

MBCCC Meeting 23 Agenda

Title: Maddingley Brown Coal Community Consultative Committee

Date /time	4.30pm to 6.00pm, Thursday 17 September, 2020		
Location	Microsoft Teams		
Attendees	Allan Comrie, Chair	Tim Tillig, MBC	
	David Marnie	Jay Connor, MBC	
	Rick Dickson	Dylan Nichols, MBC	
	Bruce Gibbons	Paula Lawrence, Facilitator	
	Keith Jackson, GCWWRRG	Alice O'Mara, Committee Support	
	Carolyn Francis, EPA		
	Sam Bishop, Civic Group		
	Ellen O'Donohue, Admin		
Apology	Peter Thurn		
	Resignation of Vincent Nguyen		

1.	Welcome	AC
	- Approved David Marnie, seconded Tim Tillig	
2.	Proposed Westgate Tunnel Spoil Processing Facility Update	TT
	 The process is still a competitive tender at this point and MBC have received neither the Planning Scheme Amendment (20(4)) nor a contract at this point. Until these occur, no spoil form the West Gate Tunnel Project will be received on site. The presentation today relates to MBC's Environmental Management Plan (EMP) and the EPA's recent approval. Our purpose is to provide an update on the proposal as changes have occurred due the feedback from recent consultation. The West Gate Tunnel Project is a project of State Significance. The project is split into three phases, with the spoil from the tunnel boring machines being the subject of MBC's proposal. The twin tunnels will link Citylink with the 	

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- West Gate Freeway, creating better access to Melbourne's port and city.
- The bulk of the soil is estimated to have non-detectable levels of PFAS. MBC will be able to accept soil up to a certain contamination level. This is at the upper end of the range and not the expected concentration levels.
- The project partners are;
- Other sites tendering for the project are Hi Quality in Bulla and Cleanaway in Ravenhall.
- A new regulation from DEWLP came into effect in XX, after the WGTP commenced, to provide mechanism for removal and disposal of spoil from tunnel bore. This effectively meant that soil that would have previously been regarded as clean fill now needed to be classed and could not be sent to the planned landfills.
- The EMP is required for spoil classification and to mitigate potential environmental and health impacts and risks. The document is focused on risk management and mitigation. The EMP is public doc and available on the Western Soil Treatment website and EPA website. An un-redacted version will only be issued if we receive a contract. The reason being, it is commercially sensitive and a competitive process is still underway.
- A report of how the proposal was changed based on feedback gained from the community engagement process is in a report on our website, westernsoiltreatment.com.au
- Key pieces of infrastructure include the processing area, holding and drying bays and the wastewater treatment plant. The plant is located approximately 1100 meters from the Bacchus Marsh Grammar School; with the containment cell 1700 metres away.
- There are high degrees of controls for documenting the batches of soil. The process involves;
- Soil arrives on site: we have completed traffic impacts reports on the transport of the spoil
- We have completed addition work around Avenue of Honour – included assessment of truck emissions and compaction on the roads in context of trees in area.
- The report concluded no adverse impacts to the Avenue this was an additional assessment from an arborist to support



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- One tree was identified as infected and at risk of infecting others. Toadstools, also known as Armillaria Luteobubalina, were found on a tree on the corner of Woolpack Rd, indicating senescent fruiting bodies of the root and butt rot pathogen. Essentially, the longer the tree remains in this condition, the more potent the potential effect other trees on the Avenue of Honour. Due to the urgency of the matter and potential impacts to the Avenue, we provided this information to Moorabool Shire Council in July for further action.
- In unloading the spoil, the facility has been designed with lining systems. The spoil will remain for a maximum of 21 days in holding bay until results received. All trucks tracked using GPS and all loads are completely sealed according to EPA requirements.
- The samples will be sent to an independent lab for analysis under EPA regulations. The results will be used for final classification. There are several areas of exception in tunnel alignment and will have other controls to mitigate risk. If the result is below acceptance criteria, this will go to holding facility. If the result is above, that spoil goes to a facility licensed to accept that classification of spoil.
- There have been changes to design of the containment cell. Any spoil that stays on site will not include layers of aggregate and soil and there will be additional drainage and other layers.
- Most significant change is introduction of wastewater treatment facility – made in response to consultation. An overview of the wastewater process;
 - 1. Water is collected and transferred to sediment pond.
 - 2. Then to membrane lined leach add pond,
 - 3. Water is then transferred to PFAS treatment facility where it is filtered
- Carbon filters transferred to offsite facility for destruction at licensed facility.
- clean water then used for dust suppression in facility
- The trigger for treatment of water is the drinking water guideline (.07 micrograms)
- Next Steps: We are still waiting on planning scheme amendment approval and a contract. We are unsure of the timing for both items.



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More information is available to the community. We are committed to transparent engagement with community members. We now have a stand-alone website – westersoiltreament.com.au and a new Community Liaison Officer - Alice O'Mara, who is available on 0497 146 434 or at alice@westernsoiltreament.com.au

Questions:

- Q: Trucks starting at 6am 6 days a week what are they carrying?
 - They are picking up soil, we produce soil for landscaping in accordance with our EPA license
 - We have been supplying them soil for over 10 years Is this the soil coming from the top of the site?
 - We operate a landscape soil supply
 - What they are carrying has nothing to do with this project.
 - No, there are no trucks entering the facility for this project
- Q: The site has been approved by the EPA?
 - Yes
- Q: Does the Planning scheme amendment need council approval?
 - No its does not need council approval
- Q: Another site was approved by EPA is the contract just waiting for the tunnel boring to start again and a contract to be awarded
 - Correct, just waiting on contract and planning scheme amendment
- Q: Just waiting on the planning scheme amendment do we have a timeframe
 - No
- Q: Impressed by the work that has been done and community consultation was there a lot of work done to incorporate this?
 - It is a high profile project and compared to the consultation we are used to in the past we have improved this with a number of platforms – we respond to all enquires and encourage the community to deal with us directly
 - Keith (GGWWRRD) From our perspective, it is great to see this site being developed to become part of waste recovery
- Q. Trucks going down Parwan-Exford Road any discussion about alternate route?



- No there hasn't the traffic routes have been reviewed by traffic experts and government and based on that and safety these are the best routes
- Allan (Disagreed)
- We also had a road safety audit completed updates needed to get roads to a include changes to speed zones, line marking and resurfacing of intersections

Q: Due to the scale of the project, I am still waiting to see an overall plan on how Calleja will rehabilitate the site given its proximity to a town.

- In terms of MBC, we are currently construction the fido cap and that will include native grasses in line with capturing local flora. Ensuring that the remaining surface that is rehabilitated does conform with the landscape
- In terms of the project we are putting together a rehabilitation plan (requirement of EMP) includes visual impact assessments and types of grasses to meet local requirements

Q: We are yet to see an overall plan by registered landscape architects etc. as would be expected on a project of this scale. We have never seen any balance sheet or costings on how much Calleja Group is investing into this

- We can share with you the rehabilitation plan developed for another site Star Damn
- Ben we take on board your comments and we will hope to continue the landscaping across the site. In terms of balance sheets etc., we won't be willing to provide these and we aren't required to
- Tim due to the site and its constraint such a mining areas and their future uses we are slightly restricted – we do see your point that there is an opportunity for a more holistic approach – could look at how we interface with motocross track
- The view from Geelong Ballarat road is an eye-sore we are happy to look at this
- David shared masterplan for the site (not approved) and its rehabilitation – we are trying work on this

3.	Introduction of Dylan and Alice	DN, AO
	 Dylan – Project Liaison - I have been a consultant with the Calleja Group for around 3 years, including as part of the project team for the initial tender response. I will be 	

attending briefings, discussion with community members and providing updates as required. If there are any things the community need to know about the project in detail, I will be available to respond to these queries.

- Alice – Community Liaison Officer – My role is to work with the community and advise of changes, works and any enquiries of this nature to the project. I will also be available to assist community members get answers on questions relating to the project, connect them with members of the project team and its partners and conduct stakeholder engagement activates as required. I am available on 0497 146 434 or at alice@westernsoiltreatment.com.au

4. Update from EPA

CF

- EPA has approved MBC and Hi Quality's EMP's through a very comprehensive assessment. We have also published our assessment and other details of the EMP assessment is available on the homepage of our website. I will also provide Paula with a copy.

Update on compliance and enforcement

Since last meeting 3 pollution report for dust (2 sep, 1 Jun)

One report of soil going into the creek – all have been looked into and followed up.

Four inspections of the site have been performed since May, one each month. No major concerns were identified; however, there was some discussion about management controls of existing issues.

We received notification in August where the leachate in one of the cells was higher than expected. This has been assessed and our assessment was that the MBC are appropriately managing the issue

We have had more pollution complaints this year than last year but this is hard to distinguish a current pollution report from a future concern due to the project.

Q: Any chance we could have a chance to see the site in preparation for the acceptance of the proposal?



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5.	General business - NIL	
	From a waste and resource recovery group we were involved in a research project for chicken waste fertiliser at the site and it was very positive and is in the approval process	
	 We have done extensive work with council on strategic planning for buffers around the site as a site of state significance, we have been able to complete a comprehensive background report and how it fits in the planning scheme. Because it is a key site it needs to be recognised in the planning scheme, this is a critical piece of work 	
	In the future we would like to have more community tours of the site once we are through the restrictions	KJ
	 Tim: since you were last there not much change – with COVID very difficult at the moment – you would probably get ore benefit from seeing it once being build Other option is a drone fly over – would get around COVID 19 restrictions (Happy to accommodate) I remember a few years we took out a couple of coaches to see the site and it was very effective – just a thought 	