

# Deer Park Quarry ERC Meeting Minutes

**Location:** Deer Park Quarry Training Room, Riding Boundary Road, Ravenhall

**Date:** Thursday 10 December 2015 - 5pm

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**Chairperson:** Erin Furmanczyk, Stakeholder Relations Advisor (Southern Region) (EF)

**Minutes:** Vikki Barker, Property Administration Assistant (Southern Region) (VB)

## **QERC Members (Community and Regulatory):**

- Wendy Bitans – neighbouring resident (WB)
- Frances Carabott – neighbouring resident (FC)
- Mick Hewitt - Caroline Springs resident (MH)
- Eyal Cohen - neighbouring landowner (EC)
- Rick Cleary - Department of Justice (RC)
- Sam Muscat – Deer Park resident (SM)
- Geoff Gilbert - Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (GG)
- Stefan Gangur – Proxy for Marion Martin (SG)
- Kevin White – Metropolitan Remand Centre (KV)

## **QERC Members (Boral):**

- Paul Hodges – Quarry Manager (Deer park) (PH)

## **Guests:**

- Luke Brown- Project Sponsor, Deer Park Quarry Replacement Project (LB)
- Dr Richard Strauch – Group Environmental Advisor, Boral Concrete (Dr R)
- Amy Wells – Manufacturing Operations Manager, Asphalt (AW)
- Cassi Sartori – Environmental Co-Ordinator (CS)

## **Apologies:**

- Cr Nola Dunn – Melton City Council (ND)
- Kathryn Czapnik- Senior HSE Advisor, Boral Health Safety and Environment Group (KC)
- Marion Martin - Deer Park resident (MM)
- Michael Suddes – Operations Manager Country (MS)
- David Karstens – Plant Manager, Asphalt (Deer Park) (DK)

*The following minutes are taken from presentations and conversations conducted as part of this community meeting. The content, while representing an accurate summation of proceedings, should not be taken to represent exact dialogue unless specifically minuted as such.*

*Minutes are reviewed at the start of each meeting to identify any items in need of correction.*

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**Meeting opened at approximately 5.00pm**

## 1. Welcome, introductions and apologies

**Erin Furmanczyk (EF)** welcomed everyone to the QERC meeting including the new Deer Park Quarry Manager, Paul Hodges who has taken over from Jason Parr. Stefan Gangur was also welcomed to the meeting acting as a proxy for Marion Martin.

## 2. Previous Minutes and Actions

Previous minutes were accepted.

### Actions from previous meeting:

No.	Action	Responsibility	Due date
1	Provide information about the proposed asphalt plant upgrade when more information becomes available	DK	This meeting
2	Undertake a quarry blast audit.	GG	17/12/2015
3	Dust presentation to be made available on the website.	EF	Complete
4	List of attendees names to be included on agenda.	EF	Complete
5	Share information on site weed management	KC	This meeting
6	Ongoing management of the weeds and animals at the site to be discussed and prioritised.	KC	This meeting

**Geoff Gilbert (GG)** advised information on the blasting audit would be provided at the next meeting.

## 3. Business Reports

### Concrete

**Michael Suddes** was an apology at this meeting therefore no update was provided.

### Asphalt

**Amy Wells (AW)** provided the update on the proposed upgrade of the Asphalt plant on behalf of **David Karstens**. **AW** apologised that this has been a standing action item for some time but Boral have been investigating suppliers overseas.

**AW** advised options have been reviewed in regards to upgrading the Asphalt Plant. These options took into account market demand and availability of suppliers. Boral's preferred option is to maintain the plant in its current location and replace aspects like for like.

**Stefan Gangur (SG)** asked if there were any future plans for the area due to current traffic congestion. **AW** advised there is constant communication with council regarding traffic movement and council are receptive to continuous discussions.

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## Quarry

**Paul Hodges (PH)** provided an update on the dust monitoring. Recent monitoring has highlighted some spikes which lab technicians reported evidence of bird droppings in one case and construction of the Caroline Springs train station, SP Ausnet works and Boral earth works in the other.

**PH** discussed the blasting and air and ground vibrations reporting which were all within limits.

**PH** discussed the fuel tank upgrade and reported that the old tank is to be decommissioned.

**PH** advised that the site is always working on improving the housekeeping and dust suppression.

## 4. Environment

### New Dust Monitors

**Dr Richard Strauch (Dr R)** gave a brief overview of how the new Osiris monitors have been working since they came online on the 17<sup>th</sup> November.

**Dr R** discussed the interpretation of the information in the Osiris graphs. Once the data from the Osiris monitors is obtained they are presented in the graph to show spikes. These spikes are investigated and to date have been able to pick up when the equipment is being adjusted, when the wind changes and when work has been done at the nearby Caroline Springs train station.

**Sam Muscat (SM)** asked if the Osiris monitoring is within the experimental stage. **Dr R** confirmed that we were still establishing them at Deer Park, however this type of equipment had been used at the Montrose Quarry (for example) for four or so years up to 2009, as well as other locations since.

**Wendy Bitans (WB)** commented that Middle Road has now re-opened which has caused an increase in dust. Reluctant to make any complaints to Council as don't want the road closed again; however the increase in dust could be used as a means to have the Council seal the road.

**Frances Carabott (FC)** also stated there has been an increase of dust in early morning and early evening.

**Mick Hewitt (MH)** asked if baselines would be established and if there will be different types of monitors used and how long it will take to produce a result. **Dr R** advised the thresholds are set by the Council. **Luke Brown (LB)** commented that Boral self-imposed a threshold to use as the Council threshold is quite high. The self-imposed threshold will trigger two alarms which will send an email to site operational staff which has been useful to understand information such as which way the wind was blowing. The on demand information will also be useful to make decisions based on weather conditions.

### Weed Management Plan

**Cassi Sartori (CS)** presented on weed management on behalf of **Kathryn Czapnik (KC)**. **CS** advised that Brett Lane and Associates had mapped out a plan in 2013 and has developed a five year management plan. There are three stages to the plan and stage one and two have been

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completed. Serrated tussock is in last stage of the plan. **CS** discussed the difference in the serrated tussock coverage over the past year and showed a reduction in coverage.

**MH** commented that he has noticed a lot of Patterson Curse around the Rockbank area. **WB** commented that once the blue flower has bloomed the seeds have already dropped and that perhaps a lot of the Paterson's Curse may have been dispersed by previous year's truck movements. **CS** advised that Paterson's curse is on the weed management plan.

**CS** presented the seasonal weed management plan for 2016. **MH** asked what is being used for re-vegetation. **CS** advised there is a list of native vegetation to be used which includes Kangaroo grass.

**WB** shared a concern regarding the Save the Dingo Club which met to discuss introducing dingoes to certain areas to eradicate feral animals. The concern is that they will breed with local feral dogs causing a greater problem.

## Animal Management

**EF** presented on behalf of **KC** regarding pest management. There is a plan to reintroduce livestock to the northern part of the Quarry in early 2016. Water and secure fencing will be arranged.

**EF** advised that some gun clubs have been contacted regarding pest control. The targeted animals include goats, foxes, cats, hares and rabbits. **WB** asked if there was a positive response from the gun clubs. **EF** advised there was a positive response. **WB** asked if the community would be notified prior to the planned shooting day. **EF** advised there would be notification to all concerned.

## **5. Quarry Plant Replacement Project Update**

**LB** advised of planning approval received on 18 November from Melton City Council. There was a list of conditions which included dust monitoring and to cease production to the old plant by 2018. The concrete foundation work is to commence in January 2016. The new plant should commence operation ramp up by mid-2017.

**EF** advised the Deer Park Quarry webpage will be updated with information regarding the replacement project. **MH** asked if the webpage will be updated every quarter. **EF** advised there are no set regular updates as yet but the QERC group will be updated three times per year at meetings.

**LB** advised once the concrete foundations are completed the bunds will be vegetated with approximately 25,000 plants. **WB** asked what type of plants or shrubs will be used. **CS** advised the plants and shrubs will be from the indigenous list. **PH** advised that straw will also be used around the bottom of the plants/shrubs as this has been successful out at Bacchus Marsh.

**LB** advised that the neighbouring Dame Phillis Frost Centre have been contracted to grow and supply the 25,000 plants to vegetate the bunds.

## **6. General business**

**SG** asked if anyone has a contact for Regional Rail so they can be contacted regarding padlocks being cut from gates at rail corridor. **AW** advised she may be able to enquire internally. **GG** advised

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he will get the phone number for Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning and provide the number to **WB** directly.

**SG** asked if Boral are required to abide by any guidelines in regards to the new Mt Atkinson estate. **EF** advised Boral are required to be 500 metres from any residential properties.

**SG** asked when the SP Ausnet sub-station will be completed. **LB** advised the sub-station should be completed in a couple of months.

**Rick Cleary (RC)** asked if the power lines will be affected by the dust from the new plant. **PH** advised the dust shouldn't affect the power lines.

**EF** advised everyone that the presentation will be forwarded to everyone and suggest they contact her with any queries.

**EF** the proposed meeting schedule for 2016 will be Thursday 17 March, Thursday 14 July and Thursday 17 November, but these dates are subject to change.

**EF** thanked everyone for their attendance and input through the meeting and will be in touch in early 2016 with draft minutes.

**Meeting closed at approximately 6:10pm**

## ACTION LIST

No.	Action	Responsibility	Due date
1	Provide information on the blasting audit at next meeting	GG	Next meeting