

MT. SHAMROCK QUARRY
ENVIRONMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE
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Meeting Summary

16th March 2026 (4.00pm – 5.50pm)

Committee Members Present:	Nathan Thomas Leigh Elliott	Holcim Australia
	Don Petty Neville Bassett Joy Carberry Rosemary Buczak	Local Community Representatives
	Cr Brett Owen Marcelle Bell	Cardinia Shire Council
Apologies:	Barry Strong	Resources Victoria
Chairperson:	Lisa Barrant	Possibilities Pty Ltd

Welcome

Committee members were welcomed to the meeting and Lisa gave an Acknowledgement of Country.

Update on actions agreed at previous meetings

Person Responsible

Action 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.

Holcim submitted their final proposed version of the revised EMP to Cardinia Shire Council for approval on the 23rd of December 2024. The process now sits with Council to conduct both an internal review and also to invite reviews from relevant external agencies such as the EPA. At this meeting, Marcelle again provided an update as the process is not yet complete. At this stage, all referral agencies have responded with the exception of the State Department of Transport and Planning (DTP). As the DTP is also a noted planning authority for the permit, sign off is required. Staff at the Council are following this up and both understand and acknowledge that the process has taken longer than hoped for. It was noted that the annual EMP audit has now taken place and will report against the current approved version of the EMP.

Marcelle Bell

Action 74.1 Question arising from annual Groundwater and Spring report

The annual Groundwater and Spring Monitoring Report is discussed in May each year.

After significant discussion, the Committee agreed to close this item, noting that this will not preclude Committee members from being able to raise questions and concerns in the future about the findings of annual Groundwater and Spring reports. The written response from MSH to the

question “How does the removal of the basalt actually affect the groundwater and spring functioning?” was acknowledged by the Committee. However, it remains an ongoing concern of Community Representatives that historical data and anecdotal information does not appear to be considered. As raised previously, Community Representatives are worried about the impact of quarrying operations on the functioning of nearby springs. Notwithstanding this, it was agreed that further ERC conversation is unlikely to resolve the matter. Community Representatives will separately submit concerns specifically related to groundwater and spring issues as they relate to the proposed extension directly to Holcim.

This item is now considered closed.

Quarry Expansion Project - Update

There was substantial discussion about the proposed quarry expansion project at this meeting. In the main, this is due to ongoing Community Representative concerns about the impact of increased noise due to the proposed removal (as part of this project) of a large earthen ‘bund’ that is situated along the boundary between the quarry and the Huxtable Road Reserve horse riding areas and club infrastructure.

As part of the discussion, Nathan updated the Committee (see attached slides) including the following key points since the last ERC meeting:

- A site tour and meeting had taken place with the Huxtable Road Reserve Committee (HRRC)
- The technical noise report was now being reviewed by the EPA and would be shared once complete.
- Holcim has not submitted any work plan variation or planning application at this time.

As a result of the Committees discussion, the following agreed actions were identified:

- The technical noise report is to be made available to the ERC once the process is finalised with the EPA. Note: This had already been agreed but is written here for clarity. (Nathan)
- Holcim to share information that helps the Committee understand how long the time period will be from when operations to remove overburden start until they conclude (in each phase of the project) and whether stripping is considered as part of a development phase. (Nathan)
- That Holcim give consideration to the acoustic protection properties of any fencing (or similar) that Holcim might propose as part of a visual screening treatment as part of the project. (Nathan)
- That Council share information about the effectiveness of freeway acoustic fences. (Marcelle)
- That a height marking stick currently located at the Pony Club be moved to the location agreed between Rosemary and Matt Dodd to assist club members better understand the impact of the proposed project. (Nathan)
- That Holcim consider adding a noise monitoring location at the main arena location of the HRRC to the schedule of ongoing noise monitoring for the purposes of the EMP. (Nathan)
- Holcim to share information about the testing methodology for noise so that Committee members can understand how loud sudden noises are considered in addition to average noise levels. (Nathan)
- That the Council share with Committee members whether the club room at the HRR would be considered a sensitive use site for planning purposes. (Marcelle)
- That Holcim consider distributing another ‘Community Update’ to assist community engagement (Nathan)

As the ERC is not a specific consultation forum for the proposed extension, (this will depend on the planning pathway that Holcim decide to use), Lisa encouraged feedback of any kind regarding the proposed expansion project to be submitted directly to Holcim in writing to au-mtshamrock@holcim.com. She also noted that the Terms of Reference for the ERC includes the review of Workplan Variations and so, once submitted, the Workplan Variation Proposal will come to the Committee for review.

Environment Management Quarterly Report (including consultant recommendations)

Leigh talked to the quarterly report that was shared prior to the meeting. There were no non-conformances and no complaints for the review period. Leigh noted that some aspects of the Greenhouse gas calculations will be referred to in the annual EMP audit report that will come to the May ERC meeting. This is mainly due to the fact that the specific operational requirements of the quarry influence GHG emissions in varying ways. For reference, other quarries do not have similar requirements however Holcim is still interested to understand what a year on year 3% reduction would look like at this point.

In discussion, the impact of fuel price increases in a quarrying context were discussed however the key impact might actually be fuel shortages.

Other business

Independent Chairperson recruitment update

Confidential, in camera.

'End Use' for Quarry Site

The Committee agreed that this 'annual ERC item' should be postponed given the proposed expansion project.

Waste Survey Report (2025)

In discussion, Leigh highlighted that a key part of this report was the first column, namely that the focus for Holcim is on reducing waste streams at their source along with the strategies to achieve this.

Slope Inspection Report (2025)

In discussion, Leigh pointed out that GPS locating drone surveillance was used for the first time as a part of this years inspection and that this will allow highly accurate monitoring of any 'mass' movements year on year. For information, any reference in the report to numbered dams (e.g. Mass 13 dam) refers to farm dams that are immediately below the masses shown on the slope inspection diagram.

For information, the quarry is using similar GPS drone technology to also understand material volumes in the quarry and any changes to the quarry faces.

Rehabilitation Report (Naturelinks) 2025

The Committee discussed the following aspects of this report:

- The recommendation from Naturelinks to use the residual herbicide Tussock to address the area of Chilean Needle Grass.
The Committee is supportive of this action.
- The numerous weeds on the Council owned/managed roadside verges abutting Holcim property that contain numerous weed species.
The Committee again asked that Council take action to address these invasive weed species. (see action below)
- Leigh noted that Naturelinks use effective mapping tools and systems which is helpful for ongoing management of the work.

Other updates:

Leigh noted that the 5 yearly inspection of Donazzan's dam has recently been completed. The Committee agreed to look at this within the context of the annual EMP audit report rather than reviewing the source report.

Leigh also let the Committee know that a complaint had been received about a resident reporting vibration at their property during a quarry blast. This has been investigated and will be reported to the ERC in the coming period however for the Committees information, the actual blast results from the day were well within limits.

Remaining Meeting Dates for 2026

- 20th May 2026
 - Site Tour for Local Residents and Committee 2.30pm – 4.00pm
 - Committee meeting (Holcim Office) 4.00pm – 6.00pm

- 19th August 2026
 - Committee Meeting (Cardinia Shire Council Office) 4.00pm – 6.00pm

- 18th November 2025
 - Site Tour for Committee members 2.30pm – 4.00pm
 - Committee Meeting (Holcim Office) 4pm – 6pm

Actions arising

Item 77 Council to be asked to remove weeds and invasive species from roadside next to Holcim.

There are numerous weed species along Council owned and managed roadsides that abut quarry property. Council have been asked to address this in the past.

The ERC asks that Council address the various weed species growing on Council land next to Holcim property.

Marcelle Bell

Items for consideration at next revision of EMP

There are currently no items identified.