
Port Stakeholder Working Group

10am-11:30am, Friday 25 September 2015
Port of Townsville Admin Meeting Room, Benwell Road

DRAFT MINUTES

Present	Organisation
David Donohue	Chair (QCCN)
Judy Newman, Ian Ferguson, Clive Berger	Community Reps
Chris Wake	DEHP
Nina Henney	DEHP
Greg O'Shea, Anne Williams	Glencore
David King	NSS
Graeme Nielsen, Mark Daniell	South32 - Cannington
Elaine Glen	Sun Metals
George Lukacs	QNI
Charlie McColl	NQCC
Patricia Elder	POTL
Apologies	
Ranee Crosby, Kim Gebers, Melinda Loudon, Sharon Hoops	POTL
David Wainwright	DSITI
Peta Connelly	TBSH
Wendy Tubman	NQCC
Damien Farrington	QLD Health
James Hobbs	Community Rep
Tracey Bauer	South 32 - Cannington
Gavin Hammond	TCC
Melissa McKeown	TCC
Juliette Sperber	NSS

1. Welcome, Introductions

David Donohue welcomed attendees and noted the apologies for the meeting.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes of the August meeting were adopted unchanged.

3. Report on Communication Processes

In Sharon's absence, Graeme Nielsen (South32) provided some comments, noting that Sharon was attending a Queensland Ports workshop where communication was a topic and that she would be in a position to brief the PSWG next meeting.

Action: Sharon to brief PSWG on communication/workshop outputs at the October meeting.

General discussion on the potential to coat-tail PSWG communication/media onto the back of other activities – noting the POTL Community Information Session and NSS Opening.

Agreement to prepare some media comment for proactive issue when the XAct monitor is commissioned.

PSWG members to advise Sharon or David D on any potential opportunities for comment.

4. EHP Update

Chris provided a briefing on the new XAct monitoring equipment:

Commissioning was proving more difficult than anticipated due to power supply issues – when all four pieces of monitoring equipment run (3 x High Vol samplers, 1 x XAct sampler) simultaneously the power supply is insufficient and trips out due to peak load problems.

It is preferred that the units run at the same time so that data is consistent.

DEHP has not yet released data as it is premature until the unit is completely calibrated and providing data consistent with that from the existing equipment. Once DEHP has confidence in the reliability of the data it will be released into the public domain.

Noted the article in today's Townsville Bulletin "Long Delay in Lead Monitor" noting that the installation and commissioning takes as long as it needs to provide reliable data.

Initial release of the XAct data will be in the existing format as used in Mount Isa, with the previously discussed "tweaks" coming later.

Discussion on what if any leverage can be applied to POTL and or Ergon Energy to rectify the power supply issues – noting it is complicated as it is not known within whose system the supply constraint occurs.

Action: No action to be taken pending further request from DEHP for support.

Chris advised that the planned Priority Development Area may have an impact on the long-term siting of the monitoring station. DEHP would prefer not to move it, but will work with relevant parties as and when it becomes an issue.

Action: PSWG to monitor and support DEHP as required.

Chris noted that there may be a benefit in expanding the current community monitoring network in Townsville as the current system is a "ring fence" around the Port without secondary more distant monitoring to provide ambient environmental levels – noting that the previous Strand unit had been removed.

It may be possible to redeploy the existing Pimlico unit to a more suitable location.

Clive queried DEHP on the links between environmental and blood lead levels, raising the potential for community testing. DEHP responded that situation is monitored by Q Health and that current levels at Coast Guard are compliant with the Air EPP.

5. DSITI Report

In the absence of David W, Chris provided an update on the content on the June 2015 Air Quality Bulletin.

Observed trends are positive and once again the only local exceedance of standards was localised dust at the North Ward site believed to be due to localised grounds maintenance at the Sports Reserve.

Action: DSITI to circulate the June 2015 Air Quality Bulletin to PSWG.

In the absence of David W, there was no update on possible air quality standards for Townsville.

Action: DSITI to provide update on possible air quality standards for Townsville at the October meeting.

6. Regulator Reports

Nil new to report.

7. General Business

NSS Opening – members who attended commented favourably on the new facility and the event, noting it as a good opportunity for others to see the work being done within the port precinct to improve environmental performance.

Correlation between emission spikes and port activity – Clive queried if DEHP had found any correlation between the previous data spikes and known port activity. Chris advised that DEHP were continuing to analyse the information they have and that it would be premature to discuss the findings at the PSWG at this time.

Noted that port shipping data is available on the POTL website and that the DEHP monitoring provides both wind direction and speed.

Action: Links to POTL shipping data and DEHP weather monitoring to be provided to PSWG.

8. Meeting Close

Next meeting to be held Friday 30 October 2015 at 10:00am. Hopefully in a larger room as the temporary facility was too small even for the reduced number of attendees.

Possible public comment – to be released in conjunction with commissioning of the XAct sampler:

- Commend DSITI and DEHP on their work to get the system online
- Identify near-real-time monitoring as a significant tool in improving knowledge on impacts of port activities
- Note that the trend in airborne lead and dust is going in a favourable direction

David Donohue, Chair

Date