

REDDALE LANDFILL
Minutes of Community Liaison Committee Meeting
Monday 19 November 2001 @ 7:30 pm

Present: Colin Kendall (Chairman)
Jayne Metcalfe (ARC)
Mark Drury (Peer Review Panel)
Mick Hunt
Duncan MacKintosh
Mike Kunzli
Michael Radley
Bill Smith
Lorena Collett
Richard Croker
Bill Earwaker
Chris Wills (WMNZL)
Bruce Horide (WMNZL)
Deryck Scott (WMNZL)
Kevin Rolfe (air quality consultant)

Apologies: Charlie Earwaker
Jim Clough

Welcome:

Kevin Rolfe introduced himself to the meeting.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

A short time was allowed for the reading of the minutes of the 30/7/01 meeting, which were agreed as a correct record.

Matters arising from minutes:

There were no matters arising which needed to be addressed separately.

Correspondence:

None.

Waste placement:

Chris Wills described the refuse filling which was taking place along the northern edge of the landfill with the aim of forming a screening bund out of waste, except refuse was placed there only when winds were favourable. Otherwise waste was being placed lower down in the former quarry area.

Planting:

Native trees had been planted on the Phase 10 bund, inside the Richards Road boundary, and other areas as pointed out on the aerial photo by Chris Wills. Kikuyu was being targeted so that it didn't smother saplings. Maori visitors had suggested more shrubs on finished grassed cover, which was planned for the future after the cover soils had settled in.

Site development:

The next few years' works were described by Chris Wills including Phase 10 in the central quarry - this involved backfilling deep limestone excavations - and Pond 3 this season. No major earthworks were planned for next season because cell preparations would be sufficiently well ahead of refuse placement.

Complaints:

217	1/8/01	L. Collett	odour
218	3/8/01	L. Collett	odour
219	14/8/01	C. Kendall	rubbish blowing off truck
220	28/8/01	D. Clough	odour - old Waitakere waste
221	31/8/01	G. Taylor	rubbish - Perry's truck
222	10/9/01	Mrs Malding	rubbish - WM truck
223	11/9/01	S. Todd	rubbish - Perry's truck
224	11/9/01	S. Todd	rubbish - WM truck
225	17/9/01	M. Radley	odour
226	18/9/01	D. Clough	odour
227	21/9/01	L. Collett	odour
228	17/10/01	L. Collett	odour
229	30/10/01	L. Collett	odour

Lorena Collett said that she faxes any complaint immediately directly to WMNZL as well as ARC.

The landfill had organised three litter picks to tidy up the highway in the last few months. Approaches to the police by Chris Wills and Colin Kendall had drawn a blank. Mike Kunzli queried whether WMNZL could be taking punitive action against its customers - the landfill was using internal report systems to track down and follow up offenders.

Complaints - odour:

Waitakere transfer station had been asked to give notice if they were clearing out old waste.

Michael Radley said that he had experienced odour during south-westerly winds. He was concerned that the records (minutes of meeting and complaint register summary) referred to "faint odour" at the time of a follow up visit from either ARC or WMNZL, by which time the offending waste was probably long buried, whereas there was definitely stronger odour at the time the complaint was made. The ARC shared this concern. Lorena Collett too affirmed that complaints are made only on what are considered valid circumstances. Chris Wills explained that a thorough record of several pages is kept for each complaint and investigation. Chris Wills asked for complaints to be telephoned direct to him as the best way to obtain quick identification of problem sources.

WMNZL had been reducing their limits on concentrations of volatile organic compounds e.g. solvents and BTEX in waste which will be accepted. Samples were taken of each waste before acceptance. In setting limits, WMNZL were conscious of health effects also on operators who could be exposed at low levels for long times.

Solvent sludge waste was being bagged for quick burial instead of mixing with sawdust. Possible puncturing of buried bags caused odour from the tip face which lead to a complaint.

Bill Smith remarked that odour incidents were less common at his place compared to Lorena's place, which was put down to the trees around Lorena's stilling the air whereas Bill's place experienced only fleeting odour events due to exposure to the wind.

Odour mitigation:

Deryck Scott showed where new sprays had been put up on the northern litter fence. A new spray system had been fitted to the Rex compactor.

Thames waste would not be accepted this summer.

Power:

WMNZL was achieving 95% availability of the generator which was reducing the power outages in the local area. The second 1 Megawatt generator had arrived on the wharf today.

PCB:

Bruce Horide explained the planned scope of retesting this summer, in landfill gas, ambient air, and sediments.

Kevin Rolfe highlighted his findings in his review of last year's sampling by consultant laboratories. The test methods were not the same as those used by Ministry for the Environment, so the Redvale results couldn't be fairly compared. Kevin Rolfe also noted:

- a) the Environment Court decision on Hampton Downs landfill found the PCB issue to be minor - Lorena Collett suggested that the transcript of Craig Stevenson's evidence should also be read
- b) MfE has reviewed dioxin sources, and the only matter for landfills is to stop open fires - not a concern for Redvale which doesn't burn any waste
- c) KR has reviewed proposals put to WMNZL for the next sampling, with attention to ensure that sampling rates would be consistent

Lorena Collett asked if PCBs could have been emitted from incoming floc in previous years. Kevin Rolfe replied that the amounts of PCBs are reducing with time, which was confirmed by Chris Wills who noted that the total concentrations of PCBs in floc had been decreasing.

CLC membership:

Chris Wills asked for ideas to be put in writing on how to maintain equitable representation on membership. Colin Kendall understood that the Planning Tribunal wanted fair hearing for any community member who wanted to be heard, and that formal meeting rules were to be avoided.

Lorena Collett believed that consultation in 1992 to set up the committee was unsatisfactory, and that the committee's meetings to talk about complaints e.g. noise in the first years were not well publicised.

It was suggested by Michael Radley that the Dairy Flat Newsletter could be used better to provide information on current landfill issues.

Site Security:

Eight steers had been stolen from the by-pass road. WMNZL proposed to install a horse and bike-sized gate and to lock the vehicle gate (opened at any time on request). The CLC saw no problem provided legal access was preserved.

Foot and mouth:

MAF had requested that the landfill's wash bay be designated an emergency disinfection centre. Lorena Collett requested her objection to be recorded. It was agreed that Chris Wills would find out more about precautions which MAF would take to avoid spreading infection locally from infected animals being trucked in for treatment. It was not certain whether anyone other than MAF would have much say in the event of an outbreak.

Environmental report:

Copies of WMNZL's environmental report summary were tabled, which was described as a "warts and all" examination of the company's environmental performance.

General business:

The horse trials event on 1/12/01 and 2/12/01 was announced.

Bruce Horide replied to a request by saying that no 'annual monitoring report' is prepared because all the information goes into quarterly reports to ARC.

The Peer Review Panel had received a draft of part of a new Management Plan for their review. Further attention would be given to odour issues. Mark Drury thought that operations were of a high standard. As CLC rep, Mark Drury could be contacted directly by residents.

The quarry continued to operate under existing use rights, and while Redvale Lime Co was an independent party responsible for their own operations e.g. noise, WMNZL had set the rules on certain matters e.g. water quality which the company was ultimately responsible for.

In response to Mike Radley's query about reversing beepers, the company said that all its beepers had been either turned down or turned off. However some new or hire machines had them. It was requested that beepers were to be avoided especially in Pond 3 work close to Horseshoe Bush Road.

Next meeting: Monday 11 March 2002 at 7.30pm