

Meeting:	<b>Altona Properties Pty Limited Soil &amp; Groundwater Meeting</b>	Location:	Mount St Joseph Girls' College Board Room, Altona
Recorded by:	Graham Smith	Date:	26 February 2007, 5:00pm
Reference:	2125121A 003 MINS 260207 B		
Present:	Noel Ryan, Tim Faragher (EPA), Chris Parsons (resident), Robert Cong (PB), Graham Smith (PB), Shane Dennis (PB)		
Apologies	Valerie Gemmell (resident), Bryan Goodwin (Dow)		

The Altona Groundwater Management Plan Website is located at [www.altonagroundwater.info](http://www.altonagroundwater.info) this includes details of the groundwater management plan and the latest groundwater treatment and monitoring results as presented at the community meetings of the Soil and Groundwater Review Group.

Item No.	Item	Action
1.	<p><b>Confirmation of Agenda</b></p> <p>Agenda confirmed as stated.</p>	
2.	<p><b>Groundwater Treatment Update</b></p> <p>PB presented a summary of groundwater treatment and monitoring over the past six months since the last community meeting in August 2006. An updated timeline (<a href="#">attached</a>) was presented detailing system operating time performance.</p> <p>An amendment to the Trade Waste Agreement was granted by City West Water allowing field measurement of waste water parameters and immediate discharge. Significant time and cost savings are expected as a result of the amendment.</p> <p>PB presented a number of graphs (<a href="#">attached</a>) showing: system operating performance, 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> <p>A decreasing trend in VOC concentrations into groundwater treatment system (GWTS) was evident in recent months compared to historical trends.</p> <p>The increasing trend in VCH to atmosphere was believed to be due to the combination of laboratory measured data (collected on a 6 month basis) and field measured data (collected daily). Also there has been a lower vapour flow (due to additional treatment wells and continuing soil treatment) into the GWTS in recent months compared to historical results.</p>	
3.	<p><b>Groundwater Monitoring</b></p> <p><b>November 2006 annual GME</b></p> <p>PB conducted groundwater sampling of 74 wells across the APPL, SCT, Qenos and Dow sites in November 2006. Samples were analysed for VCHs and BTEX with selected wells analysed for PAHs, TDS and the natural attenuation indicator parameters alkalinity, nitrate, sulphate, ferrous iron and dissolved methane.</p> <p>Standing water levels, groundwater flow direction and dissolved phase impact data was generally consistent with historical results. A continuing decreasing trend was evident at the plume boundary and at wells within the groundwater treatment zone, especially new air sparge wells. Contour maps of groundwater flow, EDC and VCM concentrations (2006, 2005 and 1997) were presented (<a href="#">attached</a>).</p> <p>Increased VCM concentrations were evident in monitoring wells BH3-6QP and BH3-8QP (former Qenos Plastics paddock) despite VCM concentrations decreasing in wells immediately up hydraulic gradient (towards the APPL site).</p> <p>Data suggests natural attenuation was occurring within the groundwater plume.</p>	

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5.	<p><b>Soil Treatment Trial</b></p> <p>PB presented key findings of the RD&amp;D soil treatment trials conducted at the APPL site in 2006. A total of three locations (TP4, TP5 and TP8) were treated using a combination of soil ripping and off-gas treatment via the GWTS . PB presented the results of the soil ripping program as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TP4 &amp; TP5 - Treatment completed, soil suitable for ongoing industrial use. No further treatment is required.</li> <li>• TP8 area – Once off-gas emissions reduced to 0 ppm (VCH) treatment was suspended pending Soil Treatment 2007 (see below).</li> <li>• In-situ ripping facilitated release of volatile contaminants in a controlled environment allowing capture for treatment.</li> <li>• No workplace exposure issues or odour issues beyond immediate work area.</li> <li>• To date, GWTS treated 11kg EDC and 21kg TPH .</li> <li>• Results indicate in-situ soil ripping to be an effective method of soil treatment.</li> </ul> <p><b>Soil Treatment 2007</b></p> <p>PB presented proposed soil treatment works to be conducted in 2007. Areas to be targeted included the former tar storage area in the southwest corner and also a disused stormwater drain to the north of the former VCM storage area. Proposed works to be undertaken in accordance with the RD&amp;D methodology.</p> <p>Treatment is to be conducted in progressive 10 m x 10 m treatment cells, with vapours treated by the GWTS. Amendment of the EPA Waste Discharge Licence (WDL) will be required to cover additional compounds found to be released during the soil treatment trial. Final validation of soil by laboratory analysis after treatment to confirm suitability of soil for ongoing industrial use.</p> <p>PB has advised that the findings of the soil treatment will be presented at the next community meeting.</p>	
6.	<p><b>EPA Waste Discharge Licence emission testing</b></p> <p>PB advised that the emission testing conducted in August reported all results below emission limits. During the August 2006 emission testing, analysis of a larger suite of compounds was also conducted to gain information into other potential compounds that may be release during the soil treatment trial. PB advised that 4 additional compounds were identified and have sought advice from the EPA regarding amendment of the existing WDL to include these compounds. EPA to provide advice after further internal consultation with air specialists.</p> <p>EPA suggested that PB (on behalf of APPL) forward a letter detailing the required amendments along with any available data.</p> <p>The February 2007 emission testing was scheduled for 26 February, however PB advised that due to an unplanned shutdown of the GWTS, the testing was postponed. PB to reschedule emission testing to confirm WDL compliance.</p>	<p>PB</p> <p>PB</p>
8.	<p><b>Operational Schedule 2007</b></p> <p>PB currently drafting a GWTS 2007 operation schedule to include soil treatment and effective groundwater treatment. A “pulsed” approach to groundwater treatment was discussed with collected data to provide information on the optimal transition between treatment and non-treatment cycles.</p> <p>Noel Ryan commented on the possible correlation between primary recovery wells and groundwater impacts – are the best performing wells located in areas that show high levels of groundwater impacts?</p>	<p>PB to further assess</p>

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10.	<p><b>Groundwater Management Plan Website</b></p> <p>PB reminded the group about the Groundwater Management Plan website located at <a href="http://www.altonagroundwater.info">www.altonagroundwater.info</a></p> <p>Current treatment data and meeting minutes to be uploaded by PB.</p>	PB – Website to be updated
11.	<p><b>General</b></p> <p>Noel Ryan noted with sadness the passing of Nessie Hardy (a founding member of the Soil and Groundwater Review Group). Noel advised both PolyOne and Orica had extended condolences to the Hardy family.</p> <p>Noel Ryan proposed to communicate with the Altona Complex Neighbourhood Consultative Group (ACNCG) for potential involvement with APPL community meetings.</p> <p>PB proposed communication with those on the APPL community meeting circulation list to gauge level of future involvement with APPL meetings.</p>	<p>Noel Ryan to communicate with ACNCG secretary</p> <p>PB to communicate with those on circulation list</p>
12.	<p><b>Next Meeting</b> - The next regular meeting will be scheduled in 6 months; August 2007 on a Monday evening.</p>	
	Meeting closed at 6.00 pm.	