

Boral Berrima Cement Works & (Medway) Colliery

Community update – May 2014

News from your local Boral operations

It has been a busy year for the Boral Berrima Cement Works so far in 2014, with a major turnaround of the plant's kiln completed during the summer months, and strong cement deliveries to projects such as the Barrangaroo precinct in Sydney and Pacific Highway works along the North Coast.

Initiatives introduced last year to reduce the site's operational costs are starting to provide positive results. However, there's still more hard work to be done in this area. On safety, the site's record has been impeccable and we're looking forward to marking 12 months without a 'lost time injury' later in May.

Read on to find out more about what else has been happening at Boral's local operations in this latest edition of *Community Update*.

Clearing up April dust issues

During April, the Cement Works received an unusually high number of complaints about site dust affecting homes and vehicles in New Berrima. Calls from residents were supported by a number of new attendees who raised the matter at our regular community meeting held on 30 April.

As a result of the initial calls, Boral's team identified dust leakage from the top of the main clinker store as the likely cause of the problem. This unfortunately took some time to locate as the store is away from the main area of the plant and the dust was difficult to see from on-site.

Once the problem was found, the replacement of some damaged filter bags in the unit at the top of the store, as well as the sealing up of ventilation grids, was carried out.

Boral also self-reported the matter to the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) given the amount of public calls received. Cement Works employees were sent into the village to meet with everyone who had contacted the site about their concerns.



The situation was not assisted by weather conditions, with the prevailing south-easterly winds common at this time of year pushing more of the dust toward the township. We believe that following the fix, the problem should now be easing.

The Cement Works is one of several potential sources of dust in the immediate area. Inside the Works, there are also different places from which dust can be generated.

For this reason, dust management is high on our list of priorities and we have undertaken many initiatives in recent years to improve the situation, including the planting of some 9000 trees.

Our site is also monitored for dust emissions, the results of which can again be viewed on our website or at our community meetings. Compliance with our EPA licensing requirements is essential to our operations and the last year of results show we have been achieving this goal.

Boral would like to extend its apologies to those residents who were affected by the nuisance dust during April. If you wish to discuss matters related to the site's dust management, please contact us on **4860 2222** or send us feedback via our website.

Community meetings

Boral organises regular community meetings in order to share information and hear about any matters of concern to residents. You can find out more by visiting www.boral.com.au/berrimacement.

The next meeting will be held during **late July-early August 2014**.

Loch Catherine coal on the move

Boral's Berrima (Medway) Colliery remains in 'care and maintenance' following the announcement of the site's transition from full operations last October. A site workforce of six is continuing to ensure planning and environmental obligations are met.



At the time of the transition, Boral announced coal stockpiles held at the Loch Catherine site in Medway would eventually be moved to the Cement Works sometime during 2014. This process began in late April and will continue through the next few months.

We would like to inform residents that during this transportation period, all previous commitments made on heavy vehicle movements through Medway will remain in place. As in the past, feedback about the conduct of heavy vehicles on local roads is most welcome – this can be given to the Cement Works team via **4860 2222**.

Propelling site noise reduction

The Cement Works team are continually looking at improvements about the site to ensure the operations have minimal influence over adjoining neighbours. One of the areas recently looked at is reducing the amount of noise generated by the many cooling fans around the plant.

The fans are used to cool clinker as it travels out of the kiln and into the conveyor and storage systems. Most of the noise generated by them comes from the turbulence of the fan blades slicing through the air during operation. Accordingly, the on-site engineers have experimented with reducing the number of blades and using new angles.

Trials are still continuing to see if any significant improvements can be made. If a successful configuration can be found, the team will look at how widely it can be implemented around the site. This is just another example of the Cement Works' real efforts to work with the community for better mutual outcomes.



Supporting the Highlands community

Boral has continued its tradition of providing support to a number of key local events into 2014, recognising our role as a corporate citizen of the Southern Highlands.

During May, we supported the New Berrima Vintage Rally and Field Days, and in early June we will once again sponsor Wingecarribee Shire Council's annual Jobs/Careers Expo. The focus on the region's young people continues later in the year through our support of Rotary's Science and Engineering Challenge.

In November, we'll be lending a hand to the Plant and Garden Fair being held at Harper's Mansion, a local National Trust building. Our ongoing relationship with the Berrima Public School will also see students again benefit from the partnership we maintain with Conservation Volunteers Australia, a peak environmental education not-for-profit.

Planning has also started on repeating last year's successful Cement Works Open Day in 2015. Details of the event will be published closer to time, however if you'd like to make a contribution or suggest an idea for the day, please contact us via **4860 2222** or through our website.



Find out more -
visit
[www.boral.com.au/
berrimacement](http://www.boral.com.au/berrimacement)