

Meeting:	Altona Properties Soil & Groundwater Meeting	Location:	St. Joseph's College Board Room, Altona
Recorded by:	Melanie Rowe/ Noel Ryan	Date:	7 March 2005 5pm
Reference:	2125024A 003 MINS(MAR05) ROWEM		
Present:	Noel Ryan, Nessie Hardy (Resident), Melanie Rowe (PB), Vincent Bonnici (City West Water), Les Harman (Qenos), Charles Carabott (EPA)		
Apologies:	Richard Marks (EPA) Peter Horne (Orica)		

Item No.	Item	Action
1	Confirmation of Agenda - Agenda confirmed as stated.	
2	Minutes of Last Meeting – Minutes of last meeting (August 2004) were circulated previously. Minutes of last meeting were accepted as true and correct. Future minutes to be sent by email to Les Harman.	
3	<p>Groundwater Treatment Update - PB presented a summary of groundwater treatment and monitoring over the past six months since the last community meeting. An updated timeline (attached) was presented detailing system operation and shutdowns. In that period the Groundwater Treatment System (GWTS) had ongoing problems related to high temperatures in the quench, failure of the combustion blower motor in October and November 2004 related to electrical overload, and failure of the scrubber pH transmitter.</p> <p>Investigation into these maintenance issues was conducted with all issues being resolved by the end of 2004.</p> <p>Replacement of the scrubber packing was undertaken first thing in the New Year with successful restart of the GWTS on 21 January 2005.</p> <p>PB presented a number of graphs (attached) showing system uptime (as requested at the August 2004 meeting), cumulative volatile chlorinated hydrocarbons (VCH) (as 1,2 dichloroethane (EDC)) extracted by the treatment system, cumulative resources used and waste produced and cumulative environmental impacts measure.</p>	PB – include with minutes amended VCH extraction graph with axis correctly labelled for VCH emitted to atmosphere
4	Renewal o Trade waste Agreement – The APPL TWA expired on 28 February 2005. An extension was granted by CWW until 11 April 2005 to allow CWW additional time to process APPL's application to renew the variations associated with the existing TWA in the new TWA.	
5	<p>EPA WDL Emission Testing and Scrubber pH Trials – Six-monthly EPA WDL emission testing was conducted on 9 February 2005. Results were not received in time to be presented at the community meeting. (All results were less than EPA limits.)</p> <p>Scrubber pH trials were undertaken in February 2005 following the workplan agreed with the community at the August 2004 meeting and by EPA in September 2004.</p> <p>Foreseen benefits of reduced pH for scrubber include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Easier management of trade waste 	<p>PB – results of EPA WDL emission testing and scrubber trial results to be presented at next community meeting</p> <p>PB – submit results of scrubber pH</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing compliance with EPA WDL ▪ Reduced TDS to sewer, based on 2004 trade waste results, TDS load to sewer could be reduced from an estimated 5 tonnes to only 1 tonne ▪ Reduced scaling problems in scrubber ▪ Reduced OH&S issues for GWTS operators ▪ Reduced caustic consumption ▪ Reduced pH of wastewater 	<p>trials to EPA to seek amendment to WDL</p>
6	<p>Annual Groundwater Monitoring Dec 2004 - PB conducted groundwater monitoring of 64 wells in December 2004 across APPL, SCT, Qenos and Dow sites, with analysis for VCHs, BTEX, TDS and selected wells for PAHs. Contour maps of groundwater flow, VCM and EDC concentrations were presented (attached).</p> <p>Groundwater flow in a south to south-easterly direction was consistent with previous monitoring. Water levels for December 2004 were generally higher than recent monitoring being 0.1m – 1.0m higher than December 2003.</p> <p>Results for groundwater quality were generally consistent with historic data, with ongoing decreasing trends for wells at plume boundaries and some air sparge wells consistent with natural attenuation and treatment.</p> <p>Elevated concentrations of VCHs and BTEX were evident in wells BH3-4QP and BH3-7QP, possibly attributable to seasonal effects. The results are considered anomalous and resampling has been undertaken.</p> <p>Reported VCH concentrations for Category 4 and 5 wells were generally steady or declining except for BH24G.</p> <p>Reported concentrations of vinyl chloride were generally lower than recent monitoring data</p> <p>PAH analysis of selected wells reported results consistent with historic data or below laboratory detection limits.</p> <p>DO and redox were indicative of natural attenuation in some areas.</p>	<p>PB – Annual Groundwater monitoring of all wells due in November 2005.</p> <p>PB – Present results of resampling of wells BH3-4QP and BH3-7QP at next meeting.</p>
7	<p>Ongoing issues for Monitoring wells on Former Qenos Land – SCT are continuing with development of the land to the south of APPL. SCT have granted continued access to monitoring wells on their land subject to site development. PB will continue to liaise with SCT and any other parties to maintain well access wherever possible.</p>	
8	<p>Soil Investigation update - Works were undertaken in September – December 2004 following approval of the workplan by EPA. Works comprised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 4 hand auger holes in the Qenos piperun to depths of approximately 1.0 m ▪ excavation and sampling of 25 test pits in the areas of the former tar storage pits, EDC plant and EDC storage tank bund ▪ excavation and sampling of 2 trenches across former EDC plant area and adjacent to location of EDC pumps north of EDC storage tank bund <p>Continuous air quality monitoring was undertaken in the vicinity of the excavations and downwind using a PID. Full PPE was worn by site workers as elevated concentrations of volatile contaminants were detected in the vicinity of excavations. No detectable volatile organic compounds were detected down wind of excavations.</p> <p>Workplace air testing of breathing space was undertaken for the site supervisor and the excavator driver. Detectable concentrations of EDC were reported at ppb</p>	

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	<p>levels, below OH&S levels</p> <p>Preliminary results indicate that concentrations of VCHs, TPH and PAHs above criteria are present in the area of the former tar storage pit at depths between surface and 1.5m. This is consistent with previous investigations. Above criteria concentrations of VCHs and benzene are also present in a limited area along the former EDC bund underground stormwater pipeline. No significant impacts were identified in the area of the former EDC plant or storage tank bund.</p> <p>Remediation options will be assessed once results are confirmed.</p>	
10	<p>Groundwater Management Plan Website - The GWMP website was updated following the last community meeting in August 2004 and will also be updated after the current meeting.</p>	PB – Website to be updated
11	<p>General Discussion and Questions - Nessie expressed concern about the time that has elapsed with respect to investigation and remediation of soil impacts at the site. Noel responded that APPL (and previously Australian Vinyls) have been working through the process required for thorough investigation and assessment of remediation options.</p> <p>Nessie requested an article for <i>The Consultative Chronicle</i> (June 2005 edition) regarding APPL's soil and groundwater contamination issue and treatment program.</p>	Noel Ryan – to arrange an article for <i>The Consultative Chronicle</i>
12	<p>Next Meeting - The next regular meeting was scheduled to be in six months – September 2005.</p>	
	Meeting closed at 7 pm.	