

MT. SHAMROCK QUARRY  
ENVIRONMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE  
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## Meeting Summary

16<sup>th</sup> November 2022 (4.00 – 5.15pm)

### Committee Members

#### Present:

Nathan Thomas	Holcim Australia
Leigh Elliott	
Joy Carberry	Local Community Representatives
Don Petty	
Neville Bassett	
Dean Haeusler	Cardinia Shire Council

#### Apologies:

Stewart Burton	Holcim Australia
Barry Strong	Earth Resources Regulation
Cr. Brett Owen	Cardinia Shire Council

#### Chairperson:

Lisa Barrand	Possibilities Pty Ltd
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### Welcome

Lisa welcomed everyone to the meeting and passed on apologies from Brett who has temporarily stood aside from his Councillor role whilst standing as a candidate in the state election and Barry Strong who was also not able to attend due to a meeting clash.

Holcim were also thanked for arranging the site tour that took place immediately prior to the Committee meeting. The recent rain unfortunately meant that access was limited however notwithstanding this, the Committee were able to view the rehabilitation and operational areas from the look-out and also see the land bridge in its final stages of construction. This land bridge will be in operation from next week and reduce haul times for future extraction. We were also fortunate enough to see a peregrine falcon (from a distance) in the nesting box on the north western face of the quarry.

### Update on actions agreed at previous meetings

Person  
Responsible

#### ***Action 50.2 Groundwater and Springs (Item brought forward from May – July 2021)***

*As part of the EMP requirements, an annual review of groundwater and springs is undertaken over summer. During discussion about the 2019 results, there were questions about the connection between the operations of the quarry and the changing flows of the springs. As there were no experts at the meeting to assist with clarifying and interpreting the data it was agreed that Matt seek further advice and report back to the Committee. The key question of interest relates to what the causes for changing flow rates of the springs might be*

At this meeting, Holcim shared two consultant proposals with the Committee. The scope of work within these proposals is broadly to undertake a technical peer review of previous relevant ground water and spring data analysis, modelling, interpretation and outcomes. The intention and hope is that, by undertaking this peer review, all committee members will have greater ‘technical trust’ in the reporting on groundwater and springs moving forward. In summary, both proposals respond to a scope of works that the ERR had recommended to Holcim. It is noted that the proposals were shared in good faith by Holcim with questions asked

Leigh  
Elliott

and suggestions offered during the meeting to try to maximise the level of confidence the Committee might have in the outcome from this process, acknowledging that it will be Holcim's procurement decision. The Community Representatives again expressed their thanks that Holcim was looking to undertake this work as it was in addition to the EMP requirements.

During discussion, suggestions were made that recommended the inclusion of further background documents for the chosen consultant including a particular email communication from Aecom and also a table of spring assessment data (Table 1 from springs PDF). It was also suggested that a presentation to the Committee after the report had been finalised, shared and discussed might be useful. There was also conversation about whether it was useful to wait for additional data before the consultant undertook the review and there were different views on this. (Correspondence was shared after the committee meeting indicating that the Community Representatives would prefer the work to be undertaken without waiting for a further annual report.) Holcim will now make their procurement decision noting that the budget and approvals process is not yet finalised and that it would be for the coming calendar year, not this calendar year.

#### **Background:**

The Committee has been discussing data interpretation questions about groundwater monitoring results and the reported conditions of the springs for some time. These questions were first raised by community representatives in 2019 and are focused on the conclusions Aecom (being the company who undertakes the monitoring for Holcim) draws from the collected data as they relate to the operations of the quarry and the impact these operations have or don't have on the state/functioning of springs and the levels/trends for groundwater.

There have been many meetings since then where the topic has been discussed. These include various meetings attended by ERR and SRW representatives and presentations by Aecom on the issue. Previous meeting summaries capture these discussions and readers are encouraged to review these for a more complete understanding.

#### **Action 62.1 Process for appointment of Independent Chairperson**

*The independent chairperson role is due for review (3 yearly appointment).*

The Chairperson position was advertised in late October. At this meeting, the Committee met in camera without the Chair present to discuss next steps.

Dean  
Haeusler

## **Environment Management Quarterly Report (including consultant recommendations)**

The July 2022– September 2022 Environmental Management Report was reviewed by the Committee

- Leigh highlighted the following key points:
  - Stripping has been delayed due to the wet weather but will commence in coming months.
  - A turbidity exceedence on the 26<sup>th</sup> of August was attributed to heavy rains.
  - The gap in data for waste management were due to a new driver not being aware that loads were meant to be weighed and that the regular weighbridge manager also being away during the period.
- There were no specific questions regarding the quarterly report however it was noted that the air blast data across the monitors showed a connection to the direction of a blast that was different to the ground vibration recordings. Nathan noted that the quarry always designs blasts in a way to minimise air blast outcomes.

## **Other business**

### **Annual audit**

Leigh explained that the annual audit would again take place prior to the next ERC and that the same consultant and process would be used as last year.

### **Pakenham Road Intersection**

Lisa shared the letter sent to the Department of Transport on behalf of the Committee requesting a safety review of the intersection (attached).

### **Actions arising**

There were no actions arising

**Person  
Responsible**

### **Proposed Meeting Dates for 2023**

The following Committee meeting dates are proposed for 2023:

- Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February
- Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May (including site tour)
- Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> August (at Council offices)
- Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November (including site tour)

### **Items for consideration at next revision of EMP**

There are currently no items identified.