Wests Road RDF & Waste Management Community Reference Group

AOC

19th Meeting

Notes

18 August 2016 Conference Rooms C & D

Present:

Karen Hucker – community representative
Harry Van Moorst – WREC representative
Kimi Pellosis – Community representative
Julian Menegazzo – adjoining landowner representative
Lindsay Swinden – Community representative
Simon Clay – Manager Refuse Disposal Facility
Bruce Turner – Independent Chair

Visitors:

Hayley Jarvis - Team Leader Waste Strategy

Apologies/ absent:

Jacqui Scott - community representative

Peter Haddow – community representative

Michelle Lee – Planner, Metropolitan Waste and Resource Recovery Group (MWRRG)

David Suder – Director Infrastructure, City of Wyndham

Cr Peter Maynard - Councillor, City of Wyndham

Cr Bob Fairclough – Councillor, City of Wyndham

John Faranda – Werribee South Ratepayers Association representative

The meeting commenced at 5.30 pm. No conflicts of interest were declared

1. Welcome and Introductions

Bruce welcomed members to the 19th meeting of the Community Reference Group.

2. Notes and actions from the previous meeting

The notes from the 18th meeting held on 23 June 2016 were taken as presented.

Bruce ran through outstanding actions from the previous meeting:

Action M14-2.2	Finalised notes of the previous meeting, including the notes of the CRG workshop conducted by Michelle, to be	Yet to be completed
	published on Council's website.	
Action M15-2.1	Update the CRG page on the WCC web site.	Yet to be completed
Action M15-3.1	WCC to send a letter to each member of the CRG confirming their term and expiry date.	Yet to be completed
Action M15-3.2	Simon to check with WCC Communications Team about getting a call for expressions of interest for new nominations in Council's January-February newsletter.	Yet to be completed for later edition of newsletter

Action M16-3.2	Ask Elio Comello to attend the next meeting to further discuss the State Planning development related to the urban growth boundary.	Pending further work being completed at the state level
Action M17-3.1	Simon to resolve this (membership) prior to the next meeting	
Action M17-6.1	Simon to look at including Connie Menegazzo in the survey team and to plot historical complaints and survey results compared to time of delivery and other operating and atmospheric conditions at the landfill	
Action M17-7.1	Provide data on recycling from the transfer station	
Action M17-9.1	Some options for a site visit to the RDF to be proposed to the CRG	
Action M18-6.1	Calculate the CO2 equivalent of the landfill gas using the carbon tax methodology	
Action M18-6.2	Circulate the auditor's report on the phytocap trial when it becomes available	Report not yet available
Action M18-6.3	Simon to provide a status update on where things stand with landscaping plans (i.e. consolidate/ review what CRG has seen and where things are at now)	See item 7
Action M18–6.4	Simon to circulate material on alternate daily cover systems.	See item 7 (completed)

3. Membership renewal

There was no substantive discussion on this matter. Confirmation of appointments is still outstanding by WCC.

4. Waste management and resource recovery in general

No items for discussion this meeting

5. Strategic planning context

No further update was available for the meeting. Elio will be invited to a future meeting when there has been further progress on developments related to the urban growth boundary. Harry asked for the buffer study to be circulated, and the Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO) for the Precinct Structure Plan (PSP).

Action M19-5.1 Circulate a copy of the Wyndhamvale Buffer Study and ESO to the CRG members

6. Works Approval Application

Simon indicated that the Works Approval for new cells across the remainder of the site was still to be formalised and lodged with EPA. He said this could take approximately two weeks. He also reported advice from EPA that the design of future cells would require a two metre separation from the bottom of the leachate sump or additional design and management measures.

An overview of the community consultation session held on 28 July was provided including feedback received relating to:

- Alternatives to landfill (i.e. waste to energy)
- Height of the landfill
- Litter management
- Landscaping

The general view was that the landscaping section of the works approval application should be given more detail and focus than in the draft document.

The fact sheets prepared about the RDF for the consultation session were provided. Julian noted that in relation to the fact sheet on noise it was not the reversing beepers on the plant but the acceleration "surge" of the compactor that was causing the noise issues.

Action M19-6.2 Fact Sheets to be circulated to the CRG members

Action M19-6.3 CRG members to provide comment on the draft fact sheets by 26 August
(subsequently circulated by Simon on 23 August with comments sought by 9 September)

7. RDF Update

RDF Strategic Plan

Action M19-7.1 Circulate a copy of the RDF Strategic Plan and Action Plan to the CRG members (subsequently circulated by Simon on 23 August)

Performance Dashboard

Simon said he proposed to issue the Dashboard report with meeting agendas in future. He reported that the waste tonnage received at the RDF for the last year was 515,000 tonnes, compared to a predicted amount of approximately 500,000 tonnes. He said the recycling tonnages were not easy to track. Greenhouse gas emissions have yet to be calculated (Action M18-6.1).

Operational changes

There was much discussion of the proposed use of tarps as daily cover on the slope of the tipping face, with soil on the flat top of new waste.

Some upgrading of litter netting has occurred with a new section of litter netting near the leachate pond having been completed.

The RDF has also purchased a vehicle mounted vacuum unit to facilitate the cleaning up of windblown litter. This unit is mounted on the back of a utility vehicle.

Landfill gas management update

Simon reported a high reading in bore 26 (in fractured basalt) of 1.3% methane (compared to the investigation level of 1.0%).

Harry requested that monitoring data on groundwater and landfill gas be shared with the CRG. Simon undertook to share surface water results and to look at creating a secure website for the CRG to access the latest monitoring results as they become available.

Action M19-7.2 Simon to provide gas and groundwater monitoring data as part of regular meeting agenda, and to look at creation of a secure site for viewing of monitoring results between meetings.

Daily odour measurement results and monitoring regime

Simon reported that some weeks ago Connie Menegazzo had reported a strong odour which couldn't be verified, but a leaking valve was found and fixed. Julian said that Connie smelt strong odours less frequently but still did occasionally.

Simon indicated that new gas bores were soon to be operational in Cells 4A and 4B.

Action M19-7.3 Simon to provide a summary of odour complaints to the CRG

Phytocap Trial

There was a discussion about providing a detailed rehabilitation plan for Cells 1B-3.

Harry referred to a report indicating that the phytocap would be established by June 2015. He said he was concerned that there would be a 'temporary' cap in place for around three years before there are results that determine what the final cap will be.

After discussion, the general advice of the CRG to Council was that there should be a combination of 'proper' caps on Cells 4A and 4B and a trial phytocap on older cells.

Harry asked what the current height of Cell 4A is and will it be above height when it's capped and rehabilitated.

Action M19-7.4 Simon to provide current height levels for Cell 4A

8. Members report back and Questions

There was discussion of a list of requested documents that Harry had provided earlier in the day of the meeting (many of which are referred to for follow up in Actions above). Simon undertook to provide these.

Karen drew the CRG's attention to Council's new brochure on bins and what can be recycled. She also asked about the effect of the new organisational structure on Council's future focus (with David Suder having a narrower role focused on Resource Recovery).

Lindsay asked when the Transfer Station was to be revamped so that charging for waste occurred after all recyclables had been deposited.

9. Communications

It was requested that the WCC web team is asked to put the meeting notes on the web site.

10. Other business

Simon issued an open invitation to CRG members to arrange a site visit direct with him, if they would like to visit the RDF.

11. Next meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for 5.30 to 8pm on Thursday 20 October 2016 (later rescheduled to Thursday 27 October).

The Meeting closed at 7:30 pm