

**Community Consultative Committee
Hitchcock Road and Lot 198 Maroota
Sand Extraction and Rehabilitation Projects**

**Minutes
10 November 2015**

Attendance

Kristine McKenzie – The Hills Shire Council (THSC) - Chairperson
Daniel Giffney – The Hills Shire Council (THSC)
Marianne Sheumack – Resident
Shaunagh Hitchcock – Resident
Lisa Aylward - Resident
John Graham – PF Formation (PF)
Peter Cummins – PF Formation (PF)
Joshua Graham – PF Formation (PF)

Apologies: None

Minutes of Previous Meeting

- Accepted

Matters Arising from Minutes

- EPA review of licences. The EPA have visited the site as part of the risk based licensing system they are introducing. There has been no correspondence with them since the visit.

Report on Current Status of Operations by John Graham (PF)

- There have been no complaints in the last 6 months
- The access road width near Wisemans Ferry Road has been reduced. When it was first built 24 years ago it encroached on the adjoining crown land. That land is now owned by the Deerubbin Aboriginal Land Council and they bought this matter to our attention. PF has ripped up the excess road width so that all vehicles travel on the licenced area.
- The access near Wisemans Ferry Road will be re-asphalted as a means to improve dust control around that intersection.
- Operations are becoming less routine as PF heads towards the highest point on the site. The overburden is getting thicker at a time when the saleable material is getting thinner. Production is slower and more expensive.
- Penrith Lakes Development Corporation has recently closed production after supplying the majority of Sydney's and gravel for over 50 years. This closure when combined with the increased building industry activity is placing a big demand on Sydney's sand availability. PF is currently at full capacity.
- No new planting has occurred recently.
- A change to the washplant mentioned previously will be installed early in the new year to improve the sandstone washing capability

Reporting

- The Annual Environmental Management Report (AEMR) for the year ended 30 June 2015 is on our website for review
- To improve the frequency of information updates on the website PF is now uploading the results of noise, dust and downstream water monitoring each quarter
- The Department of Planning (DOP) has not responded to our updated strategies/plans/programs sent to them in 2014. As a result of matters raised in the DOP audit (discussed below) these documents will be revised and sent to the DOP for approval.

Environmental Matters

- The most recent monitoring reports for the September quarter on dust, noise and downstream as uploaded to the website monitoring were discussed

DOP Audit

- The DOP have a new compliance division and they conducted an environmental audit in August. A draft report has been sent to PF Formation and each item of the audit findings was discussed.
- The majority of the items were described as ‘administrative non-compliances’. The strategies/plans/programs submitted to the DOP in 2014 will be revised to take account of most of the administrative matters raised.
- Whilst PF disagrees with several matters it accepts that improvements are required in areas such as dust prevention and minimizing exposed areas.

Other Matters Discussed

- General discussion on trucks at Maroota including the total numbers and their impact.

Site Visit

- A site inspection was conducted.

Next Meeting

- 10.00 am Tuesday 3 May 2016