

MT. SHAMROCK QUARRY
ENVIRONMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE
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Meeting Summary

21st August 2024 (4.00pm – 6.10pm)

Committee Members

Present:

Leigh Elliott	Holcim Australia
Nathan Thomas	
Joy Carberry	Local Community Representatives
Don Petty	
Neville Bassett	

Marcelle Bell	Cardinia Shire Council
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Apologies:

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

Chairperson:

Lisa Barrand	Possibilities Pty Ltd
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Welcome

Committee members were welcomed to the meeting and apologies acknowledged from Councillor Brett Owen and Barry Strong.

Update on actions agreed at previous meetings

Person
Responsible

Action 69.1 Land Rehabilitation Management Plan – Annual review

As part of the EMP requirements, an annual review of the LRMP is required. This annual review includes the step of consulting with the ERC regarding any proposed changes. The last annual audit noted that this had not happened, and a process is being in place to address this.

At this meeting, Leigh presented the Committee with a proposed process for considering and agreeing to minor changes to the EMP that could take place outside the normal 5 yearly comprehensive review. Discussion and action regarding this document has been captured under a new item “**71.2. Out of cycle comprehensive EMP review and update**” on page 4 due to the fact that it relates to changes that could impact all elements of the EMP, not just those relating to the LRMP.

In relation to the specific LRMP content changes that Holcim are proposing, these will be brought forward for feedback as part of the draft revised EMP mentioned above in coming months. For simplicity, this discussion will be closed and included in Item 71.2 mentioned.

Leigh Elliott
All committee
members

Action 69.2 Resource Investigation Project

Holcim has identified potentially viable quarrying material within the approved work authority boundary but outside the current approved extraction limit. Having undertaken an initial drilling program and assessment during early 2024 Holcim has decided to proceed with technical investigations to assess the various impacts (groundwater, noise, dust and so forth) of potentially quarrying this resource with a view to, if considered viable, making an application to the Minister to permit extraction.

Holcim is providing regular updates to the Committee on this project.

At this meeting, Nathan updated the Committee with the following:

- Technical assessments had been commenced and some, but not all were complete.
- The expected EES referral process was now much clearer and a flow chart depicting this will be shared with the Committee as part of this final meeting summary.
- Holcim has met with key people from within the Huxtable Road Reserve Committee as part of the ongoing engagement process, with issues discussed such as potential visibility of operations, noise, dust and blasting etc related to any proposed expansion of the extraction area. There were questions from the Committee regarding some of these topics as well such as blasting procedures and buffer zones however until the technical assessments were complete it was difficult to discuss what might happen.

As this agenda item is not an 'action item' per se, it is proposed to remove this as an action item and instead add it as part of the standing agenda for the duration of the project. Holcim is invited to provide updates at each meeting and may choose to pre-share documents with the distribution of the agenda. Should there be any significant updates or changes in between ERC meetings, then Holcim has committed to informing the ERC.

Nathan
Thomas

Environment Management Quarterly Report (including consultant recommendations)

Leigh noted that there were no material issues to discuss in relation to the quarterly report as there were no non-conformances and no complaints during the reporting period; a great outcome. The following additional points were raised or discussed by the Committee:

- A turbidity non-conformance took place on the 25th of July (outside the reporting dates) and will be captured in the next quarterly report. The EPA have been notified and no reply has been received to date. The event took place during a heavy rainfall event.
- Nathan let the Committee know that there have been challenges with external drivers arriving on site with trucks arriving well before opening hours. Holcim have taken an educational approach to changing this behaviour up until now, however from the 1st of September drivers will be turned away with a 'don't come back today' message.
Related to this issue, there was discussion about the fact that previously displayed road signage indicating that trucks are not permitted to arrive before 7am had been removed at the request of the Council some years ago. Marcelle will investigate to see if this is able to be reassessed. (see action below).
- Lisa noted the value of the Consultant Recommendations register as being a place where Committee members could be reassured that all recommendations from audits and consultants were captured and tracked.

Discussion regarding reports from consultants and proposals presented by Holcim

LRMP 6 monthly (Leigh) and also Annual Naturelinks Report on rehabilitation works

- Leigh highlighted that over 5,300 trees would be planted this year.
- The challenge of eradicating and managing Chilean Needle Grass was raised. Leigh advised that mapping was currently being done and physical management was currently the preferred process. He is monitoring this closely as the alternative approach uses a chemical solution 'Tussock' with implications for other grasses, livestock and also humans. Marcelle will connect Leigh with internal person regarding strategies for control (see action below).
- Leigh updated the Committee regarding deer management activities advising that a third session of on ground shooting by licensed operators is planned for this month.

Groundwater and Springs Report (Aecom 2023)

This report presented similar challenges for Community Reps as previous Aecom reports whereby there was no acknowledgement of any quarry impact to bores, even when close by to quarry operations and also that there was inadequate explanation regarding the perceived lack of spring functioning. There was little ongoing 'technical trust' in the findings however as it was the final report to be received from Aecom, it was considered that there was little point in discussing the contents in detail.

Slope Stability Report (Aecom 2023)

This report was discussed with one question being raised regarding the potential risks raised in Section 8 and farm dams. Leigh will investigate and confirm that this relates not to any material downslope risk but rather the need to do a dam assessment (which is already planned). The Committee noted that this is the final slope stability report that will be produced by Aecom. The proposal from a new consultant is discussed below.

Annual Audit Report (EnviroRisk 2023)

The following points were discussed regarding the annual audit.

- The Committee noted how comprehensive and thorough the audit had been.
- A question was raised regarding the non-conformance regarding a site decommissioning plan. Nathan and Leigh explained that this had been discussed with the EPA and the EPA had determined that Holcim were compliant. The tracking of this and other non-conformances and matters for improvement are captured and monitored in the Consultant Recommendations Register.

GHD proposal for Groundwater and Springs Monitoring

The committee provided feedback and asked some questions regarding this proposal and looks forward to seeing reports as they are produced. Points discussed included:

- The value of using a monitoring bore outside of the site as a reference point.
- Discussion about the procedure used for dipping bores (assessing bore height).
- The potential cost efficiency of installing data loggers.
- The set up and use of proformas for monitoring springs.
- The inclusion of Spring 11 within the scope of the proposal (confirmed by Leigh).

Encompass proposal regarding Slope Stability Monitoring

The Committee discussed this proposal and provided feedback to Holcim. Some of the key points included the value of using drone technology to provide finessed information regarding slope movements that is difficult to discern to the naked eye. This approach of using drone technology is similar to that already used by Holcim within their pit operations. It was confirmed that this proposal relates specifically to undertaking compliance monitoring work within the current EMP and does not relate to the proposed project in the northeast. Nathan

will follow to see what if any similar approach is being suggested for as part of the technical assessments for this project.

Other business

Appointment process for Community Representatives

Marcelle is preparing to undertake an advertising and appointment process for the next 3-year term for Community Representatives. At this meeting, a couple of questions were cleared up regarding the process, including advertising etc. Lisa will also catch up with Marcelle offline to talk about how the process took place last time. At this stage, the process will commence after the 26th of October (Council caretaker period ends).

It was agreed that as part of the advertising process, Marcelle will share the role description and advertisement with the Committee so that members can 'on share' with potential candidates. This includes the email list managed by Community members. Holcim also offered to distribute, on behalf of the Committee, any documentation to residents within the 1km zone.

New Electric Drive Face Loader

Nathan let the Committee know that a new electric drive face loader (one of 3 in the country) was now in operation in the pit and was already resulting in significant fuel efficiencies. There were some, 'to be expected' teething issues but the results so far are very promising.

Review of Rehabilitation Bond

Nathan advised that the ERR had undertaken a bond review for Holcim in relation to the Mt Shamrock quarry and that this was now complete.

Note: A bond relates to guaranteed monies that a company must allocate to government to ensure that if they do not undertake rehabilitation in line with the agreed plan, there is sufficient money put aside to complete the works.

Volunteer opportunities

The Community Representatives were asked to consider (on an ongoing basis) any opportunities for Holcim site staff to volunteer on local projects. Holcim staff have 2 days of paid volunteering time allocated each year and although projects further afield have already been undertaken, Holcim would like to see more local projects if possible. Community Reps should contact Holcim directly with ideas.

Actions arising

Person Responsible

71.1 Truck signage

Marcelle to investigate whether road signage regarding truck access to Mt Shamrock Road prior to 7am is able to be reinstalled to reduce the movement of trucks outside of operating hours.

Marcelle Bell

71.2. Out of cycle comprehensive EMP review and update

Holcim is seeking to update the content of the EMP. This will include correcting references to legislation, updating processes, making changes to the LRMP and also adapting the EMP Review Procedure to allow for the formal incorporation of minor changes emerging from audit recommendations along with other improvements without having to wait for a 5 yearly review.

In the coming months, Leigh will bring forward a revised EMP document that contains changes to the following sections for comment by the ERC. There may be other changes as well for review. This will then be submitted to Cardinia Shire Council for approval.

- **Appendix 3 EMP Review Procedure**
At this meeting, draft wording for a revised EMP Review Procedure was discussed and it was agreed that inserting such a clause was a good idea if possible as it increased the agility of the EMP as an environmental monitoring document. It was acknowledged that it was challenging to get the wording right to capture these shorter cycle, minor EMP changes and Leigh will consider ways to improve this before sharing a final proposed draft with the Committee.
- **Waste Management Targets**
The proposed revised waste management targets were shared via Dropbox prior to the meeting but were not discussed at the meeting.
- **Updates to EPA legislation references**
These will be reflected in the draft EMP document for comment.
- **LRMP changes**
Leigh will include proposed changes regarding the LRMP in the final draft to be brought forward and the ERC will have an opportunity for input at that time.

Leigh Elliott

71.3. Strategies for dealing with Chilean Needle Grass

Council may have information and resources regarding the control of this invasive weed grass. Marcelle to connect Leigh with the right person internally.

Marcelle Bell

71.4 Review of ERC Terms of Reference

The ERC Terms of Reference have not been reviewed since 2017 and it is considered timely to collect and discuss any potential feedback and improvements from Committee Members.

Lisa to coordinate the collection of any feedback for discussion by the Committee with a view to endorsement by the Shire of Cardinia.

Lisa Barrand

Remaining meeting dates for 2024

The following Committee meeting dates remain for 2024 with meetings commencing at 4pm.

- Wednesday 20th November 2024 (following the Committee site tour starting at 2.30pm)

Items for consideration at next revision of EMP

There are currently no items identified.