

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

Minutes – 7 May 2024 - 2:00 pm

Attendance

Kristine McKenzie – The Hills Shire Council (THSC) – Chairperson

Melissa Mass – South East Environmental (SEE)

Luke Graham – PF Formation (PF)

Joshua Graham – PF Formation (PF)

Marianne Sheumack – Resident

Shaunagh Hitchcock – Resident

Apologies

Lisa Aylward - Resident

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Last meeting on 14 November 2023

- Accepted

Matters Arising from Minutes

- None

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

- Operations have progressed at a similar rate since our last meeting, there have been no major incidents or notifiable events.
- Market conditions have softened somewhat, which can be attributed to inflationary pressure on the building industry and persistent wet weather.
- Extractive material is currently being sourced from Pit 8 and Pit 9, which are the areas behind the fireshed and have progressed in a southerly direction. These pits yield tertiary sand and friable sandstone feed types.
- Our 2-way communication aerial has been removed from the trig area, and that area has now been completely cleared, tertiary upper sand deposits have been exploited but most material occurring in that area is clay overburden, which is being transported to Lot 214 at the southern end of the site to cap tailings ponds.
- VENM and ENM is being imported and used for backfilling the Pit 6 quarry void, backfilling operations are occurring in a northerly direction towards the trig hill.
- No material was imported from Maroota Lodge Quarry as the site is currently not operational.
- No complaints have been received since our last meeting.

Reporting

- The Traffic Management Plan has been approved by DPE.
- Further comments and a request for further consultation with government agencies has been received by DPE in relation to the Water Management Plan, the plan has been resubmitted on

the major projects planning portal and consultation has been requested from DPE Water and the EPA.

- PF Formation have submitted letters in relation to the revision of the rehabilitation bond and extraction depths map to DPE.

Report on Environmental Matters by Melissa Mass (SEE)

- Environmental monitoring results were presented and discussed, including rainfall, groundwater levels, deposited dust, and noise levels.
- Groundwater levels have generally dropped since July 2023 but remain higher than previously recorded levels at some locations.
- Deposited dust levels remain low at all locations and insoluble solids levels are within the EPA limits, however total solids have been somewhat higher which can be attributed to additional lawn mowing occurring in proximity of some of the gauges.
- Noise levels in the area have increased slightly over all locations, particularly at Location 2 which is located at the intersection of Wisemans Ferry and Old Northern Roads. Higher noise levels are traffic noise levels and do not represent operational noise emitting from the quarry.

General

- Kristine asked for an update on 4567 Old Northern Road Quarry, Josh advises the road upgrade on Old Telegraph Rd has been completed and signed off by council, there are a few biodiversity matters still to be resolved before the site can be activated.
- The Deeribbin application was discussed, Josh advises the status on the NSW Major Projects website is 'under assessment', and several submissions reports have been uploaded to the website by the applicant.

Site Visit

- A site inspection was carried out with Kristine, Shaunagh and Marianne, including the Pit 4 Quarry, 311 Old Telegraph Road Maroota.

Next Meeting

- The next meeting will be held on the 12th November 2024 at 2:00pm.