

## COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP

ENVIRONMENTAL FEEDBACK HOTLINE: 1800 368 737  
EPA ENVIRONMENT LINE: 1300 372 842

## MEETING NOTES

Wednesday, 12 October 2022 at 5:30pm

Chaired By: Susan McNair (Currie)

Online – Zoom

Note Taker: Jenny Tran (Currie)

## ATTENDEES

MEMBER NAME	27/02/19	17/04/19	26/06/19	11/09/19	23/10/19	26/2/20	24/2/21	23/06/21	20/10/21	12/10/22
<b>Community members</b>										
Jim Houlahan (JH)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Ian Jenz (IJ)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Thelma Wakelam (TW)	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Tony O'Hara (TOH)	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Paul Richardson (PR)	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
<b>Council members</b>										
Warren Wood (WW)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes
Cr Angela Long (AL)	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes

## GUESTS AND STAFF

**EPA:** Bianca Sigismundi (BS)

**Veolia:** Chris Watkins (CW), Steven Marshall (SM), Mark Globan (MG), Tai Truong (TT)

**Ventia:** John Lucas (JL)

**Spence Consulting:** Rob Spence (RS)

## FACILITATOR

Susan McNair (SMc)

## APOLOGIES

Ian Jenz

## GLOSSARY

ADD	Authorisation of discharges or disposal. Section 157 authorisation of discharges or disposal (ADD) is used for situations of temporary emergency, temporary relief or for repair and decommissioning
EPA	Environment Protection Authority Victoria
Cat A/B/C	Category A/B/C waste. Waste is classified into different categories based on how hazardous the waste is
HRL	Hallam Road Landfill
LFG	Landfill gas

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PFAS	Per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances which are a group of manufactured chemicals
TOR	Terms of reference
TPH	Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons
TRL	Taylors Road Landfill

## RECORD OF DISCUSSION

### 1 WELCOME AND AGENDA (Facilitator)

- SMC welcomed everyone to the meeting and went through the agenda
- Each participant provided a brief introduction of themselves to the group

### 2 GOVERNANCE (Facilitator)

- SMC introduced herself as the new facilitator of the Taylors Road Landfill CRG as part of Veolia's refreshed approach to community engagement
- Previous meeting minutes were confirmed, no outstanding actions were noted
- New CRG Terms of Reference (TOR) were outlined to the group, including feedback around honorary membership, and will be shared in coming weeks for community member feedback.
- Recruitment to the CRG will be undertaken in the coming months.

**ACTION 1:** Currie to share the draft TOR for community member feedback

### 3 COMPANY UPDATE (Chris Watkins, Landfills Manager, Veolia)

- Veolia – Suez merger completed early 2022
- SUEZ still exists as the water business but is a separate entity
- SM is General Manager of Resource Recovery, MG, National Resource Recovery Transformation Lead and CW, Landfills Manager

### 4 SITE UPDATE (Chris Watkins, Operations Manager – Hallam & Taylors Road, Veolia) – see 'Veolia TRL Operations Update' slides below

#### LANDFILL UPDATE

- Landfill work has been business as usual.
- Yearly tonnage c.40,000 tonnes – project based with limited regular volumes.
- Clinical waste is not currently being accepted at TRL.
- TOH asked the life span for Cell 12c.
- CW answered that clinical waste is very hard to compact and takes a lot of airspace. Still a long time before the cell is filled.
- Cat C soil cover – Cat C is being used as cover to reduce the amount of virgin material required.
- It also provides better financial incentives as the levy gets charged on soil coming in.
- TOH asked about the current process for covering the Cat C soil and if the daily protective cover is still being used, with reference to the trial spray system.
- MG: Dust suppressant had been used during a trial period, tested, monitored and iterated for almost 8 years, and the requirement changed over time.

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- TOH believes this was originally an EPA requirement and that Cat C would require covering or a dust suppressant daily.
  - BS commented that Veolia would have gone through EPA's approval process for Cat C soil cover and she can follow up on the assessment that was done for the trial Cat C soil cover.
  - CW noted that almost all the metropolitan landfills have EPA permission to use Cat C soil for cover.
  - TW asked if the Cat C soil actually changes a great deal and what it consists of.
  - CW explained that there are different sets of criteria for contaminated soil. In many cases, soils classified as Cat C contain contaminants that are entirely naturally occurring and are lower than limits in human health guidelines for contaminated land.
  - TW asked to have more information on Cat C soil, what's being used and the permission sought
  - CW assured that there were huge amounts of monitoring data accumulated over time from these trials and Veolia has got management plans and monitoring systems in place. What is termed Cat C now vs in 2014 are not the same, and while it's not clean soil from a waste classification perspective, in many cases it would be considered clean for other uses such as contaminated land or housing conditions.
  - TOH commented that if the soil didn't have any contaminants, it wouldn't have been categorised.
  - JH asked if CW could explain how Cat C soil is being monitored at the next meeting.
  - Reference to Soil Processing Facility update to be provided later in the meeting.

**ACTION 2:** EPA to provide more information on the assessment for Cat C soil.

**ACTION 3:** CW to present how Cat C soil is being monitored at the next meeting.

### LEACHATE MANAGEMENT

- Consistent leachate discharges over the past year have meant that our leachate levels remain within the EPA license requirements.
- About 16ML discharged to date.
- EPA ADD permission is in place for 120 days to transfer leachate from HRL for treatment and discharge to sewer through the existing infrastructure on site which has significant capacity.
- JH asked if the leachate is stored for 120 days and then discharged into the Melbourne water sewer.
- CW clarified that there is a trade waste agreement that governs the sewer discharge. It doesn't matter if the sewer originates from the HRL or TRL, as long as the testing parameters are met and the sewer discharge rate is not exceeded.

### LANDFILL GAS

- EDL contract ended, so no more gas to Berwick.
  - Hired flare in place managing landfill gas (LFG) on site.
  - Permanent flare procurement in progress.
  - JH asked if there is much difference in emission when comparing the flaring with combustion in internal combustion engine.
  - CW answered that there isn't much difference as they both have similar destruction efficiency. The only difference is how the gas is destroyed, and that the engines would generate power as well.
  - See slide 6 and 7 for photos of Cell 12c filling.
  - WW asked for progress on the project with EPA on redoing the contours of the site.
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- CW said there was progress on it but was unsure where it's landed. MG added that the work is on the list.
- WW asked for comments on the Minister issuing a permit for materials recycling early this year.
- MG said that Veolia looked at the permitting of a site for the packaging of organic wastes and beverages. They applied and were granted but no development is started as yet.
- WW added that the permit was issued with a condition that it ceases when the landfill ceases.
- MG commented that it's an interesting concept and he'd like to discuss with the group around circular economy and resource recovery.
- SM clarified that any of the organics recovered, and any of the other materials recovered from that won't be disposed at the landfill. It's purely the packaging.
- General discussion around the ice pigging operation not having a permit.
- CW said Veolia is aware of the issue and he'll come back to WW on that.

**ACTION 4:** MG to talk about landfill in the context of circular economy and resource recovery at next meeting.

**ACTION 5:** CW to come back to WW on the permit for the ice pigging operation.

### 5 SOIL WASHING PLANT (Mark Globan, National Resource Recovery Transformation Lead, Veolia) – see 'Soil Washing Plant – Project' slides below

- A brief explanation of the landfill levy situation, and an introduction of the soil processing facility which remediates contaminated soils and aggregates into clean products for reuse.
- MG introduced Tai Truong as the Facility Manager for Earthsure.
- MG explained the need for the facility within the Victorian market and provided an introduction of the Earthsure Joint Venture. See slide 2.
- Ventia established Soil Washing Plant at RAAF Edinburgh, SA in 2020 which successfully treated 12,000 tonnes PFAS impacted soils. The facility can treat generic (metals, TPH) Cat C soil.
- The opportunity to relocate the soil washing plant to Taylors Road subject to the necessary regulatory approvals in Victoria.
- MG explained the soil washing technology and how it works. See slides 4 – 9.
- TT explained the process of removing contaminants in soils through the plant.
- JL explained the comprehensive water treatment system controlling different elements (e.g. pH level, acidity, alkalinity, etc.) of water. See slide 9.
- TOH asked about the location of the soil washing plant on the TRL site.
- MG answered the proposed location is in the southwest corner of the site. See slide 10.

### PROJECT STATUS

- First client (NEL) negotiations near complete.
- Planning permit and EPA licence application lodged and under consideration. See a list of factors taken into consideration on slide 11.
- CRG information meeting (and subsequent site visit) for feedback.
- Plant ready for mobilisation from SA to VIC.
- Construction timeline to establishment 3-6 months.
- Commission and operational – subject to approvals.
- JL showed a drone footage of the plant in Edinburgh.

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### OTHER COMMENTS

- TOH asked (1) about the dust suppression at the initial soil loading stage and (2) where the materials extracted from the soil (Cat A) go.
- TT explained there are two options to remediate Cat A – thermal processing and stabilisation.
- The most expeditious and economical solution is stabilisation – the process involves the blending of the contaminated waste with suitable binding agents to ensure the heavy metals don't migrate from the parent waste. The soil processing facility can accept Cat A waste on premise where it gets treated down to a Cat B classification where it can then be approved for disposal into Cell 12C.
- TT confirmed there will be a system implemented to ensure no fugitive emission leaving the front end when the soil feed hopper is being loaded.
- WW asked is the planning permit with the Minister.
- RS asked if the permit is with the planning department at this stage.
- The next CRG is planned to be in person and will involve a tour of the facility. Veolia will be recruiting new people to the CRG and all will be invited to this site visit.
- SMC advised CRG members to identify their networks and make recommendations for additional members.
- TW requested acronyms to be written out in meeting minutes.

**ACTION 6:** CRG members to complete nomination forms and make recommendations for additional members.

**ACTION 7:** Acronyms to be expressed in full terms before being abbreviated in meeting minutes.

### 6 EPA update (Bianca Sigismundi, EPA)

- EPA is reviewing the soil washing plant's application from Veolia.
- BS acknowledged the community consultation and said that it's one of the things EPA wants to see before making any sort of decision.
- BS explained that the ADD (authorisation for discharge or disposal) is the old 30A emergency discharge which was the EPA mechanism used to approve receipt of clinical waste under the old Act

### 1. MEETING CLOSED 6:30pm

ACTION TRACKER			
Item	Action	Who	Due
1	Currie to share the draft TOR for community member feedback.	Currie	October 2022
2	EPA to provide more information on the assessment for Cat C soil.	EPA	Next meeting
3	CW to present how Cat C soil is being monitored at the next meeting.	Veolia	Next meeting
4	MG to talk about landfill in the context of circular economy and resource recovery at next meeting.	Veolia	Next meeting

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5	CW to come back to WW on the permit for the ice pigging operation.	Veolia	October 2022
6	CRG members to complete nomination forms and make recommendations for additional members.	CRG members	November 2022
7	Acronyms to be expressed in full terms before being abbreviated in meeting minutes.	Currie	Ongoing



# Veolia TRL Operations Update

*TRL Community Reference Group*

*12th October 2022*



# Company Update

- Veolia – SUEZ merger completed early 2022
- SUEZ still exists as the water business but is a separate entity
- TRL is now a Veolia-owned site and will be rebranded in due course
- Veolia is a multinational (French-owned) company with 5800 employees in ANZ, and 230,000 employees worldwide
- Structure changes:
  - Steve Marshall – General Manager – Resource Recovery, Victoria
  - Mark Globan – National Resource Recovery Transformation Lead
  - Chris Watkins – Landfills Manager, Victoria



# Landfill Update

- Business as usual
- Yearly tonnage c. 40,000 tonnes – project based with limited ‘regular’ volumes
- Clinical waste acceptance
- Cat C soil cover



# Leachate Management

- Consistent leachate discharges over the past year have meant that our leachate levels remain within the EPA licence requirements
- Approximately 16ML discharged 2022 to date
- EPA ADD permission is in place to transfer leachate from Hallam Road Landfill for treatment and discharge to sewer through the existing infrastructure on site which has significant capacity.

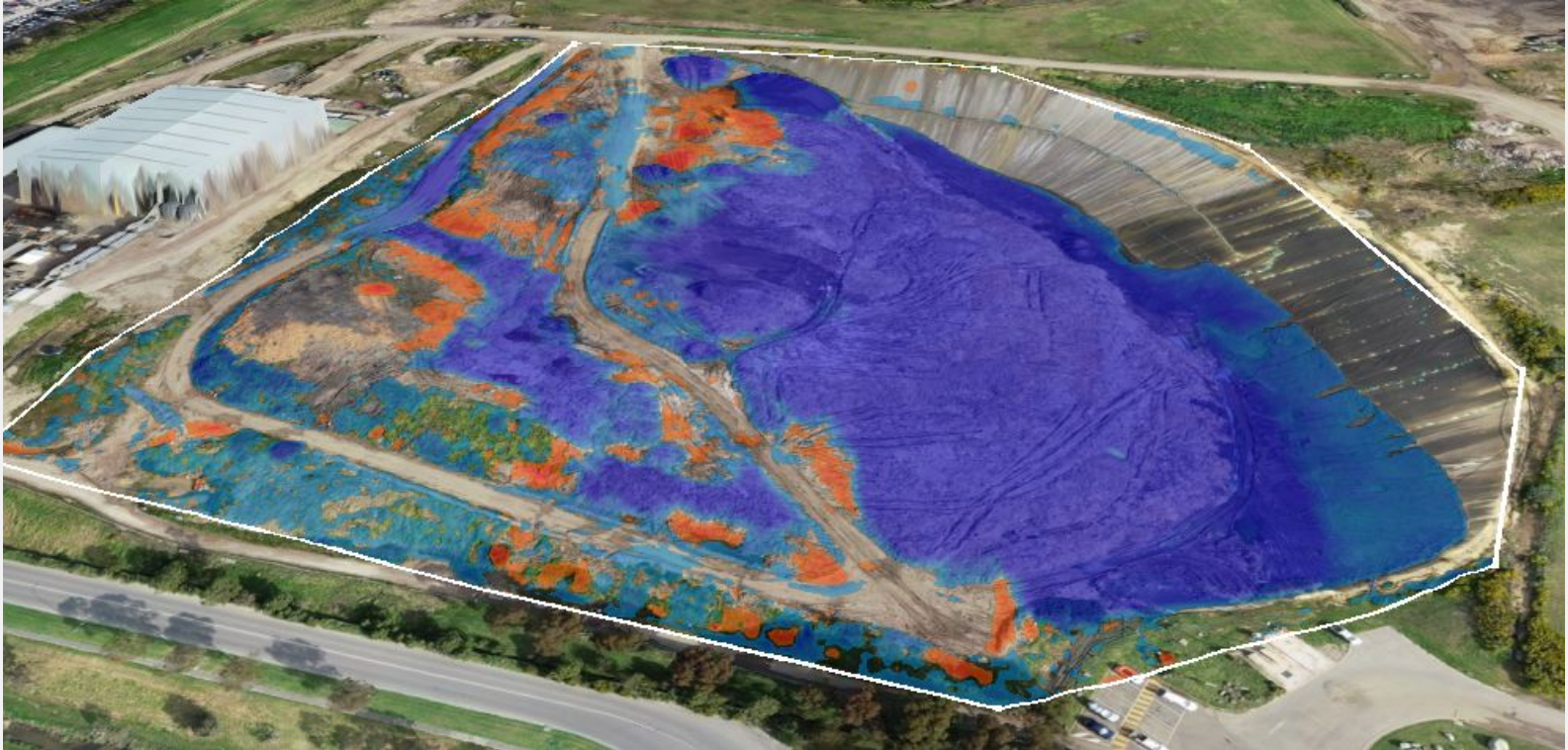


# Landfill Gas

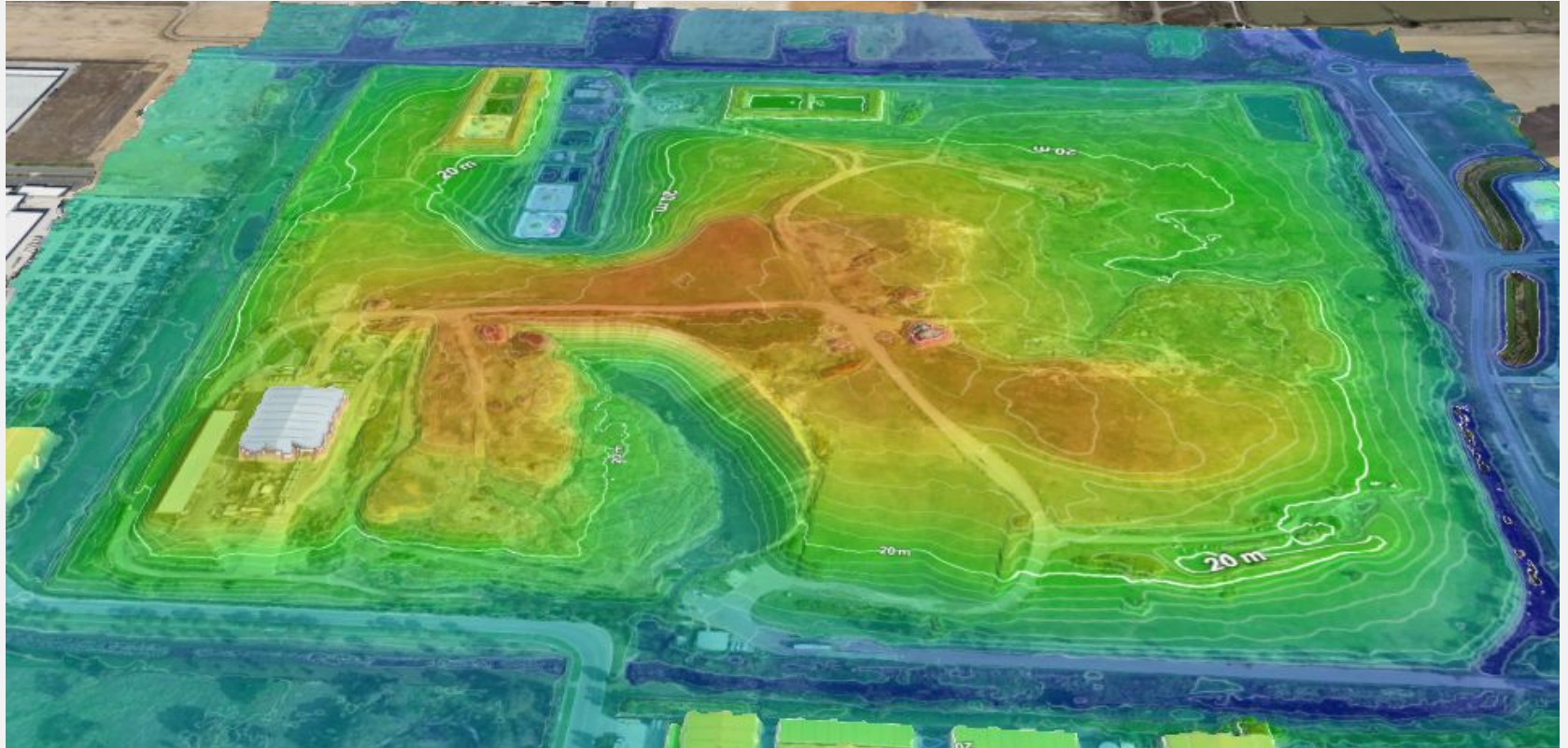
- EDL contract ended, so no more gas to Berwick
- Hired flare in place managing LFG on site
- Permanent flare procurement in progress



# Cell 12c Filling Update



# Cell 12c Filling Update





**Soil Washing Plant - Project  
EarthSure Materials Recycling Facility**

**CRG Briefing 12 Oct 2022**

**890 Taylors Road, Dandenong South**

# Project – The Why

- Vic Government undertaking manager infrastructure projects
  - North East Link Tunnel Project - 740,000 tonnes of soil
  - Suburban Rail Link – to be confirmed
  - Regional Rail Projects – 100,000+ tonnes
  - Level Crossing Removal – 500,000+ tonnes per annum
  - General soil market - 600,000+ tonnes Category C per annum
- The EarthSure Joint Venture
  - Suitable site
    - Zoned appropriately
    - Co-location
  - Waste management expertise
  - Technology and knowhow
  - Landfill avoidance
  - Meeting the circular economy targets / expectations

# Soil Washing Plant



Ventia established Soil Washing Plant at RAAF Edinburgh, SA in 2020



Successfully treated 12,000 tonnes PFAS impacted soils. The plant is suitable for treating generic (metals, TPH) Category C Soils



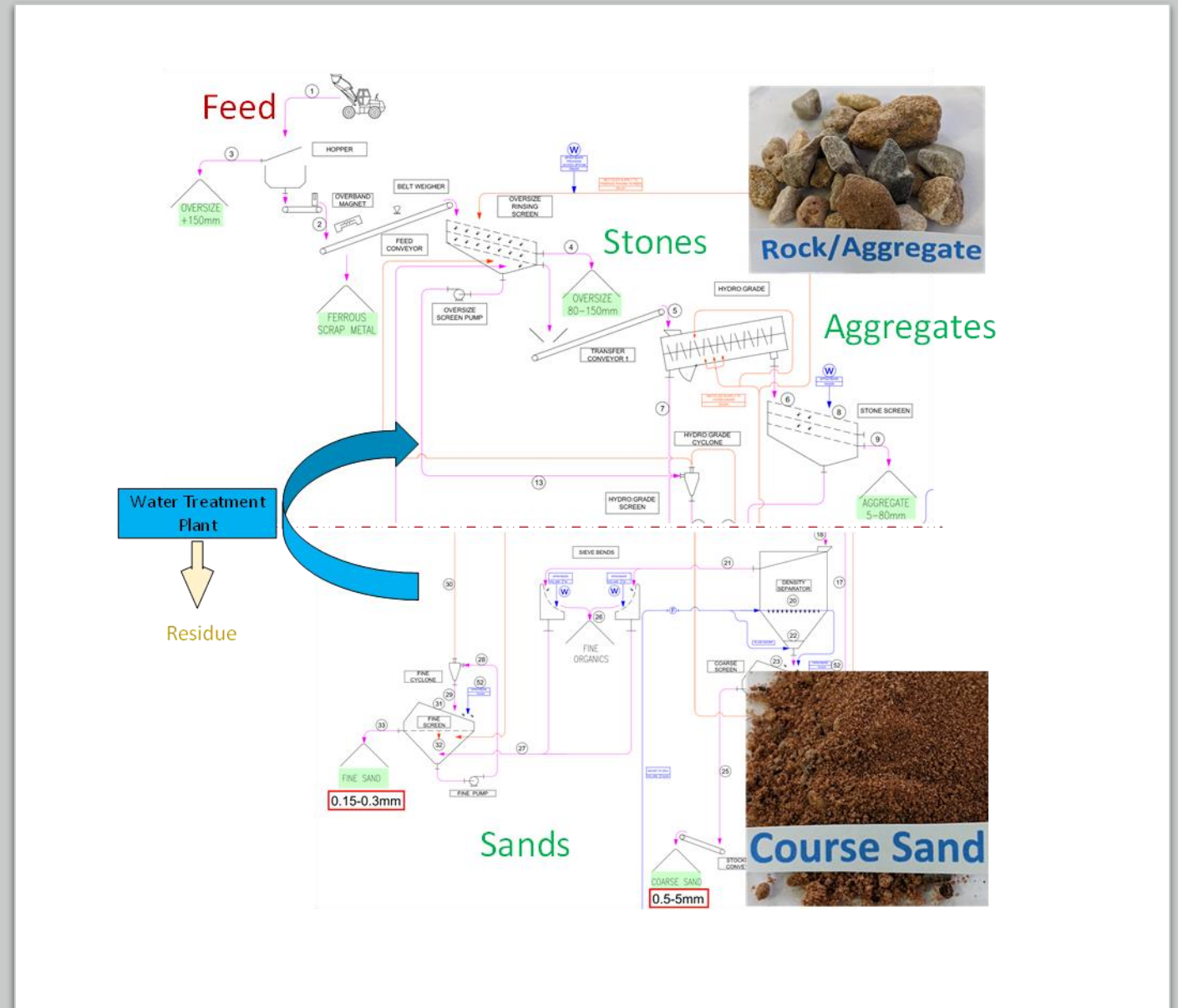
The opportunity exists to relocate the SWP to Taylors Road subject to the necessary regulatory approvals in Victoria





# Soil Washing Technology

- Basic setups applied to C&D wastes.
- More advanced can be used for contaminated soils.
- A series of unit operations to achieve separation based on particle density and particle size – **screens, sieves, cyclones, wet washers...**
- The feed can be a variety of contaminated soil/solids.
- A variety of products (**stones, aggregates, sands ie construction materials**) result, highly suitable for re-use.
- The contaminants report to small concentrated streams and require subsequent treatment (thermal)
- **The 'smarts' are in configuration, surface chemistry and operations**



# Soil Washing Plant – example unit operations

Water Sprays



Screen Decks



Clean Products (+80 mm)

# Soil Washing Plant – example operations

Conveying (Moist) Materials



Fine Screen Decks



Clean Products (sands)

# Soil Washing Plant – example unit operations

Sieve Bends



Clean Products (Fines)

Water Clarifier



Fines Settle and then centrifuged

# Soil Washing Plant – example unit operations

## Comprehensive Water Treatment System

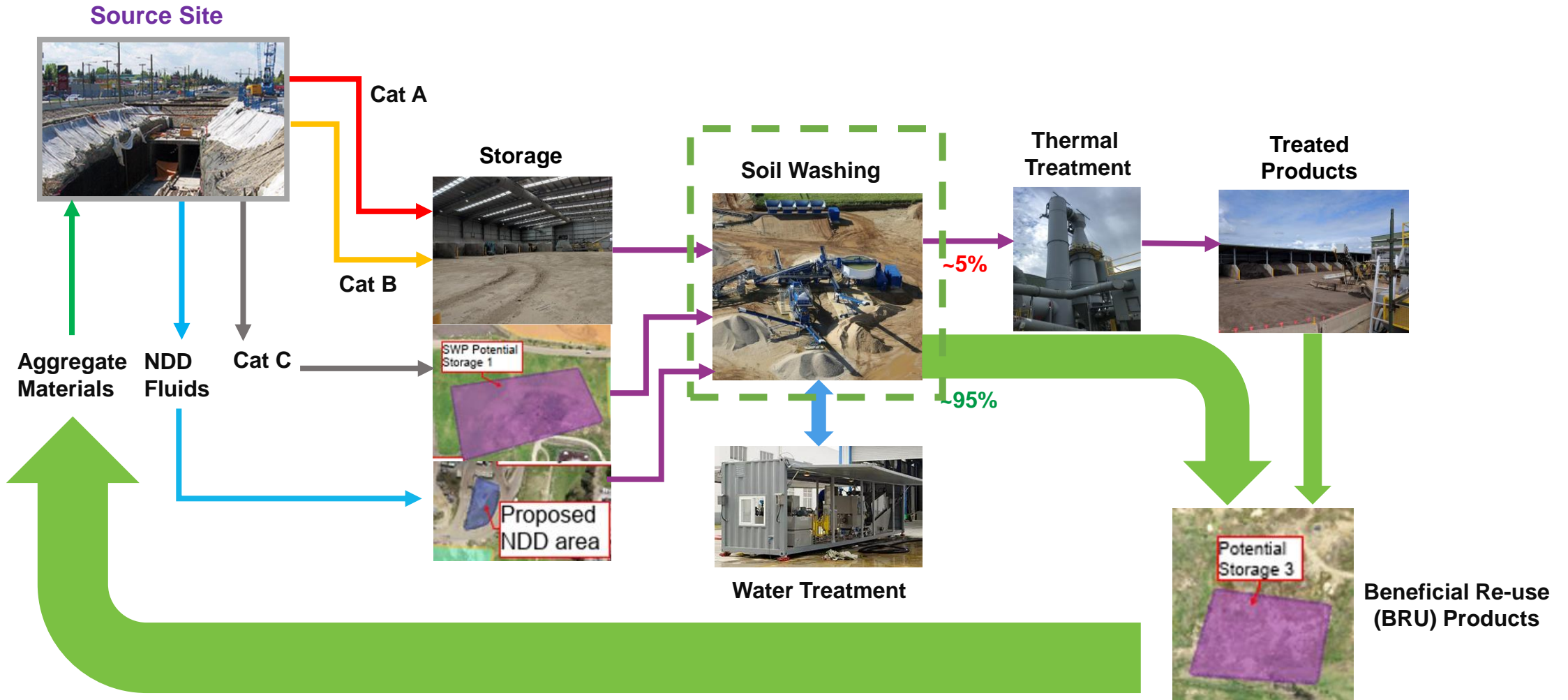


- Sand Filters
- Granular Activated Carbon Beds
- Ion Exchange Beds

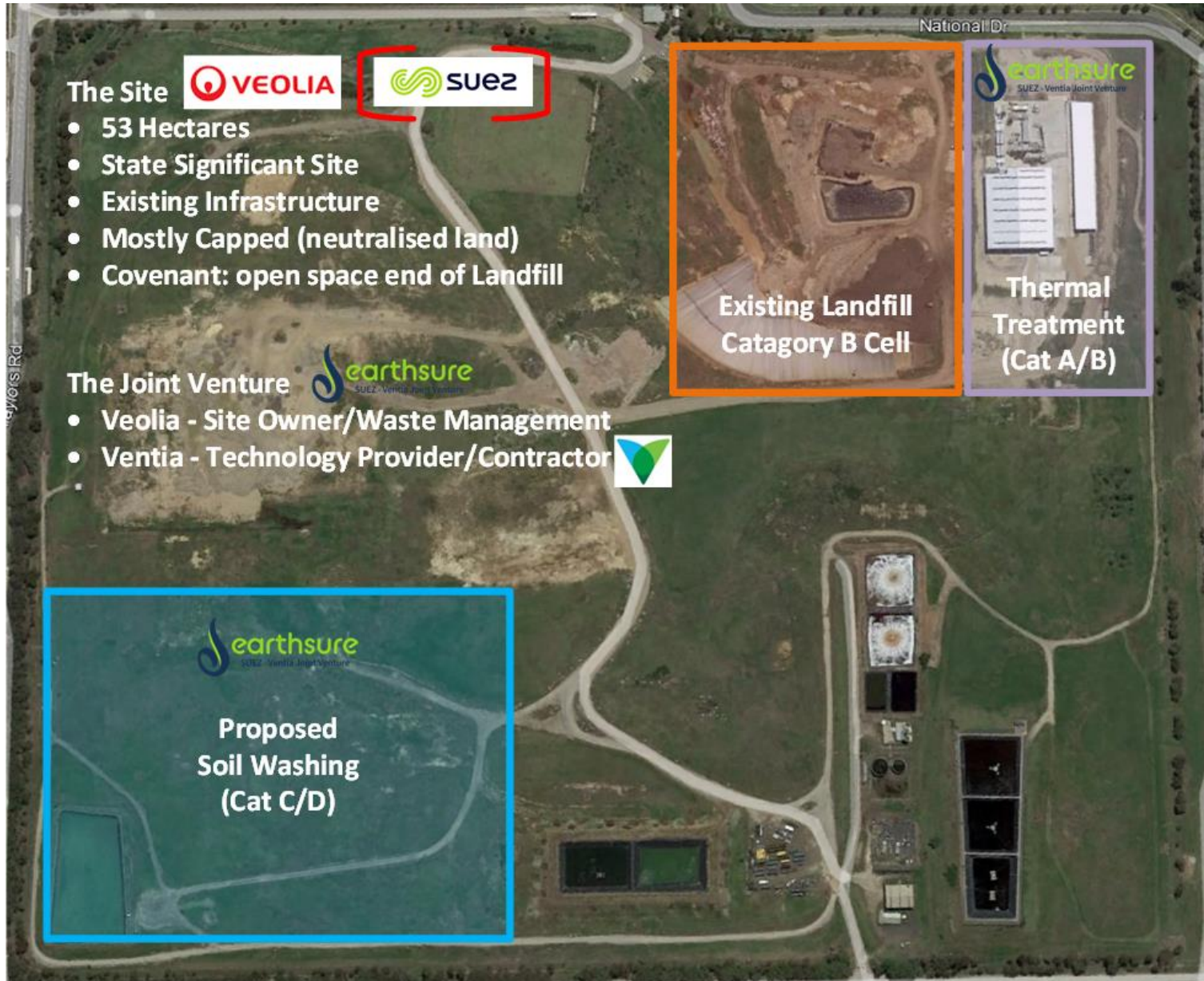


Flocculant/Coagulant Dosing Delivery Station

# Soil Washing closes the Loop at EarthSure



# Proposed Location



# Project Status

- First Client (NEL) negotiations near complete.
- Planning Permit and EPA Licence Applications lodged and under consideration
  - **Noise** - noise level at the adjacent noise sensitive areas will be well below the noise limits by a sufficient margin
  - **Air quality and odour** - Calculated emission rates of key pollutants are noted to be very low & Level 2 odour assessment identify the development as a low odour risk
  - **Stormwater management** - The clean stormwater generated on the treated stockpiles is to be directed to stormwater system within the TRL. The contaminated stormwater directed towards existing leachate Ponds 4 and 5.
  - **Traffic impacts** - The proposed development is expected to have a negligible impact on the surrounding road network when compared to the existing operation
  - **Geotech** – study indicates suitable development
- CRG Information meeting (and subsequent site visit)
- Plant ready for mobilisation from SA to VIC
- Construction timeline to establishment 3-6 months
- Commission and operational – subject to approvals.