

MINUTES OF CALGA COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING



- Meeting Date:** Monday, 19 September 2011 commenced approx 5.40pm
- Venue:** Roclac Quarry
- Present:** Tony Tuxworth (Chairperson)
Pat McCue (Roclac)
Paul Slough (Roclac)
Alex Echt (Roclac)
Margaret Pontifex (Community Representative)
Graeme Ausburn (Community Representative)
Tassin Barnard (Community Representative)
Helen Simmonds (Community Representative)
Nathan Kerslake (Community Observer accompanying Helen Simmonds)
Julie Renshaw (Minute taker)
- Apologies:** Terri Thomson

Item 1 Previous Minutes

Motion: that the previous minutes be accepted. Moved: Margaret Pontifex. Seconded: Tassin Barnard
Motion carried

Item 2 Non Compliances

Tassin referred to a large number of non-compliances that were raised in the Umwelt Report. In particular, non-compliances concerning ground & surface water management and Kulnura water sharing plan issues. She expressed her disappointment that Roclac did not bring these issues out for open discussion on previous occasions. Roclac advised that they were taking action to ensure that they operate in compliance with the Consent conditions. Tassin requested that unresolved issues should be brought to the table for an open discussion.

Pat advised that there were still ongoing consultation with the Office of Water in relation to water licenses that are required to comply with the conditions of consent.

Regarding one of the Umwelt Audit non-compliances, Graeme advised that the reading of the Development Consent by Community representatives established that these licenses were indeed required to be in place prior to any operation of the Calga operation.

Alex said that “the Department” (NOW) was having trouble telling Rocla what is required. The Community representatives referred to documents obtained under FOI from the Department which make it clear that the Department has stated what their requirements are but had not (at the time of the FOI correspondences) been met.

It was proposed by the Chairman that the law affecting operations like the Rocla Calga operation is open to interpretation which gives rise to these problems. The Community representatives said that, having read the communications, these issues are to do with the Water Sharing Plan and as such are not relevant to other operations, and that the matters in question are about facts of law, not interpretation. It was suggested that the Rocla representatives may want to source the communications between their organization and the Department.

After a lengthy discussion in relation to non compliance with conditions of development consent, it was decided that everyone should review the Umwelt Quarry Audit Report and that a separate meeting be convened to openly discuss the non-compliance issues identified in the Umwelt Report. Tony Tuxworth is to convene meeting and advise committee accordingly.

Paul is to provide Margaret with a copy of the Umwelt Report.

Paul advised that there were no non-compliances since last meeting. It was also suggested that the Agenda be more informative in the future. Specifically, where Agenda states “Non-compliances” it should also provide sub-headings such as “new non-compliances” and “existing non-compliances”. Tony Tuxworth to address this matter.

It was also discussed that the Annual Reports were taking too long to be prepared and distributed. Alex and Pat advised that last year’s report was delayed due to delays with the consultant completing the Ground Water report and as a result of an issue raised in a meeting with the Calga Community Group about staging of the development which required Rocla to obtain legal advice. They also advised that they were reviewing the process to be able to get the Annual Report completed earlier.

Tassin pointed out that the legal requirement that the report be completed and distributed by the end of February is not just for administrative reasons, but is to ensure that proper account is taken of any issues arising in the previous year before continuing operation to ensure that, if there are issues arising in the reporting period, these can be responded to timorously to minimize the risk of unacceptable impacts of continued operations.

Item 3 Current Quarry Operation

A short tour of the quarry site was conducted prior to the commencement of the meeting.

Paul advised that Rocla is currently mining Stage 3 Cell 6 to a determined level and are relocating the brick mortar sand plant to Cell 6 once completed. Mining of Stage 3 Cell 3 will be carried out in conjunction with stripping screen of Stage 3 Cell 4. Capping of Stage 2

Cell 5 will soon be carried out in preparation for the relocation of the new wash plant to this area.

Item 4 Rehabilitation

Paul advised that there has been no rehabilitation since last year. Rocla have approached the landscape contractor to carry out work to provide additional planting in areas that had not grown. The landscaper advised that he had been busy with Springtime Flora Festival and will soon be back on site to continue with replanting adjacent to the wall parallel to Peats Ridge Rd.

Tassin asked if a map of the site could be provided at the next meeting detailing:-

- Areas that need to be rehabilitated
- Areas that have been rehabilitated
- Ongoing rehabilitation, etc

Paul advised that this map can be available at the next meeting.

Item 5 Annual Report Update

No matters to be raised

Item 6 General Business

• **Production of Quarry**

Pat & Paul advised that production has increased to meet demand and should be getting close to maximum production levels. Pat advised that about six (6) months ago production was 15,000 tonnes per month and is now 25,000 tonnes per month. Projection for next year should be up to 300,000 tonnes.

• **Southern Extension**

Alex advised that there was slow progress with the development application for the Southern extension application. There were a number of issues to be resolved.

An offset area has to be provided to compensate for the area to be cleared. Land has been secured to provide this offset but an issue with the location of a ROW needs to be resolved with the current owner. Further Flora and Fauna survey needs to be carried out.

• **Impact on Neighbouring Properties**

With regard to impact of Roclas' operations on adjoining neighbors, Tassin enquired as to what point does their responsibility cease. It was pointed out that there is a requirement for Rocla to monitor not only the mine, but also the adjacent areas. There was debate (unresolved) as to how far this monitoring responsibility extends. Tassin proposed that existing monitoring stations on the proposed new mine site are 'in scope' as they are monitoring the area immediately adjacent to the existing operations. On this basis, works associated to install, maintain and access these monitoring stations should be in scope for this committee. No resolution was reached.

As a result of this query a general discussion took place with different issues raised, in particular, Roclas monitoring of the water table.

As a result of discussions it Pat revealed that adjoining owners are reluctant to allow Rocla to monitor ground water levels on their properties. Pat advised under the conditions of consent, Rocla is obliged to offer water table monitoring. Tassin explained that it is not the intention of the community to obstruct any attempt at compliance by Rocla, but the refusal to allow monitoring is because there is mistrust in the community of what Rocla will do with any data collected. As an example of why the community is mistrustful. Tassin cited noise monitoring at the Barnard residence where the data, collected for the express purpose of assessing impact on the residents, was then used as the basis for a recommendation to DoP that the acceptable background level for the mine should be increased from the level assumed in the 2004 EIS.

- Pat advised that a S96 (Modification of Consent) is going to be lodged with the Department of Planning to relocate buildings within the site. The relocation of buildings should improve noise impacts to neighboring properties.

Meeting closed 7.25pm

Additional Meeting to be held Tuesday 18th October 2011 at 9.00am Platinum Building Suite 203 (East Wing) 4 Ilya Ava Erina

Next Meeting at Quarry Site Monday 12 March 2012