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## Minutes – 2 May 2012

### Boral – Petrie Quarry Local Liaison Group Meeting

Heritage Museum, Dayboro Rd, Kurwongbah

#### Attendees:

##### Community Representatives

- Steven Wighton
- Del & George Down
- Greg Dunlop

##### Moreton Bay Regional Council

- Cr David Dwyer, Division 7

##### Boral

- Clare Anderson, Administration Officer, BPG (Chair)
- Elke Stapf, Stakeholder Advisor, BPG
- Jess Van Soest, Environmental Graduate, BPG
- Michael Long, Manager Petrie Quarry
- Terry Scott, Field Supervisor - Boral Logistics

#### Apologies:

- Cr Bob Millar, Division 11
- Matthew Hegarty, SEQ Water
- Lauren Buchanan, Acting Manager – Environmental Services, EHP (former DERM)
- Paul West, Regional Manager, BPG
- Bruce Barry, Metro Operations Manager, BCM Qld Quarries
- Matthew Leon, Regional Environmental Manager, BPG

#### Meeting started 5.20pm

- **Apologies were read out.**
- **Introductions**
  - Clare Anderson, Administration Officer, BPG; Clare will be chairing future liaison group meetings.
  - Jessica Van Soest, Environmental Graduate; Jessica is looking after the rehabilitation works at the Petrie quarry and will give updates at the meetings.

Before starting the meeting, Elke Stapf discussed the outcome of the 2012 Local Election. We expressed our congratulations to Cr Bob Millar and Cr David Dwyer for being re-elected as the Councillors for Division 11 and Division 7 with Moreton Bay Regional Council. Mayor Allan Sutherland. State Member Trevor Ruthenberg MP.

- **Action Items of last meeting (19 October 2011)**

- 1. Update on progress of rehabilitation work on site**

### **Fodder plantation**

Jessica gave an updated on the old and new koala fodder plantations at the Petrie Quarry site. Jessica advised 2500 seedling have been planted in November 2011 in the new fodder plantation with considerably spot seeding and maintenance around the plants since then. The survival rate of the seedling is very good with an 80 per cent success rate. Some infill planting may be required, but at this stage it is going really well. Jess advised that the planting design for the new koala fodder plantation is a zig-zag pattern with access tracks in between to make it easier to collect the fodder. In addition, some plants have been located next to the internal track for easy access by the koala carer groups who do not have 4WD vehicles.

Jess explained that the contractor, NatureCall, who implemented the fodder plantation, will manage the new plantation until December 2013. Boral will then assess when the new plantation can be handed over to Australia Zoo and the Koala Carer Groups.

Jessica informed the members of the planting list for the koala fodder plantation. The list was determined in consultation with Australia Zoo, Koala Action Pine Rivers and Moreton Bay Koala Rescue and was designed to reflect the type of food trees that koalas in the region prefer to eat.

<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Approximate numbers</b>
Spotted gum	<i>Corymbia citriodora</i>	16.5	415
Tallow wood	<i>Eucalyptus microcorys</i>	16.5	415
Qld blue gum	<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i>	16.5	414
Swamp mahogany	<i>Eucalyptus robusta</i>	13	314
Scribbly gum	<i>Eucalyptus racemosa</i>	12.5	314
Gum-topped box	<i>Eucalyptus moluccana</i>	12.5	314
Small-fruited grey gum	<i>Eucalyptus propinqua</i>	12.5	314
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>100</b>	<b>2500</b>

### **Rehabilitation**

Jess advised that NatureCall, the contractor undertaking the rehabilitation on Boral's behalf, had been on site for a year when Boral did the last rehabilitation review in early February 2012. Jess advised the next quarterly review was being conducted on Friday, 4 May 2012. At the previous review (in February), 2500 seedlings had been planted in the fodder plantation and a further 2500 were planted in the rehabilitation areas.

Jess presented an aerial map indicating what areas of the site had been weeded, areas that had already been planted and areas which had extensive maintenance work done. Planting has occurred in the north eastern corner of the site, where the local fire brigade had completed a hazard reduction burn, along the bottom dam and in the fodder plantation.

Jess explained the work undertaken has been of a very high standard. Jess presented images from one of the photo monitoring points showing the changes within a area during five months; the area was initially covered in very dense lantana, and the photos indicated a major change and reduction of lantana overtime.

The site has had some regrowth of weeds in the last few months with all the rain. However these weeds are mostly herbaceous and grasses rather than target weeds (including lantana, ochna, silver leaf desomdium, camphor laurels and glycine). Jess advised that the strategy in the wet weather, which is a haven for weeds, is to focus on key weeds, plant seedlings and wait for natural regeneration. Spot spraying of the herbaceous weeds can always occur later if required. Native regeneration is already visible with some areas showing 20-30% regeneration.

Jess advised the group that the rehabilitation is approximately a 50 year project and Boral is currently in Stage one, with 18 months to go. Stage one is the most comprehensive. Extensive planning takes place before the rehabilitation goes ahead.

### **Koala numbers**

Del Downs advised she believes there has been a decline in Koala population in the area. Del asked if Boral knows if and where Koalas are located in the area and how many there are. Jess advised there has been data collected over the last 24 months, which Boral has been unable to access, however if it becomes available, Jess will discuss it in future community meetings.

If any members see Koalas on the side of the road they can contact hotline 1300 ANIMAL.

Cr Dwyer advised that the Sunshine Coast University has received funding of \$20,000 from Council to experiment with dwarf eucalypt fodder.

Jess advised that the koala fodder plantation will take at least two years to establish before Australia Zoo and Koala carers can start harvest fodder. Leaving the fodder to grow for longer will allow the seedlings to grow stronger and produce better quality fodder. This is particularly important as Koalas are quite fussy eaters and will often not eat the fodder if it is not of good quality.

### **• Current Local Issues**

Greg Dunlop inquired about increased noise coming from the quarry in the last 4-6weeks. The Quarry Manager, Michael Long, advised that the site has been working from the top benches, closer to the Dunlop's residence, before being able to commence on the lower benches again. This is an ongoing operation. The noise could also be due to wind direction. Michael Long said he would look into the matter.

Greg inquired about Boral's plans to increase production. Michael Long explained due to the economic situation Boral has experienced a drop in the market and the lack of major projects at present in and around Brisbane, there is no need to increase production. Michael also mentioned the community should have realised a drop in truck movements at the moment.

### **• Current Council Issues**

Cr Dwyer explained issues Council will be facing in the future:

- new residential developments will attract more people in the area
- parcels of land are getting smaller
- Council needs to strike a balance between community, industry, and the environment.

Boral's efforts to encroachment:

- ongoing rehabilitation of quarry sites
- enhance koala habitat and koala fodder plantations
- keep large buffer zones around their quarry sites

Cr Dwyer stated that there is not enough public awareness about Boral's Koala Fodder Plantation projects and asked that Elke send some information to be published in Council's newsletter.

Cr Dwyer advised the group that there will be an upcoming public meeting organised by Council to discuss traffic issues and haul roads. Cr Dwyer will inform Boral of the date, time, and venue of this meeting, once at hand.

Cr Dwyer informed Elke that he had received a complaint from a member of the community regarding odour. The complainant believed that the odour was being emitted from Boral's plant at Pocket Road, Lawnton. The odour smelt similar to Petrol/Aggregate. Elke advised that quarries and concrete plants don't omit odours; however she will look into the matter.

**Meeting closed 6.20pm**

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, 12 September 2012**

<b>ACTION ITEMS:</b>		
<b>Name:</b>	<b>Task:</b>	<b>Actioned by:</b>
Jess van Soest	Update on progress of rehabilitation work on site	Next Meeting
Council	Cr Dwyer advised the group that there will be an upcoming public meeting organised by Council to discuss traffic issues and haul roads. Cr Dwyer will inform Boral of the date, time, and venue of this meeting, once at hand.	Once at hand
Elke Stapf	Send information on Boral's Koala Fodder Plantations to Cr Dwyer for publication in Council's newsletter	ASAP
Elke Stapf	Address Community Complaint	ASAP