

**PQCEG minutes meeting 5**

3-5pm 28 June 2018

Community Centre, 21 Blacks Camp Road, Somerville

**1. Attendance**

Chair: Rob Gerrand

Chris DeFreitas

Daniel Petroni

Ian McLeod ERR

David Chalke, Tyabb Ratepayers

Kate Blake

Diane Anderson

Susan Milton and Franc Amendola Balcombe Estuary Reserve Group (BERG)

Kerren Clark (minutes)

**2. Apologies**

David Bergin Shire, Martin Reeves ERR, Vince Lopardi SRW, Mindy Abel, Geoff Gilbert ERR, Leah Collins, Alan Robinson, Jo Murray PQV

**3. Minutes of the previous meeting**

Approved with amendments to ss6, 8 and 9.

**4. Matters arising from the minutes**

David C referenced the discussions about site geology during the last meeting and noted that the discussion was hurried and remained unfinished. He remains unclear why there are still different descriptions of material available on site, referencing what is and is not available as listed on the website. Daniel confirmed David C's assumption that the 'not available' list is what PQV engineers believe may possibly be available in the future and added that it is essentially advertising.

Ian said that the legislation does not differentiate between different material types. . Material categories are only used for reporting purposes. Sites are required to report annually on tonnage and type. From an extractive industry approvals point of view, there is no difference between sand, clay or rock. Each individual quarry will however have different conditions on their approvals and this may affect how material is extracted. As an example PQV is not approved for blasting, nor does the work plan allow processing on site.

In order to process, blast or dig deeper than provided for in the work plan, a work plan variation is required from ERR. ERR would require information about the impact such a variation would have, such as noise and dust.

Daniel said there is a geotechnical report, with geological description for the site, and he will arrange for the site geological description to be shared.

**5. Community grants program**

The advertisement circulated with the agenda will appear in the Westernport News this week. Members are invited to circulate the ad to community groups that may be interested.

**6. Site activity update**

Chris said current projects include two for Melbourne Water, two for VicRoads and one providing clean fill for a contaminated site in Clayton.

**7. Complaints and compliments register**

Chris tabled the register on behalf of Jo.

The committee considered a process for optimal resolution of issues.

Ian said ERR prefers that complaints be directed to the operator and for speed of resolution this is best done by phone. The operator should record the complaint and act upon it and a follow up email may be sent by the complainant if required. The department should only be involved if the complaint is not resolved. Ian added that he and Geoff are the only personnel regulating 140 sites.

The committee agreed that:

- In the first instance, complainants are to call Chris or Jo who will acknowledge the complaint and attempt to resolve it
- A follow up email should be sent, confirming the phoned complaint
- The complaints form used by Jo will be uploaded onto the PQV website and complainants may complete this and email it to Chris or Jo. This message can be copied to the department (ERR)
- All complaints will be added to the register
- Emailed complaints will be acknowledged
- The complaints register will be added to the website and updated monthly
- If the complainant remains unsatisfied they may contact the department

Time for resolution of the complaint depends on its nature; there is a close off date on the complaints form.

#### **8. Tree planting, fencing and bund works**

Items 8, 9 and 10 were combined for ease of discussion.

Daniel referred to the revised plans he circulated. Figure aa is behind the existing bund and bb is the to be constructed bund.

Diane referred to Daniel's email, which said 250 mature trees have been planted. She said there are only 25 behind her and Mindy's houses and asked where the rest are. Daniel said they are mostly behind figure aa and only about 60 are behind bb. As agreement is required to complete the earthworks to construct the bund, landscapers advised only those 60 could be planted at this time because any planted in other zones would be damaged by the earthworks.

Chris said that he wants to plant ASAP so that trees can be established before the hot weather. He added that he cannot start planting balance of works until neighbours agree on a bund design.

Ian questioned the lack of a swale in the design and Chris said that was at the request of Tyron, Diane and Mindy so that more trees could be planted. Diane confirmed that statement.

Ian said that the fence issue had to be resolved in unison. Daniel replied that 6 of 8 residents had agreed to the design and they had been informed that individual appointments would be made to confirm arrangements and installation dates. At least two weeks' notice will be given.

Diane said she hadn't responded because it is PQV property and they can do what they like. Daniel said that is not the case as he understood and after some discussion Diane agreed to the proposed design, subject to Daniel resending email on this matter.

Rob directed the group back to bund designs and Kerren referred the group to the minutes of the previous meeting where a process had been agreed to gain approval for the bund design. Diane said that Alan was away so it had not happened.

David C said it that it is imperative to plant because of the weather. Daniel said that PQV would ask DEDJTR to intervene if no agreement could not be reached with southern neighbours.

Ian was asked how he thought DEDJTR might respond. He said that a 20m bund is typical for a site like this and what is being proposed is typical for a site like this. The current work plan requires only 10m vegetated strip, which Ian considers inadequate. PQV is offering 22.5m vegetated strip. He thinks what is being put forward would appear to be reasonable.

When asked how close to the boundary PQV plans to quarry, Daniel said the 22.5m zone will remain until the end of operations.

Ian commented that it is a good offer and 2.5m more than a lot of other quarries.

David C agreed that it was a good offer and said that it is time for residents to get together and decide.

Diane agreed to speak with the four other neighbours and revert to Daniel within two weeks regarding the bund design.

Ian said there would be noise and dust during construction (Chris noted that it is so wet there will be mud not dust). Daniel said that neighbours will be given notice of works and all efforts will be made to minimise disruption.

Sue asked when operations would end and Chris said, although it is not an exact science, he estimates 15-20 years.

Ian sought clarification of Daniel's commitment to retain 22.5m when the quarry closes.

Daniel confirmed the commitment to a 22.5m vegetated buffer strip, as shown in landscape plans, remaining in place until such time that extraction operations have been concluded. Under the current approval Bayport is required to remove the bund, and batter that area back at a 3:1 prior to closing down the quarry. However if DEDJTR and resident were agreeable to leave this bund in place permanently then Bayport would do so.

## **9. Site fencing**

Above.

## **10. Bund works**

Above.

## **11. EPA works approval application**

Bayport met with the EPA, regarding discharge application. Bayport have agreed to undertake background water monitoring before Bayport submits an application. These results are currently being collected. Sue asked whether she could see the results and

Daniel said when they are ready, yes. He added that the aim is to ensure that any discharge salinity level is lower than that in the receiving waterway, Balcombs Creek.

Sue asked where the water would enter and Daniel said the water enters the main creek near the intersection of Moorooduc Hwy and Eramosa Road, Wooralla Drive Mt. Eliza

Franc said that the EPA has guidelines regarding risk assessment for flood events etc and asked to see a copy of Bayport's assessment. Daniel said that they will be made available when they are finalised.

Ian said that the risk assessment is compared to the EPA SEPP (State Environment Protection Policy) on Water and offered to provide a copy. Franc said that it takes the climate into account, provides protection to the community and addresses remediation in the case of an event. He asked Daniel about the water remediation plans post-operations and Daniel said he is unsure at this stage. Franc said that it is important to consider.

## 12. Safety

Chris advised that Jo had a report but as she is ill it can't be presented.

## 13. Dust

The monitoring reports were discussed and after some debate, it was agreed that PQV would take a PM10/ PM2.5 dust sample during February 2019.

## 14. Noise

Chris said that the noise that had been the subject of complaints was due to loading trucks on the upper stockpile level, as directed by ERR. Ian noted that the direction was necessary, as stockpiling is required to occur in the pit.

Chris said three quarters of the stockpile is gone and it's hard to estimate how long it will take to finish because it is weather dependant. Ian said that PQV is working in the correct direction to minimise noise.

Chris said that he is considering a second sound wall within the quarry. It should deflect sound, as he has known it to work before, but there is no guarantee.

Franc asked if the buffer will be vegetated and Chris replied no because it will be moved. Frank asked if there was a risk of dust and Chris thought not because it is lower than the outer buffer.

He is also trying to load early trucks in the pit, conscious of the direction of the truck and doing everything he can to reduce noise.

There was discussion about the applicable EPA noise standards and Ian offered to circulate the information. Daniel said that acoustic monitoring has commenced but the consultants are yet to report. Results will be provided at next committee meeting for discussion.

David C thanked Chris for his efforts.

## 15. General business

Rob said that he had reviewed the email trail about spraying and it appeared that some poison had gone over the boundary. Chris said he had investigated and the spray did cross the bottom of the fence so he has now instructed the landscapers not to spray within 1m of the fence. Also, some of the area has just been planted so from now on clearing in that zone will be by brush cutting and by hand. Sue asked if that would apply to the entire boundary and Chris said yes. He has provided written instructions to landscapers.



It was agreed that Chris would speak with complainants about remediation.

Ian asked about the status of the WorkSafe notice and Chris said it had been extended. Daniel hopes that PQV can meet the date and if not they will request another extension.

Daniel reported that the Shire had met the previous night and voted to proceed with the upgrade of the Jones Road intersection. Further discussion was held over to the next meeting.

#### **16. Next meeting**

The meeting closed at 5pm and the next meeting is scheduled for 3pm 1 August.