



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

# **AGENDA**

Date: 5.30pm, for 5.45pm start, Tuesday, 10 October 2023

Location: Taylors Road Landfill, 870 Taylors Road, Dandenong South

#### **ATTENDEES**

MEMBER NAME	26/2/20	24/2/21	23/06/21	20/10/21	12/10/22	14/12/22	29/03/23	28/06/23	10/10/230
Jim Houlahan (JH)	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
lan Jensz (IJ)	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Thelma Wakelam (TW)	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Tony O'Hara (TOH)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

#### **GUESTS AND STAFF**

• EPA: Adam Rayner (AR), Jo Prendergast (JP)

• Veolia: Mark Globan (MG), Ashley Kelly (AK)

• City of Greater Dandenong: Warren Wood (WW)

#### **FACILITATOR**

Susan McNair (SMc)

#### **APOLOGIES**

• Tai Truong (Earthsure), Lachlan James (Veolia), Jim Houlahan (community member)

Background materials: June meeting minutes

#### 5:45pm WELCOME AND AGENDA (Facilitator)

SM welcomed all to the meeting and shared apologies.

In making introductions, AK and MG shared that Steve Marshall and Chris Watkins are no longer with Veolia, and MG has been appointed General Manager, Resource Recovery, Vic. MG will be a key Veolia representative at the TRLCRG meetings going forward. Veolia also hopes to have a new appointment in Chris Watkin's former role to share in November.

JP was also introduced as the new community engagement officer from EPA.

#### 5:50pm ADMINISTRATION (Facilitator)

The June meeting minutes were accepted.

Actions outstanding were covered:

1 Veolia to continue to investigate the current status of hazardous/ non-hazardous waste percentage and refer to the group – Veolia is still working on this and will revert with detail prior to the next CRG in December.



#### **COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP**

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

2 Follow up with Department of Planning with invite to CRG to provide update on contour plan – No progress made. WW will reach out to Department to extend another request.

3 Confirm date of next CRG meeting – Next meeting will be combined with the Hallam Road Landfill CRG and held on Wednesday, 6 December. More details will follow.

#### **6:00pm SITE UPDATE** (Mark Globan, Veolia)

MG provided an update on operations.

**General site update** – incoming volumes, pretty quiet, lot of inbound is packaging and the like, and some projects involving asbestos remediation.

**EarthSure** – waiting for some of the larger infrastructure projects to come online. Expect volume to begin to increase next week.

**Notices and actions** – received an infringement notice on 13 September, having failed to provide a report on the groundwater quality at TRL on time. This was purely an administrative issue with no risk to the environment or community. Veolia has paid the notice.

**Leachate management** – still in the process of looking to amend the landfill EPA licence to accept leachate from Hallam Road Landfill at Taylors Road Landfill leachate ponds. As previously explained to the group, the EPA has previously approved this under an emergency permit. Veolia has submitted a Risk Management and Monitoring Program, which the EPA will review in the coming weeks.

**EarthSure Development Licence exemption application** – Veolia/Ventia are anticipating a spike in demand for soil treatment as a result of large infrastructure projects coming online. To manage this, Veolia/Ventia are seeking to use a larger area near the Soil Treatment Shed to store soil. Currently soil can only be stored in the shed. This proposed area will take up to 40,000 tonnes of low odour, non PFAS impacted Category C soil and is located on fully rehabilitated landfill cells (cells 11 and 15).

The community members at the meeting expressed some concern and confusion over this request for an exemption. Veolia confirmed this is a proposed application at this stage, and the business is raising it early with the community to ensure any concerns are addressed and they are transparent in their actions. IJ: Will the soil be exposed to the wind and weather or covered?

MG confirmed that the soil would be exposed, and that it would be stored in a similar way to the soil for the Soil Washing facility on the other side of the site which had already received an exemption.

ToH: The shed for the treatment plant was built to minimize dust. It doesn't make sense that you can now store soil outside. Will the factories on the east side be informed/notified and consulted as the change involves Cat C soil, even if there is no PFAS present, and there is significant potential for dust?

MG acknowledged that he did not have the detail around the proposed exemption application and that he would seek more information to provide the CRG. He expected the application to include similar information, meet similar requirements and to be assessed in the same way as the Soil Washing facility storage site exemption. He said in requesting the exemption, Veolia would be doing everything necessary to meet requirements specified by the EPA. MG reiterated that the proposed site was not on the top of a hill, despite the impression given in the illustration provided.

AR: There is a process that the EPA will go through in assessing the application for an exemption. We will be assessing the risk of dust and run-off, they will be the primary considerations. Under the General Environmental Duty, Veolia has a responsibility to maintain relationships with neighbours and to consider whether anything is going over the boundaries. The EPA will be watching it very closely.

IJ asked it be noted that he be provided an opportunity to discuss the application in detail, and that a wind barrier be integrated into the design.



#### **COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP**

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

**Action October 1:** Veolia to provide additional information with regard to the planned exemption application, namely:

- confirmed size of additional storage area
- · confirmed location and aspect of the area
- proposed management of dust
- type of Cat C soil it will store, confirmation of where Cat A and B soil will be stored, and how this will be managed.

A discussion and series of questions regarding the management of Cat C soil followed. Residents raised questions around how it could be used as daily cover in the general operations of the landfill sought clarification and detail around the risks this posed. ToH subsequently asked what particular contaminants are found in Cat C soil, and what is being required to keep the cat c suppressed in current landfill operations. Further discussion took place around the trial process that Veolia undertook in order to use Cat C as daily cover (5-6 years ago) and the use of suppressant in the trial.

**Action October 2:** Veolia to provide detail regarding use of Cat C as daily cover in the general operations of the site, what management requirements make up the exemption provided to use Cat C as a daily cover, and what data was gathered through the trial period of Cat C being used as daily cover (5-7 years ago).

**Soil washing facility update** – The Department of Transport and Planning granted approval to advertise the project. This was conducted in September with boards on the site frontage, advertising in the local paper and a letterbox drop. The Minister or delegate will now make a decision regarding the application. Veolia anticipates there will be conditions on the permit. AK sort assurance from the group that each was receiving the email blasts containing updates on this process.

Discussion followed with community members asking for more detail on the exemption provided at the soil washing facility for a 140,000 storage pad. AR confirmed that risks and requirements were assessed during the exemption period, and controls were submitted to allow for the exemption to occur. He said EPA would be monitoring the operation of these controls.

MG confirmed that the Soil Washing facility doesn't have an operating licence as yet. Veolia will develop a management plan that will require endorsement.

Discussion reverted back to the exemption application for the soil treatment plant.

WW: Why does some of the Cat C soil need to go through a soil washing facility and other cat c needs to go through the furnace (soil treatment plant)?

MG said the thermal plant is like 'mixing a cake'. It has certain ingredient requirements for operation. Both plants serve the same purpose of meeting the Government's commitment to develop a circular economy. We are doing mass builds but we're running out of virgin resources. This facility is able to separate those resources out. It is possible we'll have clean fill going through it. As a commercial business, Veolia will maximise its use.

IJ: Remember that you are 10m above everyone. While I don't see the wash plant as an issue. I do think the storage for the soil treatment plant is a concern. How are you going to keep it on site?

MG said covering this off is required as part of the application process. We have to provide risk assessments about how we are going manage it, submit this to the EPA, and have it accepted. Like anything we do, we have measures in place to minimize that risk. Do note that where it is located is actually in the lower part of the landfill.

AR reiterated that even once an exemption is approved, Veolia still has a duty, and if the controls aren't working, more layers of controls will be required. EPA considered measures at the start, but we monitor on an on-going basis. And we are able to add extra requirements.

WW recommended that Veolia clearly communicate what the waste looks like and how it is used.

ToH: Does the feedback we provide get passed on to project managers at Veolia?

MG and AK confirmed the community concerns and queries get supplied to others within the Veolia business.



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

**Cell 20 and 21** – continue to be open for commercial industrial waste. The action to provide detail of the Hazardous/Non Hazardous waste % was carried forward.

**Community engagement -** AK reported he had reached out to the retirement home who had indicated that so long as the site did not undertake Energy from Waste activities, they had no issues. Likewise, initial communication with Amazon had resulted in no follow up.

The TRL and Earthsure community update page is now live on the Veolia website, and broadcast emails are being shared when immediate site updates are required.

The sign at the gate of the facility has been raised as an action with the marketing team. They are also undertaking an update to the brochure and website for EarthSure.

#### 6:40pm EPA UPDATE (Adam Rayner, EPA)

AR talked to the infringement notice detailed in the Veolia presentation, and an improvement notice issued regarding the Risk Management Monitoring Program. These are being worked through, as are the leachate sump exceedances. These exceedances are nothing to do with capacity, but that levels are higher than expected.

#### 6:45pm OTHER BUSINESS

Contour plan – Community members sought clarity around the contour plan as the version on the EPA licence is different to the one that is on the endorsed planning permit. It is Veolia's responsibility to ensure the contour plan is completed.

Action October #3: Veolia to share the contour plan to which it is working.

7:00pm MEETING CLOSED



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

Action tracker:							
Item	Action	Who	Date				
Action June #1	Veolia to continue to investigate the current status of hazardous/ non-hazardous waste percentage and refer to the group — Veolia is still working on this and will revert with detail prior to the next CRG in December.	Veolia	Next meeting				
Action June #2	Follow up with Department of Planning with invite to CRG to provide update on contour plan – No progress made.	WW will reach out to Department to extend another request.	Before Dec meeting				
Action October #1 :	Veolia to provide additional information with regard to the planned exemption application, namely:  • confirmed size of additional storage area  • confirmed location and aspect of the area  • proposed management of dust  • type of Cat C soil it will store, confirmation of where Cat A and B soil will be stored, and how this will be managed.  • type of Cat C soil it will store, confirmation of where Cat A and B soil will be stored, and how this will be managed.	Veolia	Before Dec meeting				
Action October #2:	Veolia to provide detail regarding use of Cat C as daily cover in the general operations of the site, what management requirements make up the exemption provided to use Cat C as a daily cover, and what data was gathered through the trial period of Cat C being used as daily cover (5-7 years ago).		Next full meeting of TRL CRG - 2024				
Action October #3:	Veolia to share the contour plan to which it is working.	Veolia					
Action October #4	Confirm next meeting. Next meeting will be combined with the Hallam Road Landfill CRG and held on Wednesday, 6 December. More details will follow.	Facilitator					



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



# Taylors Road Landfill Community Reference Group

October 10, 2023

# **WELCOME**

#### **General Site Update**

- Incoming volumes landfill/ EarthSure processing
- Notices and actions summary

#### **Development Projects**

- Landfill contour change status
- Landfill leachate treatment update
- EarthSure soil washing facility
- EarthSure storage shed

#### **Other Business**

- Management changes
- Community engagement

#### **EPA Update**

Site update

# **GENERAL UPDATE**

- Landfill incoming volumes
- EarthSure processing



## **NOTICES AND ACTIONS**

Fined for administration

# Veolia fined for missed deadline

#### 13 September 2023

Failure to provide a report by the specified time has cost Veolia Recycling and Recovery Pty Ltd \$9,246.

EPA Victoria has fined the company after it failed to provide a report on the groundwater quality at its Taylors Rd, Dandenong South facility.

The testing and report are required to confirm groundwater has not been adversely affected by the company's activities and was due on 23 June, 2023, but still has not arrived.

"Veolia operates under an EPA licence and has to provide reports and information for us to ensure they are meeting their licence conditions," EPA South Metropolitan Melbourne Regional Manager Viranga Abeywickrema said.

"Not meeting a deadline means there is uncertainty about any possible environmental impact on the groundwater and that is something the community will not accept.

"Poor administrative management is no excuse and a fine will help ensure Veolia improves the management of its environmental obligations."

# OPERATIONAL UPDATE: LEACHATE MANAGEMENT AND TREATMENT

Currently looking to amend the landfill EPA licence to accept leachate at Taylors Road from Hallam Road to support treatment capacity and efficiency.

EPA previously approved this under an emergency permit.

#### S157 Process:

- Ricardo to complete Risk Management and Monitoring Program
- EPA to review
- Operating licence accepted
- Commencement of treatment



# **EarthSure - Development Licence Exemption Application: Storage Shed**

Veolia/ Ventia are seeking to use this temporary storage area to meet a spike in demand for soil treatment associated with large-scale infrastructure projects.

The storage area is proposed to store up to 40,000 tonnes of low odour, non PFAS impacted Category C soil, located on fully rehabilitated landfill cells.



# **OPERATIONAL UPDATE: SOIL WASHING**

- Ministers office reviewed
- Planning Notices Advertised
- What is next?



#### EarthSure: Soil Washing Facility Update

Dear Taylors Road Landfill Community Reference Group Members,

The proposed EarthSure Soil Washing Facility discussed in recent Community Reference Group meetings has made progress.

The Department of Transport and Planning has granted approval to advertise the project over a 14 day period. This is the next step in the application to amend the existing planning permit. The advertisement will be conducted from early September through the use of site signage, mail and a local newspaper advertising. Following this period the Minister or delegate will make an informed decision regarding the application.







2010-013898-3 You may look at the application and any documents that suppor the application at:

- The office of the responsible authority Minister for Planning (care of the Department of Transport and Planning) at 8 Nicholson Street, East Melbourne VIC 3002, This can be done during office hours and is free of charge. Please contact Development.Approvals@delwp.vic.gov.au to look at the
- application at the office of the responsible authority. · The website of the responsibly authority https://www.planning.vic.gov.au/permits-and-applications/ ministerial-permits/browse-ministerial-permits

Any person who may be affected by the granting of the permit may object or make other submissions to the responsible authority (Minister for Planning) at either:

. Post: PO Box 500, East Melbourne VIC 8002

. Email: Development.Approvals@delwp.vic.gov.au An objection must be made to the responsible authority in writing, include the reasons for the objection and state how the objector would be affected.

The responsible authority must make a copy of every objection available at its office for any person to inspect during office hours free of charge until the end of the period during which an application may be made for review of a decision on the application.

The Responsible Authority will not decide on the application before

The applicant for the permit is:

The application reference number is:

20 September 2023

If you object, the responsible authority will tell you it's decision.

# **OPERATIONAL UPDATE:** CELLS 20 & 21

Hazardous/ Non Hazardous waste %
 action to be carried forward



# OTHER BUSINESS MANAGEMENT CHANGES

#### Leaving:

- Landfills Manager Chris Watkins
- Resource Recovery General Manager Steven Marshall

#### Appointed:

Recovery General Manager - Mark Globan



## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Please keep sharing your local community and CRG feedback

#### Notes:

- Amazon noted that they had no concerns and declined the tour invitation
- Taylors Road/ EarthSure Community Updates page live
  - Features FAQs and project updates
  - The page will be updated as projects progress further
  - Broadcast emails will be sent to prompt about the site updates
- Following the last meeting site signage has been raised
- Improvements have been made to the EarthSure website Descriptive brochure included
- Site signage has been followed up

## COMMUNITY ENQUIRIES:

1800 368 737 community.vic@veolia.com

#### Taylors Road Landfill and EarthSure Community Updates

Community Updates will be updated periodically to best adliress current topics of interest



EarthSure - Veolia and Ventia Joint Venture







# **EPA: SITE UPDATE**



