



TLCCG

Tullamarine Landfill Community Consultation Group

OUR PURPOSE: to foster collaboration between the community, Transpacific and EPA Victoria, and ensure community concerns and aspirations regarding the closed Tullamarine Landfill and adjoining land form part of the decision making process.

MAY 24, 2017 MEETING SNAPSHOTS

This meeting provided an update on site rehabilitation.

EPA Audit Unit Update, EPA Victoria



Julia Noel and Leigh Bryant provided an overview of the EPA Audit Unit and its role in overseeing the audit process which is central to the landfill site regulation and its management.

There are 10 staff in the EPA and 70 registered external auditors. EPA's team is responsible for ensuring the audit process reaches its purpose. The duty holder of each site chooses the auditor from the EPA's designated pool of auditors.

The EPA Audit Unit manages the recruitment, appointment, ongoing performance reviews and reappointment of external auditors in their pool according to specific criteria. Auditors are appointed for terms of 2 – 5 years and are assessed before they can reapply for a further term.

EPA manages the quality assurance process for audit reports. The parameters for selecting a review ensure that there is a reasonable spread of reviews for each auditor and that sites associated with redevelopment projects or that have potential risks for groundwater contamination or other risk triggers are reviewed. A review could also be considered if an auditor is of interest to particular community groups, government or the EPA, has been newly appointed, or has been flagged for review.

EPA ensures as much information as possible related to the audit is provided to the public on their website www.epa.vic.gov.au including publishing all the standards that EPA uses for auditor appointment, conduct, assessments and report guidelines.

The current process for appointing auditors reduces the possibility of conflict for the EPA and allows EPA to assess their work independently of the audit process itself.

Community member: "The community is hopeful that there will be better information available in the future as the EPA reforms take place however we are uncomfortable with the current process, where audit reports are viewed by the company first rather than the EPA. The community needs to know that the EPA audit process is rigorous, that the auditor is at arm's length from the company and that there is no need for the community to continue to review and challenge the reports."

The community believes that the EPA should appoint the most rigorous auditor available for each task and not use those of the company's choice. Where the auditor is employed by the landfill manager there is potential for a conflict of interest. If the reports were submitted to EPA first, this would prevent any perception of lack of independence. We agree that the costs should be borne by the company.

Leigh Bryant thanked TLCCG members for their feedback and advised that it would be considered by EPA in future revisions of the audit review process.

Community Consultant Assessment

Jeremy reported that EPA Victoria and the community were still waiting on the report from the US consultant Steven Amter, Disposal Safety Incorporated, Washington.

Tullamarine Landfill Activities

Kieren McDermott, Cleanaway provided an update on the recent activities undertaken at the landfill.



Recent Activities

- MB61L borehole sampling report completed
- Groundwater sampling at new wells completed
- Snap shot of In Situ parameters on all groundwater boreholes completed
- Groundwater sampling of all boreholes, commenced
- Review of Bore Network Depths, commenced
- Evaluation of stormwater connection nearing completion

Tullamarine Planned Activities

- New Groundwater Well Sample Results Report [Underway]
- Ambient Air Testing [Underway]
- Develop Stormwater Concept Design with the Assistance of Community [Underway]
- Install Landfill Gas Extraction Wells on Mound 3 [Late 2017]
- Next groundwater technical review [Late 2018 / Early 2019], Technical Review for Auditor Review [TRAR]

Groundwater Sampling at MB61L borehole

Monitoring Results for 1,2-Dichloroethane



Date	1,2-Dichloroethane mg/L
20-Mar-13	0.09
17-Sep-13	0.13
22-Oct-13	0.13
06-Jul-15	0.11
10-May-16	0.016

The most recent Groundwater Technical Review for Auditor Review (TRAR) raised issues regarding the trend in readings for Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) and the number of samples taken for the MB61L borehole. The final report was delivered in November 2016 and recommended further testing which shows that there is a stable or downward trend in VOC levels in that borehole. This is consistent with expectations of the chemical processes in groundwater contamination once the landfill was capped.

MB61L and MB40 Locations



Report on leachate extraction feasibility

Kieren McDermott, Cleanaway provided an overview on the EHS Support memo outlining why leachate extraction was not feasible, particularly in borehole MB40.

The practicability assessments were undertaken to determine which recovery options were available that would materially increase degradation rates. The amount of Light Non-Aqueous Phase Liquid (LNAPL) that can be extracted from one well is low and restricted by the transmissivity and low recharge rates into the well. It was concluded that it was not feasible to pump at MB40. However, the landfill gas extraction system will enable the LNAPL to be degraded much faster than it could be pumped.

Alex Schiavoni, EHS Support added that other options considered that might speed up the degradation process were discounted as they all required making more holes/damage to the cap and therefore carried much greater risks to the community and the workers from potential vapour emissions.

Using an oil absorbent material was considered in the past but there is a high spill risk at the surface associated with this process, which poses unacceptable risks for workers, the community and the environment.

Contingencies and triggers have been put in place to monitor the risks. The technical review process includes reviews of new technology which may be available in the future.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be held on 18 October 2017

For a full account of discussions at the meeting and associated attachments see the meeting notes at

<http://www.cleanaway.com.au/community/major-project/tullamarine-closed-landfill-vic/>

TLCCG is supported by Cleanaway in order to foster good communication and relations with the community.