

# Meeting minutes

## Meeting 2: MRL CRG 2020

**Date:** Thursday, 21 May 2020  
**Time:** 6.30pm – 8.30pm  
**Location:** Online

Meeting called by Cleanaway

Type of meeting Melbourne Regional Landfill Community Reference Group (MRL CRG)

Facilitator Susan McNair, Currie

Notetaker Isabella Grutzner, Currie (technical assistance Ryan Ong, Currie)

### Invitees

Attendees	<p><b>Members</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cr Bob Turner, Melton City Council</li> <li>• Cr Bruce Lancashire, Brimbank City Council</li> <li>• Marion Martin, Stop the Tip and resident</li> <li>• Marlene Gormon, Stop the Tip</li> <li>• Mia Marevic, Stop the Tip and resident</li> <li>• Sharon Lee, Stop the Tip and resident</li> </ul> <p><b>Cleanaway</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bruno Pronesti, Regional Manager</li> <li>• Olga Ghiri, Stakeholder and Community Engagement Manager</li> <li>• Alaa Abou-Antoun, Engineering Manager</li> <li>• Kate Sims, Environmental specialist</li> </ul> <p><b>EPA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sophie Gove, Senior Environment Protection Officer</li> <li>• John Downing, Environment Protection Officer</li> <li>• Gavin Scott, Engagement Manager, EPA</li> </ul>
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Apologies •

### About these minutes

These minutes and supporting information are in line with the agreed Terms of Reference. Any concerns/queries about papers supporting the MRL CRG should be raised with the Chair/Facilitator, Susan McNair by emailing [susan@curriecommunications.com.au](mailto:susan@curriecommunications.com.au).

## Meeting agenda and minutes governance

- Meetings held every three months
- Quorum = 5 members (including a minimum of 3 community members, 1 Cleanaway representative and the Chair)
- DRAFT minutes to be provided the community members within two weeks of meeting for comment
- Review period for DRAFT minutes is 21 days (3 weeks)
- Finalised minutes to be distributed and posted on Cleanaway website within 5 working days of finalisation.
- AGENDA items to be proposed to Chair seven working days before the next meeting.
- AGENDA and papers to be distributed five working days before next meeting.

*Meeting opened: 6:30pm*

### 1. Community Reference Group governance

S.McNair opened the meeting, welcomed participants and explained how the meeting would proceed and how participants could ask questions through the online format.

Attendees introduced themselves and apologies were given.

S.McNair reminded participants that the meetings are intended to be respectful, constructive and open. Participants are encouraged to listen and participate in the conversations and are expected to take information discussed during the meeting back to their respective networks, peers and organisations.

### 2. Action items

The actions from the previous meeting were reviewed and updated as follows, with new and ongoing actions recorded in 'Attachment 1: new and ongoing action items':

ACTION items	Update
<b>ACTION 191127_5:</b> S.Gove to arrange a time to visit a residential area close to MRL early in the morning when conditions are similar to those when people have previously complained about odour to assess if there are odours.	21/5 S.Gove update: Item not achieved.  She reported that she has not personally heard from the community member who lives in Derrimut, nor had any early morning odour reports received.  S.Gove suggested to close this action item, as it doesn't appear to be an ongoing issue.  <i>Complete</i>
<b>ACTION 191127_7:</b> B.Turner to explore options for sealing Middle Rd.	21/5 B.Turner: No update.
<b>ACTION 200227_1:</b> J.Downing to share EPA odour wheel with members.	<i>Complete</i>
<b>ACTION 200227_2:</b> S.McNair to share previous minutes with new members.	<i>Complete</i>  21/5 S.McNair update: paperwork for new members registering is yet to be received.

<p><b>ACTION 200227_3:</b> J.Downing to provide EPA’s position statement on PFAS and other documentation on PFAS from EPA</p>	<p><i>Complete</i></p> <p>G.Scott advised that this information can also be found at: <a href="https://ref.epa.vic.gov.au/your-environment/land-and-groundwater/pfas-in-victoria">https://ref.epa.vic.gov.au/your-environment/land-and-groundwater/pfas-in-victoria</a></p> <p>S.McNair reminded attendees that this documentation can be found in Attachment 4 of the previous meeting’s minutes.</p>
<p><b>ACTION 200227_4:</b> S.Gove to investigate if any material has been extracted from the tunnel, and if it has whether it has been assessed and if the results are public.</p>	<p>21/5 G.Scott : Tunnelling has not commenced.</p> <p>M.Martin asked about the covered piles of dirt at the tunnel to which G.Scott responded that they are from preparing the ground and digging away soil in preparation for works.</p> <p>B.Turner expressed that residents are concerned about the dumping of contaminated soil from the West Gate tunnel. He questioned if Cleanaway Ravenhall had been contacted to receive heavily contaminated soil from the tunnel works.</p> <p>B.Pronesti said that EPA was correct in saying tunnelling has not commenced. He advised that Cleanaway – within its normal licensing conditions – accepts contaminated soil from all of metro Melbourne, and where that soil is accepted is based on environmental reports. He reinforced that in the last MRL CRG meeting, Cleanaway confirmed it will keep the community informed of any progress relating to the West Gate Tunnel Project.</p>
<p><b>ACTION 200227_5:</b> S.McNair to re-issue an invitation to the correctional centre to attend the MRL CRGs.</p>	<p>21/5: <i>Complete</i></p> <p>S.McNair: Did not receive any responses.</p>
<p><b>ACTION 200227_6:</b> S.McNair to consult with EPA and Cleanaway to see if a PFAS expert can be identified and invited to talk to the group at the next meeting.</p>	<p>21/5 S.McNair encouraged members to review the background documents provided by EPA.</p>
<p><b>ACTION 200227_7:</b> S.Gove to provide the definitions around the different categories of waste (e.g. Category C soil).</p>	<p><i>Complete</i></p> <p>21/5: S.McNair reminded attendees that this documentation can be found in</p>

	Attachment 5 of the previous meeting's minutes.
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### 3. Site operations

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K.Sims and A.Abou-Antoun submitted a presentation (see 'Attachment 2: Cleanaway presentation')

K.Sims provided an operations update and reported that:

- Cell 4B2 is currently being filled. Lift 4 is 50% complete.
- The 40 new vertical extraction gas wells completed in November have been online for six months (stage 2/3).
- Four knock out pots have been installed, which aid with the condensate management on-site.
- Cleanaway is currently in the design review stages of the next phase of gas field infrastructure in stage 3 and 4, including:
  - Header line extensions
  - 30 vertical extraction wells installed
  - Works to commence approximately June 30.
- Cleanaway plans to install eight new landfill gas generator modules, which will double the power generating capacity to 68600MWH of electricity per year, mitigating over 2,200,000 tonnes of GHG emission per year. Expansion is to be conducted in two stages:
  - Four generators are planned to be purchased in June 2020, to be operational in June 2021.
  - The remaining four generators are planned to be installed approximately 2 years later.
  - The 8 generators will be located alongside the existing facility.
- Cleanaway has implemented a working face management plan with the key objectives of monitoring safety, odour, litter and vermin.
  - Face measurement is conducted three times a day using handheld GPS to ensure in compliance with licenses.
  - Cleanaway have conducted two rounds of monitoring boundary dust so far, awaiting reports.
  - Litter is being managed through stacking bales, banded walls, litter nets secured with metal clips and 12 metre perimeter nets.
- Leachate redrills are in stage 2, with 13 wells to be reinstated. Drilling commenced 20 May 2020, with works on track to finish 1 July 2020.

A.Abou-Antoun provided an engineering update and reported that:

- Construction of cell 4B2 was completed in December 2019, and filling is now up to lift 4.
- Cells 4C1 and 4C2 are under construction, with 4C1 estimated to come online July/August, and 4C2 due for completion in December/January.
  - Further information about the status of these works can be found in 'Attachment 2: Cleanaway presentation'
- In addition to cell construction, Cleanaway has plans to build a new leachate pond.
  - The existing leachate pond has capacity for the existing landfill, but the new pond would cater for cells 4C1 and 4C2, and the leachate redrill project.
  - As the pond would be outside the current landfill footprint, Cleanaway has applied for a permit which is pending review by EPA and the council.
  - Cleanaway is hoping to receive approval around June/July.

- Cleanaway's rehabilitation plan is in progress with capping due to commence in June 2021.

S.Lee questioned the purpose of a second leachate pond, to which A.Abou-Antoun explained it is to cater for new cells currently under construction.

The community member also expressed concern that the leachate ponds are not the best practice solution. A.Abou-Antoun articulated that the current process is within EPA guidelines for site operation and is best practice. G.Scott said that he believed that this method has been approved by landfill experts and is within EPA's guidelines, but will check with experts and report back to the group. The community member requested that EPA provide a statement confirming that leachate ponds are EPA-approved.

<b>ACTION 200521_1:</b> G.Scott to provide EPA statement confirming leachate ponds are compliant with EPA guidelines and are best practice.
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In response to a M.Gormon's question about how contaminated soil is certified and treated prior to coming onsite at Ravenhall, K.Sims reiterated that Cleanaway Ravenhall is only licensed to accept category C soils. She outlined the strict review process which includes a soil classification letter which is reviewed against EPA's industrial waste resource guidelines. Cleanaway also reviews the soil classification report to confirm that any soil they accept at Ravenhall is only category C soil. Any trucks carrying soil entering the Ravenhall site must have a consignment form signed off by Kate or a member of team, otherwise they are sent away. A.Abou-Antoun added that the testing of the soil is done by National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA)-accredited third-party labs and verified by EPA.

M.Gormon also questioned if PFAS soil is used as daily cover, to which K.Sims clarified that PFAS category C soil goes into the cell and is treated as waste. It is not used as daily cover.

S.Lee asked if, in the event that Cleanaway tenders to accept contaminated soil category A or B classification from the West Gate Tunnel, would they apply for a license before or after the tender process. B.Pronesti explained the tendering process is a holistic approach, and that Cleanaway has a liquids division separate to Ravenhall that is licensed to accept category A and B soil. Ravenhall is only licensed to accept category C soil.

A.Abou-Antoun emphasized that the cells and liners at Ravenhall aren't designed to accept category A or B soil, and B.Pronesti confirmed that category A or B soil would not be accepted at Ravenhall, but another Cleanaway facility that is licensed to take it.

Community members reiterated that they do not want category A or B soil to be accepted at the Ravenhall site.

M.Martin questioned the purpose of the soil coming into the Ravenhall site in trucks via Christies Road. A.Abou-Antoun explained that it is clean soil for cell construction, which is soil that is highly scrutinized by EPA and the auditor as it is going on top of virgin land. Before it can be used, the soil is independently tested by an environmental consultant and NATA-accredited labs. It is then submitted to EPA auditor for verification before it can be approved. Once it is approved by the EPA auditor, the soil is then tested onsite by Cleanaway to reassure the auditor that the soil is consistent with the test sample. A.Abou-Antoun reported that to date it is all passing to be used in cell construction.

M.Martin asked why the soil is being stock piled off Christies Road, to which A.Abou-Antoun responded that is because Cleanaway has limited land. Cleanaway only owns the landfill,

whilst Boral owns the rest of the site. Boral allows Cleanaway to use the land only for soil purchased from Boral.

In response to a question from a community member asking if PFAS soil would be treated with heat at Ravenhall, B.Pronesti assured the meeting that it is not within the Ravenhall program.

#### **4. Environmental compliance**

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S.Gove did not prepare or submit a presentation.

S.Gove reported that:

- Since the last community meeting (February 27), EPA received 10 odour reports - five from Derrimut, two from Caroline Springs, one from Rock Bank, one from Hillside, and one Deer Park. Only one of these reports was a repeat reporter, from Derrimut.
- Both S.Gove and J.Downing are continuing to conduct monthly inspections. In response to instances of non-compliance, they issued a pollution abatement notice on April 7 to address cell 4B3 batters and pick up windblown litter. On 19 May, the site inspection batters were looking better and had been covered in 500mL clay-like soils from Boral.
- The landfill gas pollution abatement notice has now been revoked.

J.Downing reported that a clean up notice was issued to Cleanaway on 14 May 2020 to remedy noncompliance of using waste on the batters of intermediate cover of cell 3B as erosion control. The waste was identified as source of odour and source of a few hotspots in February. That notice is being internally reviewed at the moment.

S.Gove confirmed that herself and J.Downing will continue to visit site at least once a month and will continue to regulate against the EPA licence.

#### **5. Community engagement**

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O.Ghiri reported that:

- MRL community benefit fund was advertised throughout April.
  - Half page advertisements were placed in Caroline Springs Community Update, Cairnlea Community Update, and Melton Moorabool Star Weekly.
  - Promotional material was also uploaded to the Cleanaway website and social media platforms (Facebook and LinkedIn).
  - Invitations were sent out to nine local community groups via phone call and email.
  - All councillors were also emailed the links.
- Applications closed 30 May 2020.
- Review process will commence in August and grants will be awarded in September.

B.Turner requested that the link be resent to him.

**ACTION 200521\_2:** O.Ghiri to resend B.Turner the link to the MRL community benefit fund applications.

## 6. Schedule of 2020 meetings

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- 21 May 2020
- 20 August 2020
- 19 November 2020

The next meeting's deadlines were also determined after the meeting, and are as follows:

<b>MTG 3 2020 (20 August 2020)</b>	
AGENDA items to be proposed to Chair	
AGENDA and papers to be distributed	
Meeting 6:15pm for 6:30 PM start - 8:30 PM	
Draft minutes to be provided for comment	
Draft minute review	
Finalised minutes to be distributed and posted on Cleanaway website	

<b>MTG 4 2020 (19 November 2020)</b>	
AGENDA items to be proposed to Chair	
AGENDA and papers to be distributed	
Meeting 6:15pm for 6:30 PM start - 8:30 PM	
Draft minutes to be provided for comment	
Draft minute review	
Finalised minutes to be distributed and posted on Cleanaway website	

## 7. Other business

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S.McNair closed the meeting and reminded participants to share minutes and discussion outcomes with their community, networks and respective organisations.

*Meeting closed: 8.00pm*

## Attachment 1 – new and ongoing action items

New and ongoing actions items as at 21 May 2020	
ACTION items	Update
<b>ACTION 191127_7:</b> B.Turner to explore options for sealing Middle Rd.	
<b>ACTION 200521_1:</b> G.Scott to provide EPA statement confirming leachate ponds are compliant with EPA guidelines and are best practice.	
<b>ACTION 200521_2:</b> O.Ghiri to resend B.Turner the link to the MRL community benefit fund applications.	

## Attachment 2 – Cleanaway presentation



### *Outstanding Actions*

**ACTION 191127\_1:** V.Abeywickrema to share the link to the Dandenong study report with members.

Post-meeting update: Dandenong South: Air monitoring program final report.

**ACTION 191127\_2:** V.Abeywickrema agreed to share a member's request for there to be a study at the MRL site on VOCs with Stephen Lansdell, Manager, West Metropolitan Region, EPA.

**ACTION 191127\_3:** G.Edgar to determine and report back to the group if any council approvals are required for the biogas plant.

Post-meeting update: Cleanaway has confirmed planning approval is required and application was submitted to Melton Council in late November 2019. Complete.

## *Outstanding Actions Cont.*

**ACTION 191127\_4:** G.Edgar to report if any Category C soil had been received at MRL.

**ACTION 191127\_5:** S.Gove to arrange a time to visit a residential area close to MRL early in the morning when conditions are similar to those when people have previously complained about odour to assess if there are odours.

**ACTION 191127\_6:** O.Ghiri to send application forms to three local residents who have registered an interest in joining the CRG.

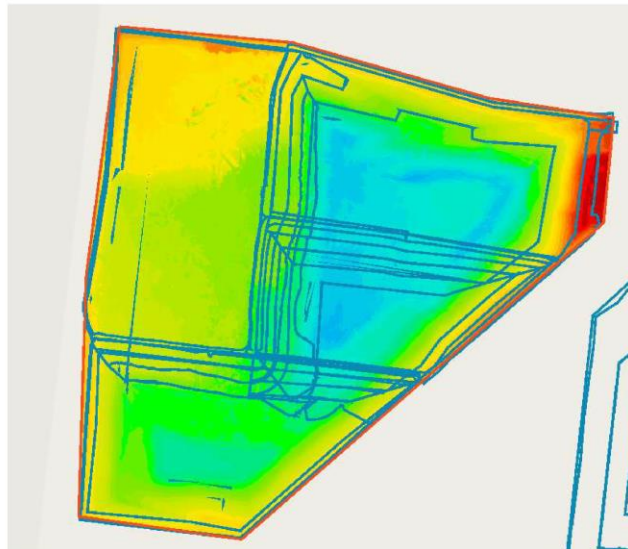
**ACTION 191127\_7:** B.Turner to explore options for sealing Middle Rd.

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## *Operations Update*

*Fill progression – 4B-2 (lift 3)*

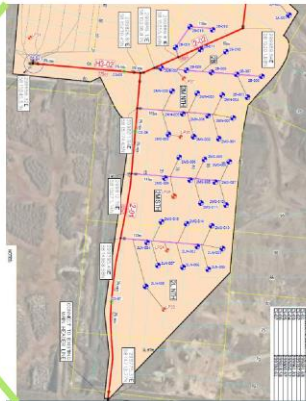


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**CLEANAWAY**

## Operations Update

### Landfill Gas Collection Update

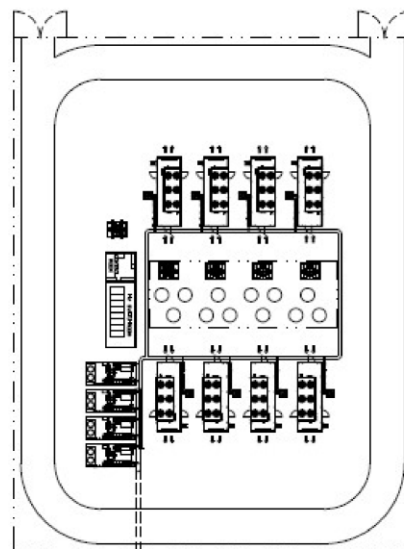


- 40 new vertical extraction gas wells completed in November and have been online for 3 months (stage 2/3)
- Four knock out pots installed which aid the with condensate management on-site
- Currently in the design planning stages of the next phase of gas field infrastructure in stage 3 and 4 - works to commence this financial year

## Operations Update

### Gas Plant Expansion

- Install and operate 8 new landfill gas generator modules to manage landfill gas, maximise the potential energy production and assist in sustainable waste management.
- Expansion to be conducted in two stages:
  - 4 generators planned to be purchased in June 2020 and operational in June 2021.
  - Remaining 4 generators approx. 2 years later.
- Utilise the same generators as currently installed.
- Generators to be located alongside the existing facility.



## Operations Update

### Litter nets, and capping

- Currently filling in Cell 4B-2 (lift 3) and bales being stacked at the top of Cell 4B-3. Bales are surrounded by a bunded wall
- Litter nets have been re-secured with metal clips along the base of the nets surrounding the active cell
- 12 m perimeter nets installed along the southern boundary of site



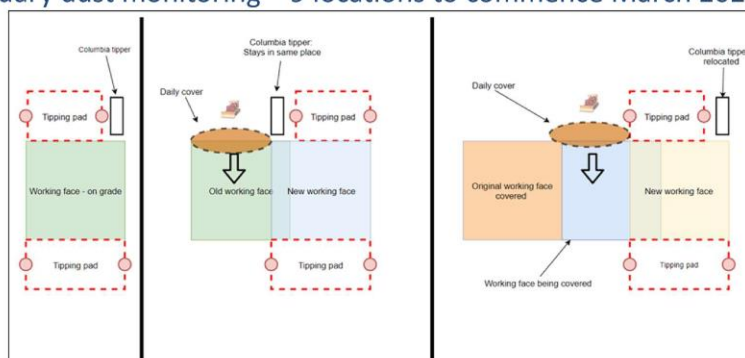
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## Operations Update

### Working Face Management Plan

- Key Objectives – Safety, Odour, Litter & Vermin
- Waste Compaction- life of landfill, odour reduction, settlement and stability
- Technology - (Visionlink) – Field planning, compaction, Face size
- Face measurement - 3 times a day
- Odour surveys and complaint response
- Boundary dust monitoring – 9 locations to commence March 2020



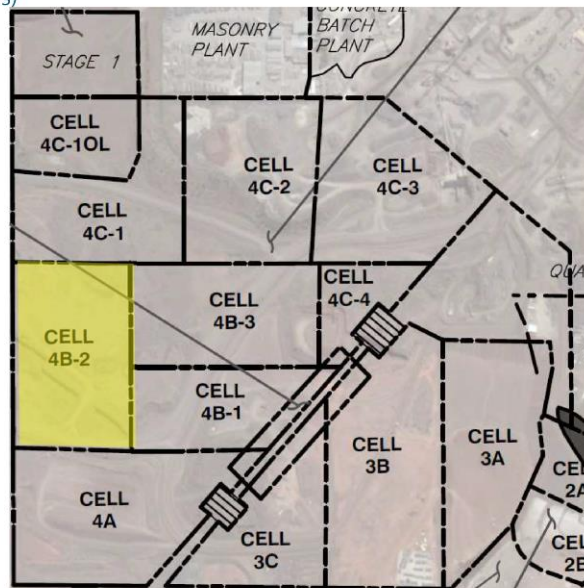
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## Operations Update

### Cell 4B2 Cell Completed

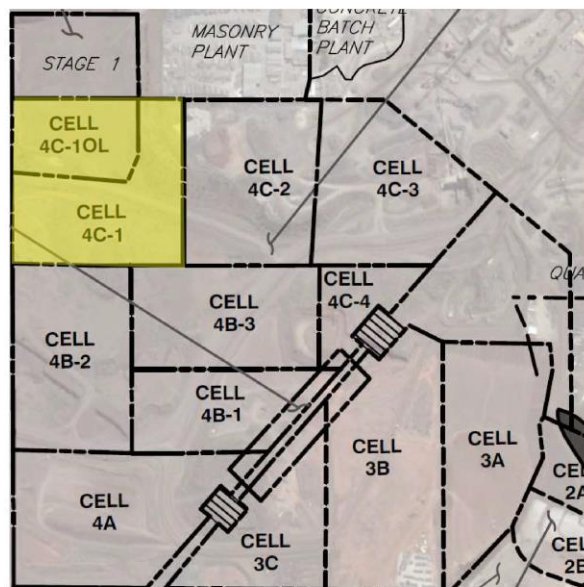
Construction completed in mid December and currently filling (lift 3)



## Operations Update

### Current Cell Construction – Cell 4C1

- Sub-grade of cell complete with 500mm clay layer currently being placed
- Cell expected to be constructed and Licenced by July 2020



## Leachate Pond

New leachate pond construction to commence May 2020

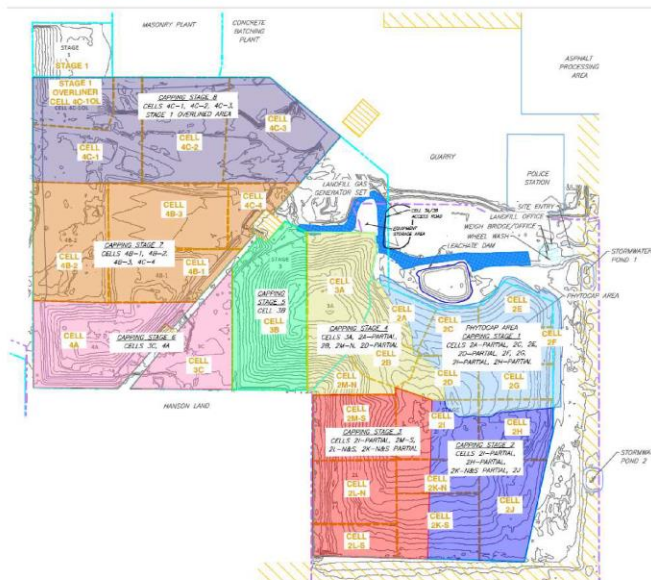


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## Operations Update

### Rehabilitation Plan



- Phyto cap trial is still in progress and due for completion in May 2021
- Early works currently taking place in preparation for future capping is the installation of additional LFG infrastructure (stage 2/3 and stage 3/4) and compliance with the Leachate Redrill (PAN)
- 13 leachate bores to be re-drilled in accordance with PAN – tender under review currently
- Interim capping has taken place over completed cells as best practice
- Once the trial is approved, capping works will occur continuously in approximately 15Ha phases per hatched areas shown

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#### **Home Safe**

*We take responsibility for our personal safety, as well as that of our team. We are committed to Goal Zero, because everyone deserves to go Home Safe, every day.*



#### **Stronger Together**

*Building from a place of strength, we are focused on creating something stronger than the sum of our parts each and every day.*



#### **Integrity**

*We do the right thing – no matter what. Holding ourselves to higher standards, we say what we mean, and we do what we say.*



#### **We Make A Difference**

*We are proud of what we do to make a sustainable future possible – for our employees, our customers, our investors, the communities in which we work, and the planet.*

## Attachment 3 – Community questions submitted to Cleanaway prior to the May 21 meeting

- 1. What quantities have been accepted and dumped from the various tunnel projects at Ravenhall?**

Only outer materials from the West Gate tunnel works have been accepted at Ravenhall.

- 2. What are specifically in the contaminated soil taken from these tunnel projects... all the various sites from all the projects?**

Cleanaway has not accepted any contaminated soils specially from the tunnels at the Ravenhall site. Cleanaway only accepts what we are licensed to accept, which is category C soil.

- 3. Did Cleanaway have to change conditions in their license from when they bought over from Boral to now in order to accept the contaminated soil from all the tunnel works?**

No, Cleanaway Ravenhall has always accepted category C soil, as that is what we are licensed to accept. We have not amended our license, nor are we about to amend it.

- 4. Please provide us with all the changes that Cleanaway has made to their permit and license conditions since they took over operations from Boral?**

The only change that has been made is that we removed asbestos and extended our operating hours.

- 5. When was the permit to accept category C contaminated soil at Ravenhall issued and under what working conditions? We would like to request a copy of this permit application.**

It has always been part of Cleanaway's license to accept category C soil at Ravenhall. Our license was issued by EPA.

The permit application can be obtained through a Freedom of Information request to EPA.

- 6. We would like to request a copy of any new application that may be in the system now.**

Cleanaway has not applied to accept any new categories of soil at Ravenhall.

- 7. Would like to discuss Orica dumping highly contaminated soil at Ravenhall after "treatment".**

Orica will not be dumping highly contaminated soil at Ravenhall. Cleanaway Ravenhall is only licensed to accept category C soil at the Ravenhall site.

- 8. Where will this treatment be conducted? Covered or out in the open? What quantities will be treated per hour? What is the expected start date of this treatment?**

Cleanaway is not conducting any treatment of highly contaminated soil at the Ravenhall site. We only accept category C soil, as is stipulated in our license.

- 9. Have they done this volume of treatment to study the results on the environment and health of people? Who conducted these tests if they were indeed done?**

- 10. What were the findings of the pollution index from the heat treatment on the environment and human health?**

**11. We would like to see the environmental impact study of this PFAS treatment program.**

**12. Does Cleanaway need to adjust their license to conduct this treatment at Ravenhall?**

No, as we will not be conducting any treatment. Our license dictates that we only accept category C soil at Ravenhall. As such, any soil that is coming into the Ravenhall site must have a consignment form confirming that it is category C soil.

**13. What other impact of this heat treatment on the other contaminants in the soil?**

This is not within the Cleanaway Ravenhall program.

**14. What level contamination is the soil before treatment and after treatment?**