

MT. SHAMROCK QUARRY  
ENVIRONMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE  
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## Meeting Summary

22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023 (4.20pm – 5.15pm)

### Committee Members

#### Present:

|                 |                                 |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| Leigh Elliott   | Holcim Australia                |
| Nathan Thomas   |                                 |
| Joy Carberry    | Local Community Representatives |
| Don Petty       |                                 |
| Neville Bassett |                                 |
| Flora Lau       | Cardinia Shire Council          |
| Livia Baranyay  |                                 |

#### Apologies:

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

#### Guests:

|                  |                        |
|------------------|------------------------|
| Teresa Hazendonk | Cardinia Shire Council |
|------------------|------------------------|

#### Chairperson:

|              |                       |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| Lisa Barrand | Possibilities Pty Ltd |
|--------------|-----------------------|

## Welcome

Lisa welcomed Committee members to the meeting including additional folk from Cardinia Shire Council's Strategic Planning team; and passed on apologies from Barry Strong and Councillor Brett Owen.

Leigh was thanked for organizing the very useful site tour (selected photos attached). Joel Briglia and Sam Smith, new members of the Councils Environment Team also attended the site tour. As discussed, the November site tour will generally be set aside for Committee members for more specific site related items whereas the May site tour will be made available to local residents.

## 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, Leigh outlined Holcim's intended response to the recommendations made by Geoff Morgan (GHD) in his recent hydrogeological report. In summary, Holcim is planning to implement all of the recommendations that could be described as 'low hanging fruit', such as

Leigh  
Elliott

calibrated water gauges for all the standing springs (including Spring 6 on Don Petty's property with permission), standard location photography and proforma reporting on the springs. . A proposal for slug testing (a method for testing water seepage from rock) for all the onsite bores (both basalt and Werribee formation) is currently being reviewed and is also likely to be implemented. The larger Capex items such as additional bores are not being considered at this time.

The Community Reps thanked and congratulated Holcim for both undertaking the hydrological review and also for committing to the actions as noted above. These actions are seen by the Community as reflecting Holcim's ongoing commitment to their environmental credentials and considered as very commendable, particularly when compared to previous quarry owners.

For ease of tracking, these actions will now be added onto the Consultant Recommendations schedule. The agenda item itself will be considered by the Committee next February with regard to whether it can now be considered finalised and removed from ongoing discussions.

### **Background:**

The Committee has been discussing data interpretation questions about groundwater monitoring results and the reported conditions of the springs for several years. Questions were first raised by community representatives in 2019 about the conclusions that Aecom had made from collected data whereby they concluded that the quarry operations were not having any impact on the state and functioning of springs and the levels/trends for groundwater.

There have been many meetings since then where this 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.

As a way to bring some conclusion to the matter, and as an act of goodwill, Holcim recently appointed GHD to undertake a technical peer review of AECOM's 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. This report was shared with the Committee in late July and then presented by Geoff Morgan at the August 2023 meeting.

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

Leigh talked to the key highlights in the quarterly report from the period covering July – September 2023. Priority points included the following:

- There has been no mobile crushing for Q3 and is unlikely for Q4 as well.
- The stripping campaign is continuing which means that soil is able to be brought up for rehabilitating the south eastern wall of the quarry.
- There were no non-compliances or complaints during the reporting period.
- A calibrated water level gauge has now been installed in the pit which will allow monthly RLs to be captured. It was agreed that these results will be included in the quarterly reports.
- Over 6000 plants have been planted, mainly to increase density in rehabilitated areas but were also planted in the Net Gain Offset areas.
- Leigh will be having further consultation with the Committee regarding the LRMP review cycle at the February meeting.
- A bathymetric assessment has been undertaken of Donnazzans Dam.
- The annual landslip assessment will take place in January 2024 and will be reported in February.

## Other business

### Annual Audit Brief

Leigh discussed the proposed audit scope that was shared with Committee members via Dropbox. EnviroRisk is again proposed as the auditor with Simon Levertton leading the audit and with an additional staff member, Lok Nethercott, participating as a fresh set of eyes and to ensure continuity from a knowledge perspective.

Committee members are encouraged to contact the auditors directly if they would like to raise any areas of concern prior to the audit. EnviroRisk can be contacted directly on 0352 823 773.

## Actions arising

**Person  
Responsible**

There were no specific actions arising.

## Meeting dates for 2024

The following Committee meeting dates for 2024 are proposed with meetings commencing at 4pm. Please advise Lisa if there are any concerns with these dates.

- Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024
- Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2024 (including site tour for local residents)
- Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2024
- Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2024 (including Committee site tour)

## Items for consideration at next revision of EMP

There are currently no items identified.





