



Agenda Items & Minutes

Topic	Host
Welcome Committee Members and Visitors	Philip Reichert
Apologies	Philip Reichert
Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting Approved by Loraine Bull and seconded by Philip Reichert.	Philip Reichert
Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners Harriet Shing kindly acknowledged and welcomed the traditional landowners and first nations people.	Harriet Shing
Project Status Report Committee members took the opportunity to visit site and discuss the project prior to the meeting The next phase of construction includes installation of the truck wash and storm water construction pond. The pumping and plumbing for the trade waste disposal will be connected. The shaker grid and Wheel Wash Assembly diagram will be attached to the minutes. This assembly will be installed within the next two weeks. Lorraine asked what had been completed on site to date. Robin advised we had installed clean water diversion bunds on the north , south and west side to connect to the western buffer zone, diverting storm water from neighbouring properties to the legal point of discharge. Topsoil has been tested and silt has been used from site to form the bunds. Weed control is continuing across the property. The hard stand has been set up with the site office and three water storage tanks - ground water, sewerage and potable water. The plant building has been reduced in size by 40 meters. The construction footprint has been reduced by 31 meters. It is now a more efficient layout. The new site layout will be available with the minutes. The specifications are currently being completed for the amenities building, control room, laboratory and maintenance office. Concrete design is being completed for the exterior bund wall, pavement and the plant walls and partitions. The soil consolidation package has been tendered and will take approximately two months to complete. The soil will be rolled and compacted to support the plant construction.	Robin Krause

Lorraine asked if the reduced plant layout size would result in savings. Robin advised it would provide an 8% saving in pavement area and a 12% saving in building area. Dr Lakshman advised the changes would need to be resubmitted and approved by council. The changes would not necessarily reduce costs of the building. Robin advised that a contractor has been engaged to ensure the water management system matched the new site layout before resubmitting all updated drawing to the council.

Leanne Norwood asked if the EPA needed to approve plant layout changes. Robin advised EPA approve emissions and design documentation. Layout and planning are from the Latrobe City Council, and not require a separate planning application. Dr Lakshman advised if there were any issues with resubmission the original plans would be used.

Harriet Shing asked what communications were made regarding resubmission of the plant layout. Robin advised it was a verbal discussion. Robin advised none of the emissions or management systems would be changed.

Stacey Clark confirmed that it was the council that required resubmission of the site layout. Robin advised the EPA would also receive the updated documents to ensure consistency with documents across the EPA and Council.

Air Monitoring Tower Update

Robin advised two air monitoring towers would be installed - one on the North East corner of the site, and one opposite the Hazelwood North Primary School on private property. Installation of the air monitoring towers are expected within the next month before excavations begin on site.

The air monitor will be linked to a Wi-Fi network to monitor gas levels and monthly laboratory analysis will be conducted for heavy metals and particularly lead. Chunxing do not believe any lead will be discovered and are conducting baseline monitoring during construction and before operation to demonstrate we are compiling with EPA requirements.

Lorraine asked if Chunxing would comment on Latrobe City Council pursuing real time monitoring as reported in the Latrobe Valley Express. Robin advised we are completing real time monitoring with gases. The council are considering a real time lead monitoring system, however the system the council are looking at is currently being trialled at Mt Isa, and is used to monitor lead levels 100 times higher than what Chunxing would ever produce. The accuracy of this is poor for online monitoring. Lorraine wanted to know why the council were pursuing an inaccurate monitoring system. Robin advised that the community had no confidence in the proposed monitoring system, and that Chunxing have no objection in the council pursuing it's own testing system. Lorraine added that the council testing proposal will not prove anything because any possible contamination will be too small to show up on the council system.

Dr Lakshman advised the monitoring systems Chunxing is using is a real time monitoring system in the plant and community. The dust is collected in a filter cartridge and analysed, weekly or monthly. It is a proven system used worldwide.

Robin advised when the plant is operating there will be monitoring on both stacks in in multiple other areas throughout the plant. This will ensure that any emissions throughout the stack are below licencing requirements.

Leanne advised that it was misleading to say that the lead monitoring was in real time when is was analysed weekly or monthly. Dr Lakshman advised that the dust monitoring was a real time analysis, and produced accurate results as proven in smelters across the world. Stacey clarified that the dust was being collected in real time and then analysed, reported and published. Stacey suggested that when the dust monitoring information was communicated to the community it should be clarified that the dust was collected in real time, but not reported in real time.

Mark Richards confirmed that monitoring would have live continuous dust monitoring which may vary on production, but it is then calibrated, checked and verified at a later date.

Robin
Krause

Mark discussed the issues raised in the Latrobe Valley Express regarding the air monitoring as a political opportunity to take credit for something that was already going to happen. Real time monitoring is already planned and agreed to by Chunxing.

Philip suggested we revisit and confirm how the air monitoring works once installed and operating

Mark advised that it is industry standard to monitor dust in this way, and it is how the EPA monitored the Hazelwood Power Station dust emissions.

Community Blood Testing

Dr Lakshman originally offered members of the community working and living in close proximity of the plant blood testing to reassure them that no lead contamination was occurring in the area due to our operations.

Early discussions with Dorovitch pathology have indicated they are happy to assist with the testing, and are happy to have the data deidentified if required. Chunxing are interested in offering baseline testing of the community prior to commissioning the plant and at 6 monthly intervals for the lifetime of operations.

Chunxing will also possibly use Dorovitch for it's staff lead blood level testing and drug and alcohol screening.

Stacey Clark asked if it was a requirement for a doctor to write a referral to complete blood lead testing. Tania advised Dorovitch would provide testing slips for the local community. Dorovitch advised we would not require a doctor's referral for testing. This will be followed up and further clarified before being offered to the community.

Harriet Shing asked if there would be a longitudinal assessment, and if there would be a core number of people to contribute to the baseline and provide a meaningful sample. Harriet also asked how we would encourage the community to participate. Tania advised it was only a service were offering to reassure the concerned community members that there would be no lead contamination from the Chunxing site. Harriet asked which members of the community were to be included in the testing. Tania advised it would be community members living or working within a 2-3km radius of the Chunxing site. It would be a challenge to ensure ongoing participation of local community members.

Harriet advised it would be a survey and questioned how we would establish the data and interpret the results. Dr Lakshman advised it was a voluntary and was happy to consider any proposal from the community.

Stacey asked if we wanted to complete a study for the community or if we wanted to give individuals reassurance that their lead levels were not increasing. Tania advised it was for reassurance of individual community members and not a broader community study.

Harriet asked how an individual assessment would address a community concern of lead levels over time. Harriet believed that the community wanted to know about the impact across the community, and that there may be an opportunity to look at the impact more broadly than just on an individual. Tania advised Chunxing were in the early stages of investigating the process and that we would be considering all these points in greater detail.

Harriet advised the community wanted to know what the possible impact of lead contamination would be across the community and not just for individuals. Harriet suggested we would have an opportunity to provide greater information to the community.

Stacey advised the Department of Health collected data of any elevated lead levels that were reported in the community, and suggested that she would discuss the project further with the Department of Health.

Tania
Brown

Lakshman advised that Chunxing was committed to ensure there would be no impact on the communities health and have additionally offered to conduct blood lead level testing as reassurance to the community.

Leanne asked if there was a thumb prick test available to test the children. Tania advised that there is no accurate pin prick test available for lead at this time.

Community Questions & General Business

Mark asked if the industry on the Northern side of the Chunxing site was testing their emissions, to ensure any of their pollutants were not included in the Chunxing monitoring results. Robin advised we would conduct air monitoring prior to commissioning of the plant to demonstrate these pollutants are not coming from the Chunxing site.

Lorraine asked if we were successful in engaging a new environmental officer. Robin advised not at this stage, applicants were from overseas or interstate. Robin advised that our initial Environmental Officer has resigned from his position.

Agenda items for next meeting by Wednesday 01 June 2022 to tania.brown@jschunxing.com

Philip
Reichert

Next Meeting Wednesday 22 June 2022 7.00pm. Venue to be confirmed.

Philip
Reichert

Close