

## QAL Community Advisory Committee Meeting

### Meeting 7

5.30pm Wednesday 2 November 2016

<b>ATTENDEES:</b>	
<i>Mike Dunstan</i>	<i>QAL Representative</i>
<i>Greg Doyle</i>	<i>QAL Representative</i>
<i>Grant Costello</i>	<i>QAL Representative</i>
<i>Ross Greenhalgh</i>	<i>QAL Representative</i>
<i>Kylie Devine</i>	<i>QAL Representative</i>
<i>Jessica Ksiazek</i>	<i>QAL Representative</i>
<i>Lee Hackney</i>	<i>QAL Representative</i>
<i>School Principal</i>	<i>School Principal</i>
<i>South Gladstone Resident</i>	<i>South Gladstone Resident</i>
<i>South Gladstone Resident</i>	<i>South Gladstone Resident</i>
<i>South Gladstone Resident</i>	<i>South Gladstone Resident</i>
<i>Community Member</i>	<i>Community Member</i>
<b>APOLOGIES:</b>	
<i>State Member for Gladstone</i>	<i>State Member for Gladstone</i>
<i>School Principal</i>	<i>School Principal</i>
<i>Representative</i>	<i>Kareeba Scout Group</i>
<i>Barney Point Resident</i>	<i>Barney Point Resident</i>
<i>Barney Point Resident</i>	<i>Barney Point Resident</i>
<i>Barney Point Resident</i>	<i>Barney Point Resident</i>
<i>Barney Point Resident</i>	<i>Barney Point Resident</i>
<i>South Gladstone Resident</i>	<i>South Gladstone Resident</i>
<i>South Gladstone Resident</i>	<i>South Gladstone Resident</i>
<i>South Gladstone Resident</i>	<i>South Gladstone Resident</i>
<i>West Gladstone Resident</i>	<i>West Gladstone Resident</i>

### Introduction – Kylie Devine (Specialist – Communication and Communities)

- Welcome extended to forum attendees.
- Emergency evacuation information was supplied to forum attendees
- Amenities location was supplied to forum attendees
- Overview of previous meetings for new forum members
- Review previous actions ('Operation BBQ' A3 review)

Overview of previous meetings

Review of actions from previous meeting held Thursday 14 July 2016

<b>Actions (rolling between meetings)</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Status</b>
Test E-Nose before next meeting and report finding to the Committee	K Devine	Agenda item
Action committee feedback from meeting structure and venue	K Devine	Trialling a quieter room within Yaralla and an earlier commencement time.
Kylie to contact Gladstone News Weekly regarding the paid delivery of first edition as several residents in the delivery area did not receive it	K Devine	Several key areas were missed with the distribution of the previous edition in the South Gladstone region. Cost prohibitive to consider sponsorship of ensuring every addition is delivered to South Gladstone and Barney Point areas.
Kylie to follow up suggestions on Community communication avenues	K Devine	Myths and Facts website on agenda
<b>Actions (long term)</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Status</b>
Table a potential Gladstone industry event at next GILG meeting	M Dunstan	Industry Expo – low on radar at present. Some industries will be participating in Eco Fest.
Grant and GPC to meet and discuss new technology used by GPC to monitor and model coal dust impacts	G Costello	Action carried to next meeting
Complete independent alkali study and distribute findings to committee and wider community	M Dunstan	Direction: To focus on the root cause of the emissions. Carry out independent study, find causes and rectify.

**Update on E-Nose – Kylie Devine**

The E-Nose has been located at Gladstone South State School since start of October. Kylie advised that 15 alarms were recorded since installation; only 2 attributed strongly to QAL. South Gladstone resident enquired as to the source of the other 13 alarms - no source was identified at present. Ross Greenhalgh spoke on the technology used by E-Nose and its limitations. No issues were identifiable at the plant at the time of the alarms. The E-Nose will be next moved to the Kareeba Scout Hall.

South Gladstone Resident enquired how long we plan to keep E-Nose, as the peak time for odour is throughout summer, usually commencing around 6pm.

Kylie advised that contract with E-Nose was until the end of November but QAL may look in to extending the contract over the summer months, with the E-Nose placed in a more residential area. At this stage there is no correlation back to complaints received. Mike Dunstan stated that a verification process is needed.

Greg Doyle asked of the possibility of matching up complaint data with the E-Nose log to be able to gain confidence in the technology.

A South Gladstone residence was identified to host the E-Nose at their property over the summer months. The resident will be set up with a text messaging system which will advise him when an E-Nose alarm is raised, he will be able to correlate with odour experience in real time.

### **Presentation on Odour Strategy - Greg Doyle**

Greg Doyle updated Committee on QAL's action plan to eliminate odour.

- Project 1 - Condenser knock out pot pipework capacity has been completed and QAL has 3 months of data. A graph showing the thermal oxidiser's performance in 2016 was supplied and showed no trips in the last 3 months since knock out pot level issues were resolved. Cost of project was around \$50k
- Project 2 – Increasing oxidiser inlet effluent capacity has been completed with a couple of months of data available. The graph does not show a correlation between community complaints and readings. E-Nose correlation would be valuable.
- Project 3 – Removing knock out pot condensate from bad condensate stream and Project 4 – Destruction of evaporation vapour. It was identified that this condensate is QAL's next highest odour on the plant. These projects are in commissioning phase, trials are in progress and the information will be available next meeting. Approximate cost \$230k.

### **Alkali Strategy- Ross Greenhalgh**

The June 2015 event triggered a risk assessment process looking at the point source of alkali emissions across the plant that have the potential to impact the community. This assessment was completed midyear. Each source was risk rated. A project study is underway to determine the best mitigation strategies in the following areas: modifications/upgrades, maintenance required and operating practices.

Several projects are currently underway. The \$1.8m Digester Overpressure Protection System is underway and due for completion by November 2017. Also underway is a scoping exercise for the remaining prioritised list of future work, expected to be completed by the end of 2016. Works to commence in 2017.

Ross showed two examples of potential alkali sources – small bore pipes and steam vent from oxalate plant.

South Gladstone resident enquired after cost of these upgrades and whether or not QAL would have trouble getting Board approval. Mike Dunstan advised that Board would approve. Mike Dunstan and the Board's view was that all steps must be taken to prevent a reoccurrence of the June 10 event. QAL is adopting a proactive approach looking at what has happened in the plant over the last 20 years, what fix was put in place, was it effective and if not – fix it.

### **Current market conditions/Court Case Update - Mike Dunstan (General Manager)**

Mike Dunstan updated forum on current market conditions, outlining the positive and negative drivers in the Alumina and Aluminium markets.

Mike Dunstan presented a graph showing the current status of alumina prices which have shown improvement rising to \$280 tonne. Also presented was QAL's YTD cash impact. Mike advised QAL was on track and not only achieving but exceeding their target lines which has been a massive turnaround for the business. Mike gave examples of cost saving initiatives.

Mike has been advised that QAL will not close, but still has a lot of work ahead with cost savings also to be found next year to move the business into a lower operating quartile. QAL will be cash positive by year end.

Mike advised that QAL will not compromise on health, safety and environment or the maintenance and integrity of the plant. These budgets are still maintained. QAL is back to business as usual now recruiting and taking on apprentices.

### **QAL Court Hearing**

A mention is scheduled for the 14 December, 2016. QAL will plead guilty. A significant fine is expected. Some of this fine will be directed to environmental projects/groups which will be determined by the court.

### **Communication Avenues/Community Feedback**

The Myths and Facts website has been developed. Kylie asked forum for input in to what needs to be included on this site, the following feedback was received:

- QAL deliberately releases at night time
- Still polluting the atmosphere by making it colourless
- Pitting of aluminium windows
- Gutters on homes used to last longer before QAL
- Rusting out of residential roofs
- QAL closing at Christmas time
- People out of top administration building so Bechtel can move in to demolish site

Kylie to send current website questions to group and asked the forum members for further input.

Mike Dunstan and Kylie Devine will be making representation to Gladstone Regional Council, Glenn Butcher, and other key stakeholders to provide an update on the business.

### **Committee Feedback**

The committee is happy with change of room and time for meeting.

South Gladstone resident felt that it was a really positive meeting.

### **Summary of follow up actions**

- Kylie to look into extending E-Nose contract to cover summer period.
- Arrangements to be made to include South Gladstone resident in the alarm texts for E-Nose.
- Kylie Devine to send current Myths and Facts website layout to committee for further input.
- Kylie to send notice of advising next meeting date in February 2017

### **General Business**

- Formal invitation will be sent out to committee members to our end of year stakeholder event.

### **Next meeting**

- Early February 2017

*Meeting closed. 7:09pm*