



Used Lead Acid Battery Community Liaison Committee Meeting
21-Aug-24
7.00pm
Online

Minutes

Topic	Host
<p>Welcome Committee Members and Visitors Welcome new member Leigh Markham, replacing Samuel Armstrong as the representative for Hazelwood North Primary School.</p>	Philip Reichert
<p>Apologies Refer attached attendance sheet</p>	Philip Reichert
<p>Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting Approved by John Ellingham and Lorraine Bull</p>	Philip Reichert
<p>New Member Introductions Leigh Markham, Hazelwood North Primary School: I'm currently the president of the Hazelwood North Primary School School council. I'm an elected community member, which means my children don't go to the school, but I'm there as part of a part of the wider school community. Gillian Connolly, our principal, has asked me to attend these meetings. Either Gillian or myself will attend and the aim of our attendance is to try and relay information to the wider school community to address any questions, fears or potential risks and mitigate them for the school.</p>	Philip Reichert

<p>EPA Approval Update:</p> <p>At the moment we don't have any significant changes or updates. We are working on our third set of EPA clarifications and after we've answered the questions, we will resubmit the whole approval document to EPA. This will ensure there is no ambiguity across the report and subsequent submissions, and won't require the EPA and their consultants to look at various Addendums.</p> <p>We anticipate that we'll have the third lot of questions answered in the next two weeks and then another two weeks to prepare the revised report for submission.</p> <p>In addition, we have submitted another report to Fire Rescue Victoria including submission of an R129 form for Formal Report and Consent and we're waiting for their endorsement of our fire plan for the building.</p> <p>Question Philip Reichert (chair): I've seen Stacey's email response but she's an apology. Do you have an timeframe for the next step? Or is it still pending?</p> <p>Response Robin Krause (ULAB Project Coordinator): We're planning submission by the end of September. The EPA will then need time to review and come back with any further questions. By resubmitting the whole report and attaching the clarifications as an addendum, we expect there won't be issues about variations between the report and the clarifications.</p> <p>Question John Ellingham (Community Member): Did the EPA raise new issues? Is it going to be an ongoing issue that EPA raise new issues after each submission and this continues for the next 12-18 months?</p>	<p>Philip Reichert</p>
<p>Response Robin Krause (ULAB Project Coordinator): We've had face to face meetings with EPA with our consultants to understand the clarifications they are after. The focus of the clarifications is to remove ambiguity and to provide more detail. Examples include the arrangement of the acids processing area, terminology of waste and products such as fine lead grid, secondary containment (bundling) of lime slurry tank. The response will contain additional drawings which expand on the design of the area around the battery breaker and external to the factory where a number of silos are stored.</p> <p>Question Bronwyn Woodward (Community Member): Did the change of design of the building have anything to do with these further clarifications that the EPA has requested?</p> <p>Response Robin Krause (ULAB Project Coordinator): No the change of building size does relate to the clarifications. The change of the size of the building was to rearrange the casting area and remove the original plastic granulation process, which was originally designed to separate the plastics into colours. We've consolidated that area into a single granulator that does not sort colours and produces a single product for recycling.</p>	

Progress Report - General Status:

Question Philip Reichert (chair): I would like to confirm everyone has received the ULAB Project Activities document and was this what you were after?

Response Lorraine Bull (Latrobe Valley Sustainability Group): I think that's exactly what people have asked for, a timeline without dates on it. It's all making sense now. I would like to express my concern that a lot of other big projects are probably going to be starting around the same time so there's going to be a lot of competition for labour, local businesses and supplies to undertake the earthworks and that is before we actually get into the specialised construction.

Response Robin Krause (ULAB Project Coordinator): We are dependent on getting approval from the government organisations and endorsement from the Council for the structural drawings and until we receive them, we won't be moving forward with the project activities on site other than managing the water on site. Our work on site to put up the building is not that extensive. The most extensive work is the design work for equipment to be supplied in Australia, and the design work to be finalised for the Chinese equipment and its delivery to Australia. That period will take approximately 18 months to 24 months before significant deliveries to site.

Question Sally Podger (Alive Inc): I haven't seen the timeline yet. What time was it sent?

Response Philip Reichert (chair): My email says 12:37pm this afternoon.

Question Sally Podger (Alive Inc): It's not on our ALIVE email.

Response Bronwyn Woodward (Community Member): ALIVE is on the email recipient list.

Response Philip Reichert (chair): Sally, can you please send Rachel an email from your personal email and she can forward you a copy.

Question John Ellingham (Community Member): The timeline seems quite logical but I have a question for Robin. Does the building fit out and delivery of the equipment run consecutively?

Response Robin Krause (ULAB Project Coordinator): It runs concurrently.

Question John Ellingham (Community Member): The whole project is around 13 months?

Response Robin Krause (ULAB Project Coordinator): No, its approximately 3 years from EPA approval

Robin
Krause

Question John Ellingham (Community Member): I note oxygen will be stored on site? What sort of quantities?

Response Robin Krause (ULAB Project Coordinator): It's a 50m3 tank for storage of oxygen produced at the site. A contractor will install an oxygen generation plant and storage facility for us and they're going to use us for their short term supply with our excess oxygen.

Question John Ellingham (Community Member): I've lived in the valley a long, long time and the gas works had an oxygen plant which blew up at one stage, caused massive damage and there was 2 fatalities.

Response Robin Krause (ULAB Project Coordinator): You can't put a facility to produce and store oxygen under the current design without approval from a lot of government agencies and the designs are very robust.

Question John Ellingham (Community Member): The staff will require specific training to be aware of the potential dangers of storing and using oxygen.

Response Robin Krause (ULAB Project Coordinator): There's going to be extensive training for anybody that works on the plant because secondary smelting and it's not a common practice used in Australia.

Response Rachel Irvine-Marshall (Pure): John across all of Pure, we actually run a what we call a critical risk work program. We identify all of our fatality risks and what key controls we require, and our management team verify weekly that those are in place and record them in our safety system.

Question Sally Podger (Alive Inc): In case of an emergency situation where the fire brigade needs to attend. Do they need specialised training? To ensure for one it doesn't reach the school and then two, it doesn't reach further community.

<p>Response Robin Krause (ULAB Project Coordinator): Fire Rescue Victoria have specialised training for all the major hazard facilities in Victoria. Part of the certification for operation is the fire risk management and Emergency Management system that has to be in place before we will be given a license to operate and that will occur while we commissioning the plant under low load.</p> <p>Response Rachel Irvine-Marshall (Pure): At all of our facilities we work closely with the local emergency services to ensure they understand our facilities and have access to our technical people. We can share more information as we get closer.</p> <p>Question Sally Podger (Alive Inc): Thanks you, I've still got very obviously strong beliefs and hesitations with the whole plant in regards to the proximity to the school.</p>	
<p>Air monitoring Update: No update.</p> <p>Question Sally Podger (Alive Inc): What company were you using for the air monitoring system? Can this please be provided before the next meeting as the next meeting is 2 months away.</p> <p>Question is taken on notice and Robin will provide a response prior to the next meeting.</p>	
<p>Any other questions from the community members for discussion:</p> <p>Response Bronwyn Woodward (Community Member): Would it be possible to get the meeting minutes sooner as our meetings are 2 months apart?</p> <p>Response Rachel Irvine-Marshall (Pure): Yes, I will work to get the meeting minutes out within a few weeks of the meeting.</p>	
<p>Next Meeting: Agenda Items, please send to Rachel prior to the meeting</p> <p>Wednesday 16 October 2024 - online meeting.</p>	<p>Philip Reichert</p>