

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting
Cleary Bros Albion Park Quarry Community Consultative Committee
Held at the Shellharbour Civic Centre, Shellharbour City
Thursday 13 December 2018 at 1:10 pm

Present:

Chairperson	Brian Weir (BW)
Fig Tree Hill Representative	Susan Dunster (SD)
Community Representative	John Murray (JM)
Shellharbour City Council Representative	Grant Meredith (GM)
Cleary Bros Environmental Officer	Mark Hammond (MH)
Cleary Bros Representative	Geoff Robinson (GR)

Observer

Shellharbour City Council	Mark Miller (MM)
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Welcome

BW welcomed all members and acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land and paid his respects to Elders past and present.

Item 1: Apologies

No apologies submitted for the meeting.

Item 2: Declaration of pecuniary or other interests

Brian Weir indicated that he received a small sitting fee to chair the meeting.

Mark Hammond and Geoff Robinson indicated they are employees of Cleary Bros.

Susan Dunster represents Fig Tree Hill.

Item 3: Record of Minutes & Business arising from previous minutes

GR verbally advised in response to the query in the previous minutes around quarry starting times, day shift prestart meeting has been moved back to 7am, to prevent any possibility of work starting prior to approved operating hours in the Quarry Extension.

Item 4: Correspondence

BW verbally reported that he had received correspondence from DPE with eight templates associated with the operation of the CCC. This includes templates on code of conduct, reporting, annual reporting, managing committee members and so forth. Department is requiring all committee members to complete a declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests form, and complete a code of conduct form. To be further discussed in General Business.

Item 5: Cleary Bros reports and overview of activities

The following report was provided to all members as an attachment to the agenda, and read out by MH:

i) Progress of the project

Currently excavating rock from Stage 4. In the four months to the 31st October 2018 208,721 tonnes of hard rock products were produced on site, including approximately 176,390 tonnes of blue basalt products and 32,330 tonnes of red agglomerate. Production over the next six months is expected to remain at approximately the same rate.

ii) Issues arising from site visits

No site visit is planned for this CCC meeting. A site visit was held at the previous CCC meeting on 26/7/2018.

iii) Monitoring and environmental performance

Dust

Cleary Bros are currently commencing the commissioning of real time particulate monitors at the Albion Park Quarry. Once commissioned, these will replace the existing depositional gauges and high volume air sampler, and allow modifications to site activities where required in real time to respond to the monitors.

Depositional dust levels have varied across the site (12-month average), with the gauge closest to the entrance increasing to 4.8g/m²/month, the 2nd gauge reducing to 2.3g/m²/month, while the third and fourth gauges are relatively unchanged (1.1 and 1.3g/m²/month). The holders of dust gauges located in exposed locations have been replaced with narrower containers to prevent them tilting over in strong winds.

There have been no exceedances of the daily PM10 criteria as recorded by the High Volume Air Sampler since the last CCC meeting. The annual average (to 28/10/18) is relatively unchanged from the past report at 20.0µg/m³ despite the significant rainfall deficit over the last 12 months.

Boreholes

Cleary Bros have continued quarterly sampling of groundwater bores. Groundwater levels as recorded across the monitoring network have continued to decline over the past year, consistent with the significant rainfall deficit experienced over this period. Despite this, there have been no adverse impacts on groundwater quality.

Blasting

All blast results have complied with EPA and DP&E limits. FY19 average and maximum blast overpressure at nearest sensitive receptor were recorded as 105.9 dB(L) and 108.8 db(L) respectively. FY19 average and maximum blast PVS vibration at nearest sensitive receptor were recorded as 1.65mm/s and 2.73mm/s respectively.

Rehabilitation and Revegetation

Revised rehabilitation strategy implemented at the start of last year has been successful to date, with good growth seen across all species planted, despite the poor rainfall. Watering of plants has been undertaken as a substitute for rainfall as required.

Progress of rehabilitation actions will continue to be reported on in subsequent inspections and CCC meetings.

iv) Community complaints and response to these complaints

One community complaint has been received since the last CCC meeting, relating to dust in the processing area at the Albion Park Quarry. The complaint has been investigated with a response provided to the complainant.

v) Information provided to the community and any feedback

The Cleary Bros website is regularly updated to ensure all required information is current, including approvals, management plans, and environmental monitoring data.

Cleary Bros recommends the above report is received and noted by the CCC

Signed: Mark Hammond (Environmental Officer) 16/11/2018

Verbal report to the meeting

MH provided further verbal updates as follows:

Item (i): FY19 production of hard rock products to 30th November 2018 was 267,225 tonnes, including 231,693 tonnes of blue basalt products and 35,532 tonnes of red agglomerate from the quarry. This equates to an annualised production rate of 641,341 tonnes, consistent with forecasts.

Discussion

SD thanked CB for changing the dust depositional gauges, to prevent the gauges from tilting over during strong wind.

SD asked about the new dust monitors and if they will replace the existing dust gauges.

MH explained in detail the process for commissioning and deployment of the new real-time particulate monitors, and decommissioning of previous dust monitors. MH explained the types of dust in the airshed, and what the respective monitor's measure.

SD mentioned that several springs on her property had been drying up recently, which SD wasn't aware of happening previously, although acknowledged conditions had been very dry recently. SD asked whether we were observing any water seeping into the pit, and if we tracked how much water was used.

GR explained that water usage on the quarry is tracked through records of pump hours which are retained. GR explained that water has not been observed seeping out of any of the pit walls in recent times, with water only building up in the pit as a result of rainfall.

MH also stated that the dam to the northeast of the Belmont, which is on a hill that hasn't been quarried yet, has also been dry in recent times, however MH was unaware of the reliability of this dam during dry periods.

GR outlined the caused of the dust that led to the complaint received during the period. GR stated that it related to filter bag blowing out in the classifier of the main processing plant, which was shut down as soon as practicable to minimise dust emissions.

In response to Item 5 (ii), MM expressed an interest in visiting the quarry in the new year.

GR invited MM to visit the quarry at any time to assist with familiarisation of the site.

Resolved: Report received and noted.

Item 6: Other Agenda Items

i) DA for reprocessing of external material in old quarry pit.

MH verbally reported that the DA for reprocessing area was approved 1-2 months ago, however Cleary Bros haven't enacted it at this stage, due to the additional administrative requirements associated with reprocessing VENM as a waste product.

SD stated that she hadn't been informed about the approval of the DA, and asked GM about the communication process.

GM responded that as SD had provided a submission to the DA, she should have been notified of the approval. GM advised that Council will be able to provide SD with a copy of the Consent.

SD queried the operating hours of the new consent.

MH explained that it was consistent with the operating hours from the previous consents, that is 7am – 5:30pm.

GM stated that he was interested in seeing how production would vary once enacted, as imported material replaced virgin material from the active quarry.

MH explained that a total reduction in output from the active quarry would unlikely be observed in the short term, as variations in production on a month to month basis are greater than the anticipated import volumes. However any imported material would directly reduce the quantity of virgin material required from the active pit.

Item 7: General Business

Communication received from DPE

BW referred to correspondence received from the Department of Planning and Environment regarding the various templates received. BW requested that all committee members complete the declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests form and the code of conduct form. BW provided duplicate copies of each form to each committee member to complete. BW provided his email address to committee members so that any forms not able to be completed immediately could be completed and sent to BW in due time.

All members present undertook to either complete the forms at the conclusion of the meeting or to do so as soon as possible and forward to the Chair.

Dilapidation Reports

SD stated that she hasn't received the final dilapidation reports for her property, following the assessment undertaken earlier in the year.

MH apologised for this, and stated that he will send SD the final dilapidation reports for The Hill property.

Meeting Closed 1:44 pm

Next meeting planned for late July 2019 on a Thursday afternoon at 1pm.

An agenda will be issued prior to the meeting confirming meeting time and date.