

REDDALE LANDFILL COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE
Minutes of Meeting
Monday 1 September 2003 at 7:30 pm

Present: Mick Hunt (Chairperson)
Wayne Walker (RDC)
Mark Drury (Peer Review Panel)
Rebecca Cleghorn (ARC)
Rob Burgess
John Neill (North Harbour Country Club)
Steve Walker
Mike Kunzli
Bill Earwaker
Bob Gibbs
Richard Croker
Chris Wills (WAM)
Bruce Horide (WAM)

Apologies: Chris Northey (WAM)

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Minutes were circulated two weeks prior to this meeting. Bill Earwaker / Mike Kunzli - That the minutes of the 9/6/03 meeting be accepted as a correct record. Passed.

Matters arising from minutes:

Guidelines for Community Liaison Committee: M Hunt had prepared the updated guidelines which had been distributed.

Correspondence:

None.

Waste placement:

Chris Wills described the refuse filling in the low area in the centre of the site, known as Phase 10. Monthly tonnages had peaked in June due to a short term diversion of waste from Whitford Landfill. R Croker noted the remote flare burning on the landfill and C Wills explained that it was operating only temporarily while a generator was being serviced and while the available gas was more than the flare and second generator would consume when the evaporator was not running.

Planting:

It was noted that the pine trees at the entrance to the Trotting Club had been removed - they were to be replaced.

WMNZ described the advice that had been received from consultants, Tonkin & Taylor, that a patch of trees on the Phase 10 bund would have to be removed to make way for precautionary stabilisation works, after weak ground had recently been seen in excavations in Phase 17 (not far from the Horseshoe Bush Road / Lime Access Road intersection). C Wills had explored all sensible alternatives with T&T. The trees to be removed would be replanted, and much better growth medium soil would be put back, bearing in mind that the group of trees and shrubs to be removed had grown particularly poorly.

M Kunzli asked about the slip on Phase 1 - C Wills explained that it only affected a thick layer of topsoil and that no gas was escaping. It would be fixed in summer.

Site development:

WMNZ's intentions were to construct a new cell, Phase 11, in the central quarry area this coming season. The quarry sump sludge would be removed.

Redvale Lime Company were expected to take the last remaining limestone in the central quarry and leave the site by June 2005.

Complaints:

The complaints received since the last meeting were discussed.

ref	date	name	subject
286	17/6/03	T. Kunzli	odour
287	25/7/03	R. Burgess	litter
288	4/8/03	M. Hunt	odour
289	12/8/03	B. Earwaker	litter – Silverdale Waste truck
290	15/8/03	S. Lush	dangerous driving – Onyx truck
291	26/8/03	Sharon Johnson	Litter spewing from Perry's truck.

WMNZ had followed up all litter complaints with a call back to the person, direct contact with the driver of the identified offending trucks, and a targeted litter pick. C Wills had put more pressure on Waitakere City Council over their contractors' standards.

Fewer odour complaints had been associated with odour from Army Bay sewage sludge - the Council had been warned of possible consequences if it continued to cause problems. Odour incidents were still be reported internally by staff.

Power:

WMNZ had considered putting in another flare to burn the increasing amount of gas, but recent rise in the electricity spot price and new government incentives meant that WMNZ was considering installing two more 1 MW generators in 2004.

Any increase in power output would involve installing a new 33 kV power line around the northern part of the site.

R Burgess asked if neighbouring greenhouses could use the gas. C Wills replied that such options had been investigated, but the issues were noise (for any burner system installed at the greenhouse), heat loss in pipes (for any burner system installed at the site), and the current cheap price of competing clean commercial gas.

M Kunzli asked about noise abatement planting - C Wills described new plantings alongside Richards Road.

Vehicles:

B Horide advised the meeting that an application to change the consent was all but ready. In response to queries, WMNZ noted that the total trucks on the highway would still be less than before the new motorway went in, and that the increase comes partly from numerous smaller trucks from Rodney District. One committee member said that they were not in favour of extra trucks, and asked if higher prices could be charged for waste from out-of-district or for waste in small truck loads. WMNZ did not think that differential pricing would work, and C Wills noted that some 'hazardous' waste rejected from the better Redvale facility had found its way to landfills out of the region with less environmental protection.

On the current media-highlighted matter of refuse from Northland, WMNZ expected that there would be a maximum of about 10 trucks per day for Whangarei and less than that from the entire remainder of Northland, if their waste was to come to Redvale.

Footprint:

C Wills described again briefly a proposal by WAM to not fill the western extremity of the site (this would avoid some visual effects and avoid an area of poorer geology) but to fill instead the 30 m wide buffer zone along the south boundary beside Pond 6 (this would be favourable to RLC for limestone removal, and would lie on better geology). No one indicated dissatisfaction with the proposal, which was yet subject to technical reports. The original landscape planner, Mary Buckland, had been engaged.

Six-month report:

M Drury read the Peer Review Panel's six-monthly report to end of April 2003. During a recent site inspection while it was raining, the PRP had found the site to be good and tidy.

In response to a query, B Horide said that the Rangitopuni Stream monitoring site was inspected weekly, and sampled quarterly. The only unusual effect was due to pumping higher-pH water from the quarry in dry weather.

PCB:

WMNZ had received a report on PCB testing of pasture at 10 locations surrounding the landfill. The results showed no particular bias in any direction which would be expected downwind if landfill emissions were significant, and the results were similar to Ministry for Environment results from other sites around the country. The report had been forwarded to ARC.

A Health Risk Assessment had also been completed, incorporating comments from ARC's own consultant, and had been forwarded to ARC. The aim of the HRA was to analyse gas and to calculate the dispersed concentration at neighbours' places and to compare those concentrations with health limits. All of the studied potential air contaminants were found to be well below health guideline limit values.

General business:

There was a discussion on alternatives for sewage sludge.

WMNZ agreed to the Committee's request for a place on WMNZ's next landfill operator training course due in October 2003.

W Walker asked to be kept informed of the Dairy Flat Community Trust grants.

Next meetings: Monday 24 November 2003, and Monday 15 March 2004 7:30pm.