

Community Consultative Committee

Hitchcock Road, Lot 198 and 4567 Old Northern Road Maroota

Sand Extraction and Rehabilitation Projects

Minutes – 12 November 2024 - 2:00 pm

Attendance

Kristine McKenzie – The Hills Shire Council (THSC) – Chairperson
Luke Graham – PF Formation (PF)
Joshua Graham – PF Formation (PF)
Melissa Mass – South East Environmental (SEE)
Bruce Adcock – Environmental Planning
Marianne Sheumack – Resident
Lisa Aylward – Resident

Apologies

Shaunagh Hitchcock - Resident

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Last meeting on 7 May 2024

- Accepted

Matters Arising from Minutes

- None

Report on Current Status of Operations (Hitchcock Road Sand Project) by Joshua Graham

- Extraction has continued in the southern areas of the site known as Pit 8, Pit 9 and Pit 13 and at the trig area. The 2-way antenna has been re located and the entire former trig reserve area has now been cleared.
- We predominantly produce sandstone based washed and blended products but still have a steady demand for the tertiary sand derived coarse sand, mainly for bioretention pits where it is used as a transition sand between the gravel and rootzone media.
- We have applied and received certification for ISO 9001 Quality Management System.
- Sales have been much busier over the last 3 months as the weather has improved.
- Importing of external material (predominately VENM/ENM) has continued to the Pit 6 area, other material for road building has also been imported to the site.
- PF were contacted by The Hills Shire Council – Land use Coordinator Ravi Singh in relation to complaints that illegal dumping was occurring at the site, and material was tracking onto main roads. The response to the council and the details about the incident was discussed. PF Formation denied any illegal dumping occurred at the site, and the issue of road tracking was discussed. There is a lack of maintenance on the road verges in the area, the road verges and roadside drainage is not maintained by Tf NSW or Council, and material from the verges runs onto the roads in wet weather, causing material to track down the local road network. The council has not issued any notices in relation to the matter.
- No material has been imported from Maroota Lodge.

Report of Operations at 4567 Old Northern Road by Joshua Graham

Condition 54, of DA 2136/2018/JP/B states that '*Community Consultation Committee Meeting – The works of the subject site are to be included within the discussions held during the Bi-annual CCC Meeting.*

- Josh explains that the site is known as Pit 3 Quarry and was approved 19 December 2019 by the Sydney Central City Planning Panel, modified 22 December 2020 (part approval part refusal) and modified again 8 November 2021 (part approval part refusal)
- The approval is for 3 million tonnes over 20 years of friable sandstone.
- It has a 10-hectare extraction area, 6 of which are heavily vegetated.
- A biodiversity offset was required to offset impacts of native vegetation to be removed to allow for sand extraction to occur, and the widening of Old Telegraph Road.
- Extractive operations at the site commenced on 10 October 2024.

Reporting

- We have had no response from DPE in relation to the Water Management Plan, the last request required further consultation with the EPA and DPE Water.
- The Maximum Extraction Depth Map, also known as the Pit Shell Plan has been approved by DPE on 9/09/2024.
- Revision of the rehabilitation bond has been approved by DPE on 10/10/2024.
- An application will be made to The Hills Shire Council to modify DA 96/077, Appeal No 10064 of 1998. The purpose of the mod is to extend the approval to be in line with the SSD approval and allow the importation of VENM/ENM and other material permitted by an RRO/RRE at Lot 2 DP 555184 and Lot 1 DP 34599.

Report on Environmental Matters by Melissa Mass (SEE)

- Copies of environmental monitoring results were handed out and discussed, including rainfall, groundwater levels, deposited dust, and noise levels.
- Deposited dust levels remain low at all locations and insoluble solids levels are within the EPA limits, some spikes were observed at Site 3, it is noted this site is in similar proximity to a non-PF related extractive industry site, it is also noted the owner of the property slashed and ploughed the paddock periodically throughout the reporting period causing spikes in the results.
- The bush regeneration workers have been doing a lot of weed removal work, they are slowly getting on top of it.

General

- Marianne asked about the Deerubbin quarry proposal, Josh explained the application is still in the assessment stage on the Major Projects Planning Portal. Melissa explains that she anticipates further ecological surveys are likely to be carried out.
- Lisa asked if we can ask our customers not to travel in a convoy when travelling to Maroota as it is intimidating for other road users.

Site Visit

- A site inspection was carried out with Kristine, Lisa, Bruce and Marianne, including the new Pit 3 Quarry site.

Next Meeting

- The next meeting will be held 6 May 2025 at 2:00pm.