MINUTES OF CALGA COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING



Meeting Date: Monday, 15 March 2010 at 5.00pm

Venue: Rocla Quarry

Present: Tony Tuxworth (Chairperson)

Pat McCue (Rocla) Paul Slough (Rocla) Alex Echt (Rocla)

Margaret Pontifex (Community Representative) Russell Donovan (Community Representative) Tassin Barnard (Community Representative) Terri Thomson (Community Representative)

Graeme Ausburn (nominated Community Representative)

Julie Renshaw (Minute taker)

Apologies: Nil

A brief overview of the quarry's current operations was conducted outdoors overlooking Cells 3/2A and 3/2B. Paul indicated where the new bench had been formed on the western side of the cell to enable landscaping to be provided. He also spoke about the water movement within the site which brought about discussion amongst the committee members.

During subsequent discussion, Tassin expressed concern that the quarry was not being run in accordance with Development Consent conditions, specifically in relation to water licensing requirements/guidelines. Pat reassured her that this was not the case and that Rocla were taking all appropriate measures to comply with and remain within specified guidelines. Tony suggested that in light of this argument it may be a good idea for Tassin to submit an independent submission, in writing, to the Department of Planning, outlining her concerns because it appeared that these particular matters, whilst noted, may be outside the jurisdiction of the Committee.

Margaret also expressed her concerns regarding the water seepage from the aquifer which was evident from the exposed rock face and suspected diminishing supply of groundwater resulting from the excavation of the quarry. She said she hoped to see one day that future sand mining, in general, be conducted using sand from the waterways that need dredging and not the hills.

Item 1 Previous Minutes

Tassin asked for the minutes to be amended to reflect her recollection of what occurred at the previous meeting in relation to the availability of the Archaeologist Report. It was agreed to amend the minutes to read:-

Discussion took place in relation to the Archaeologist Report referred to in previous minutes. Tassin claimed that she was advised that the Report would be made available. Pat claimed that he advised that the Report would be available when the EIS was reviewed.

It was moved that the amended minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting.

Russell Donovan's CV was passed on to the Department of Planning in response to their previous request and in compliance with condition of consent.

Graeme Ausburn was invited to attend the meeting by Tassin and Terri. He attended the meeting as an observer but was nominated as a member of the committee as a community representative by Tassin and seconded by Terri.

The Committee resolved to accept Graeme as a member of the Committee.

Tony Tuxworth asked Graeme to forward him an up-to-date CV and current email address. This information will then be forwarded on to the Department of Planning with a letter for their approval as per requirements of condition of consent.

A copy of the "Guidelines for Establishing and Operating Community Consultative Committees for Mining Projects" was handed out to the Committee members for their information.

Item 2 Non Compliances

Paul advised that there were no "non compliances" in regard to Condition of Consent.

He advised that there had been fourteen (14) noise complaints received from Tassin in relation to noise from the wash plant. In response to these complaints, attended and unattended noise monitoring was carried out by the acoustic engineer. Directional monitoring was carried out over a period of 7 days for 24 Hours. Some noise monitoring occurred from Tassin's house. The noise level result of 3.5dB did not exceed the required maximum level of 5dB above the background noise level. The results from the testing should be available next week.

Tassin concurred that Rocla responded appropriately. She also suggested that the results may have fluctuated due to the prevailing winds up the valley and the type of material being washed at the time.

Normal operating hours for the quarry are from 7.00am to 6.00pm Monday to Friday.

Item 3 Current Operation of the quarry

Washplant

Margaret asked if the wash plant position had been changed as the noise seemed to be more prevalent. She was advised that it hadn't

been moved. She agreed that the increase in noise emanating from the wash plant may be related to weather conditions.

Item 4 Rehabilitation

Paul advised that he had not carried out any planting since October 2009 due to unfavourable weather conditions (heat) etc. However, rehabilitation had now been completed at the entrance of the quarry and seedlings were in place.

Paul also advised that Jonathan Steeds, Sustainable Natives, has been engaged by Rocla to collect and store seeds from species within the site over the next 12 months allowing him to propagate tube stock for future rehabilitation works. He said that he was concerned with some of the species on the approved species list may not take.

He said that the landscaping on the benches on the western side of cells 3/2A and 3/2B will not be completed until at least the end of Autumn.

The landscaping of the bund wall and area adjacent to the Gazzana property has been completed.

Russell asked if it was possible for the committee members to have a copy of the list of native species which have been nominated for rehabilitation purposes on the quarry site. Paul said he would obtain a copy and send through to the Chairperson for distribution (See Appendix A – List of species planted at Rocla Quarry Site 11/3/10)

The consultant, TREES, is monitoring the rehabilitation works within the site to ensure that they are in accordance with the consent.

Item 5 Annual Report Update

Pat is going to check to see if the latest Annual Report is on Website. Russell and Graeme asked if they could have a hard copy made available to them. Terri asked if she could be provided with a hard copy of the 2009 Report. **Pat to follow up**.

A copy of the 2008 Annual Report was provided to the Chairperson.

Item 6 Review of Environmental Management Reports

Tony asked what testing had been carried out. Paul advised the following:

Groundwater

The groundwater report was being done now and should be ready soon.

Noise

Four (4) attended noise readings were carried out throughout the year and one (1) unattended noise reading (24hours/day 7 days/week). The last noise reading was in Jan 2010.

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Dust

Monthly reports by Carbon Based for dust, surface water, electro conductivity, oil etc have been carried out as per conditions of consent.

Terri expressed concern in relation to the dust monitoring of particulate matter namely *crystalline silica*. She said it was of great concern to the general public and felt that insufficient testing was being carried out. Pat reassured her that the quarry has an obligation under the OH & S Act and have had all necessary monitoring carried out on the boundaries by the Department of Planning as a result of an audit prompted by the Somersby Field proposal. These studies revealed that *crystalline silica* fine particle is legally within limits. Pat also stated that unless you were strapped to the back of a truck where the dust was being generated, you would not be affected. Terri argued that this was still insufficient and she felt that deposited dust testing is meaningless and that the real concern here was PM 10 & 2.5. Pat extended an invitation to Terri to organise further independent testing if she wishes to do so.

The dust gauge (CD2b) that was on the Gazzana property has now been moved to the rehab area between the extraction zone and the Gazzana house. This better represents the amount of dust generated from the site as its previous location experienced high dust readings due to dust coming from the unsealed ring road on Gazzana's property.

Russell asked where people could find the results of these investigations. He was advised that the results could be viewed on the Rocla web site.

Item 7 General Business

Production of Quarry

Paul advised that the quarry was running at 50% capacity as demand is down.

Paul was asked for the newly approved Stockton quarry would affect demand. He advised that it is unlikely, due to its proximity to Sydney.

Southern Extension Update

Development Application submitted at the end of November.

Department of Planning received a number of submissions. These submissions have been forwarded to Rocla & Corkery who have also forwarded comments to relevant Government Departments for review.

It was noted that Mr Jock Simmonds a former committee member and a tireless community representative had passed away in December 2009. Russell passed on his thanks and appreciation on behalf of the Simmonds family for the continued support of Rocla and the Committee since Jocks passing.

Meeting closed 6.55pm.

Next Meeting to be held 13 September 2010 at 5.00pm at Rocla Site.