will then be relayed at GAIN meetings.

Update on membranes – alkali. The initial trial Membrane is being purchased and will be positioned to assist in the reduction of airborne emissions.

New Bauxite Carriers

New oil-fired ships with an extra capacity of 10,000 tonnes are currently being built in Japan. As the ships will be wider, QAL will need to investigate modifications to existing loaders. Current coal fired ships will still continue to operate.

Access to wharves

Initiated by the Government, anyone accessing the wharf after 7 August will need to have a Maritime Security Identification card (MSIC) or be escorted by a cardholder. QAL has applied for approximately 350 cards.

Tracking to Environmental Management Plans

On time with all obligations.

Licensing Fraud

QAL supplied all names of ticket holders to the Government to ensure there were no issues.

SLAM progress

SLAM rollout in April was successful and all employees know that SLAM is the first step in the risk assessment process. The program may have had an impact on the reduction of incidents with a total of 11 serious injuries in the first half of 2006, with 9 in the first quarter and only 2 in the second.

Calcination/Demolition Update– M O'Neill

Calcination demolition site cleaning is underway with final processing of materials.

Kilns and lime stockpiles demolition is complete with two stacks left. Expected completion is the end of July.

Johann van Zyl mentioned the cost was \$20M for Calcination and lime kiln demolition.

Questions and answers - M O'Neill

Errol Page enquired as to whether membranes would be installed on top of precipitation tanks as part of the plan to reduce alkali emissions. Johann van Zyl responded that emission sources have been previously identified and precipitation has lower priority than secondary surge and tertiary tanks.

Frank Bowen mentioned that vacant block was looking much nicer following mowing of high grass.

Next meeting scheduled for 26 September 2006.

Meeting closed: 8.00pm

Attachments:

- Draft of advertisement (for comment)

- Meeting agenda
- Complaints database
- Tree planting update
- Environmental projects update
- Community activities update
- Kiln demolition update
- Odour program
- PCIMP
- Community Forum Reference Sheet