

Meeting Notes

Meeting Date: 24 November 2008	10am
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WSN Eastern Creek Education Centre

Item	Issue	Action	By
1.0	Meeting Notes BH Welcome RB Pointed out that the DECC community representative was on leave when some of the complaints were made, and that that was why they did not come to the attention of WSN. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.		
2.0	Business Arising No business arising		
3.0	Update on Operations and Environmental Matters. MK Provided a verbal overview of the Eastern Creek Waste & Recycling Centre November 2008 Operations – see attached notes. Overview of landfill gas. BH Asked whether all the electricity generated from the gas captured on site was being used. RB Responded that approximately 3600 standard cubic metres per hour (scmh) is being captured, but that the electricity generated is supplied back into the electricity grid, not used on site. MK Gave an overview of leachate treatment. BH Asked whether, once the new Leachate Treatment Plant has been completed, the leachate will continue to be piped offsite RB Responded that it would still be piped offsite, but that it will be treated first with using a system that will reduce the levels of ammonia.		

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	<p>MK Verbal overview of gas migration. Commented that half of the community complaints were actually received before the last WSN CAC meeting, but that these were not received by WSN as explained earlier.</p> <p>BH Asked whether the hold-up issue had been resolved. <i>(Chair's note: as noted above the delay was due to the DECC officer being on leave)</i></p> <p>RB Responded that the process is to respond to each complainant and that on occasion the odours are a result of wind direction. Should the community member want to be called back after the complaint has been investigated, WSN will do so.</p>		
4.0	<p>GRL Report</p> <p>BH Noted that there were no representatives to give feedback from Global Renewables and enquired whether there were any community issues regarding Global Renewables.</p> <p>JB No issues with Global Renewables.</p>		
5.0	<p>ANL Report</p> <p>PK Reported that there is no activity on the Eastern Platform, and that ANL is in the process of commissioning a brand new separating machine, a trommel, for the Western Platform. Explained that a trommel is a screened cylinder used to separate materials by size.</p> <p>JP Asked what the benefits of the new trommel would be.</p> <p>PK Responded that the equipment would provide better capacity, and an improved end product. The new trommel is being wired up ready for operation next week.</p>		
6.0	<p>Community Feedback on Complaints Resolution</p> <p>BH Asked the community representative whether he was satisfied with the community resolutions process in regards to odour issues and other complaints.</p>		

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	<p>JB Replied that it hadn't been too bad.</p> <p>RB Described the functioning of a bioreactor. The bioreactor increases moisture content by adding stormwater or leachate to accelerate the production of methane. An alternative is a dry cell reactor which excludes the extra water and thus slows the production time of the methane. WSN is moving towards a bioreactor.</p> <p>Explained that 'stabilisation' occurs once the landfill has stopped generating any gases.</p> <p>JB Asked how long it took before a site could be used for recreational purposes such as football.</p> <p>RB Replied that it generally takes about 10 years due to differential settlement and depending on whether the landfill has been buried or is above ground.</p> <p>BH Asked if there was any other business. Wished everybody a good break. Meeting closed.</p>		

7. Open Actions

Meeting Ref.	Issue	Assigned To	By When
24/11/08	Provide a written statement regarding misinterpretation of aspects of leachate management at time of the March meeting.	PN	March 09

8. Closed Actions

Meeting Ref.	Issue	Assigned To	By When
21/07/08	Provide an overview of dry cell systems and process	PN	Nov 08

Next Meeting

10 am Monday, 6 April 2009

WSN Eastern Creek Education Centre

Attachments

Eastern Creek Waste & Recycling Centre Community Advisory Committee Update – November 2008

Eastern Creek Waste & Recycling Centre Community Advisory Committee – November 2008

Northern Extension – Construction & Operation

Excavation of Cell 6 has been completed by Mulgoa Quarries. The compacted basal and side clay liners have been installed, along with the geo-fabric which covers the base of the Cell. Waste is now being placed into Cell 6, while Cell 4 (which was previously accepting waste) has been covered with topsoil, and will be used as a dry waste separation area.

Landfill Gas

LMS installed an additional engine on 27 and 28 October 2008. This brings the total number of engines up to six, with plans to install at least another two engines. The seventh engine is intended to be installed and commissioned in May 2009.

LMS have also installed a series of dual well capable wells along the northern and eastern batters of the Southern Cell, in order to maximise gas capture for electricity generation. These are now online and are producing good gas.

Leachate Treatment

Construction of the Eastern Creek leachate pipeline, which allows for offsite discharge of leachate to the sewer, was completed on 22 September 2008. Commissioning of the pipeline commenced on 24 September 2008, and continues to operate efficiently. Visual inspections of the pipeline are routinely carried out to ensure that there are no issues with the infrastructure, and internal and external monitoring of the leachate being disposed of to sewer is conducted to make sure that all discharge requirements are met.

Leachate storage levels are now reducing due to the usage of the leachate pipeline. This reduces the risk of leachate overflows at the site, and has allowed for increased leachate extraction from Area 4 and the Southern Cell.

The construction of the Leachate Treatment Plant (LTP) is progressing well, with works scheduled to finish by 4 December 2008. Commissioning of the LTP will commence in mid December, allowing WSN to treat its leachate onsite, without the need for offsite treatment and disposal.

WSN are currently disposing of leachate offsite to the Transpacific Industries Liquid Treatment Plant at Homebush, and diluted leachate to sewer through our sewer connection at Chullora. The volume of leachate being tankered to Chullora will be reduced as the LTP enters the commissioning period.

Gas Migration

The offsite gas migration issue along the southern boundary of Area 4 has continued, with flow and pressure detected in MW3 (offsite on the Austral site), and MB028 (onsite).

WSN is continuing to monitor all buildings within 250m of Area 4 (including the Austral site) in relation to OH&S concerns until gas migration is below target limits. To date (over 4 years of monitoring), the methane concentrations in the buildings remain well below the threshold of 1.25% (v/v) specified in the NSW EPA Solid Waste Landfill guidelines.

Odour Complaints

13 odour complaints have been lodged on either the WSN hotline or the EPA hotline since July. A number of these complaints were lodged prior to the last CAC meeting held on 21 July 2008, but had not been received by WSN.

Date	Time	Street	Suburb	Description	Source	Wind Direction	Correlation	Operational Hours?	Unusual Activities?
7/07/2008	16:00	Walworth Road	Horsley Park	WSN Eastern Creek - odour described as "rotten". Wind is blowing from WSN's general direction - north easterly, gentle breeze. Not particularly cold just yet.	EPA Hotline	N	Generally	Yes	No
14/07/2008	14:00	Walworth Road	Horsley Park	There is an unbearable odour coming from WSN Environment Solutions at Eastern Creek. Smells like rotten food. Can't go outside it is so bad.	EPA Hotline	N	Generally	Yes	No
14/07/2008	21:40	Walworth Road	Horsley Park	Foul offensive odour coming from WSN Environmental Solutions at Eastern Creek. Garbage and other offensive odours.	EPA Hotline	SW (Earlier N)	No (Though generally earlier)	No	No
15/07/2008	13:00	Walworth Road	Horsley Park	Complainant first noticed the odour about 1 hour ago. The odour has also been present over the past week. Complainant says the odour is so bad he can't go outside.	Telephone	NNE	Generally	Yes	No
15/07/2008	13:00	Arundel Road	Horsley Park	There is a rubbishy, pig-like smell coming from the tip. It was reasonably strong for about 2 hours then eased a bit by about 1.30pm. There was a very light breeze today, mostly still.	Telephone	NNE	Generally	Yes	No
17/07/2008	18:45	Walworth Road	Horsley Park	Smell from WSN facility at Eastern Creek is overpowering at the moment. Smell is a cross between rotten seafood & sewerage. Has been happening for a week.	EPA Hotline	N	Generally	No	No

Date	Time	Street	Suburb	Description	Source	Wind Direction	Correlation	Operational Hours?	Unusual Activities?
17/07/2008	8:30	Walworth Road	Horsley Park	Dreadful stench, like rotting garbage but very strong. The site is huge & the smell covers a few kilometres radius. Caller smelt it at Wetherill Park at 10am today. Caller's home is 3 k max from the site.	EPA Hotline	N	Generally	Yes	No
21/08/2008	9:15	Horsley Drive	Horsley Park	Complainant was at the B P Service station on Horsley Road when he noticed a strong smell of rubbish being blown in with the Northerly breeze, which is the direction of Eastern Creek landfill.	Telephone	N	Generally	Yes	No
26/09/2008	22:15	Walworth Road	Horsley Park	Foul odour coming from WSN Environmental Solutions at Eastern Creek.	EPA Hotline	N	Generally	No	No
1/10/2008	8:30	Walworth Road	Horsley Park	Complainant first noticed a rubbish odour this morning around 8.30am. The odour has been present on and off throughout the day.	Telephone	SW	No	Yes	No
2/10/2008	19:00	Walworth Road	Horsley Park	Pungent sickly odour of green waste coming from ANL site: WSN Environment Solutions.	EPA Hotline	N	Generally	No	No
11/10/2008	8:30		Wetherill Park	Garbage odour in air from unknown source. First noticed this morning at 8:30am. Caller unsure where odour is coming from.	Telephone	NW	Generally	Yes	No
18/11/2008	All Day	Walworth Road	Horsley Park	Complainant first noticed the odour last night and it has been present all day today. He says the odour is really foul and disgusting and has requested a call back as soon as possible.	Telephone	Generally N	Generally	Yes	Odour issues with wastewater dam.

Eastern Creek - Odour Complaints

