



Used Lead Acid Battery Community Liaison Committee Meeting
18.10.2023
7.00pm
Online via MS Teams

Minutes

Topic

Host

<p>Welcome Committee Members and Visitors</p>	<p>Philip Reichert</p>
<p>Apologies Dr Karl Baltpurvins, Cr Melissa Ferguson, Rachel Irvine-Marshall, Mark Richards, Samuel Armstrong</p>	<p>Philip Reichert</p>
<p>Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting Lorraine Bull</p>	<p>Philip Reichert</p>
<p>Progress Report - General Status</p> <p>In the last month, we've had significant rainfall, filling our treatment and storage ponds on site. Unfortunately this resulted in an incident where we notified EPA that we were going to test and release water onto the grass area on site. This occurred over 5 days and we discharged 4 ML.</p> <p>Question (Philip Reichert): Will stormwater be a problem post-construction of the plant?</p> <p>Response (Robin Krause): No, the site will have 16 ML of pond storage for stormwater. The design is to manage a 1 in 100 year rainfall event, which is 8 ML water over a 1 week period. The site, post-construction, will have twice the capacity of a 1 in 100 year event. The operational process will also require in excess of 227 m3 of water per day. This means there will not be sufficient treated water for the process and the site will require water from the town supply, particularly in low rainfall months.</p> <p>We have correspondence from EPA confirming notification prior to the discharge of the water. The water was tested to confirm it was below 300ppm TDS. As the water was from the settling ponds and not the site ground-surface, it was visibly clear of sediment.</p> <p>Clarification from EPA (Stacey Clark): There was no application or approval given by EPA for the discharge of stormwater. There was a notification received and the water was then discharged.</p>	<p>Robin Krause</p>

Robin Krause confirmed the clarification by EPA and noted, the discharge was acknowledged by EPA but not approved by EPA. Important to note, that we are not undertaking construction activities at present and only maintaining the site and undertaking pumping activities to remove excess water. Our general condition is to pump the stormwater to sewer after settling and testing to get it below 600ppm TDS. But with our 2 ponds we can achieve a TDS below 300ppm. We will notify EPA if we get excess rainfall over the summer period, but it is not expected.

Everyday over the last 2 months we have been pumping to dewater the site, and discharging to sewer.

Air Monitor Update

This month we starting paying the landowners rent for the property where the air monitoring station will be located.

We still plan to install the monitoring station prior to construction. Construction has been delayed due to the required updates to the design reports for EPA. Bi-monthly meetings have been held in Melbourne and Sydney with our consultants to progress these draft reports. We now have drafts for the designs for the air quality, process design, and P&IDs.

We are negotiating with a company to undertake a HAZOP on the updated P&ID's as this will also be part of the EPA submission. In addition, they undertake a design review of the plant and equipment being manufactured in China and Australia to ensure it meets the Australian Standards.

We have engaged consultants to work on a Fire Mitigation Report and review the negative pressure of the building, based on the changes made over the last 7 months. It is our intention that these reports will be completed and submitted in November.

Question (Philip Reichert): How does submission in November impact the project timelines?

Response (Robin Krause): Indication is that EPA will take 2-3 months to review documents and provide a decision. We expect the EPA feedback and decision by February/March 2024.

Question (Bronwyn Woodward): From the last meeting minutes, I thought the air monitor was going on the school land?

Response (Robin Krause): No, it is across the road from the school.

Note: This is a clarification on the prior meeting minutes, which were not clear.

Question (Bronwyn Woodward): In relation to water, you need to focus and consider every year as a flood year rather than 100 year floods.

Response (Robin Krause): Yes agree, we have actually had 2 x 100-year floods in the last 7 months.

Question (Bronwyn Woodward): There was earlier discussion about the air monitor being installed well before construction to enable baseline sampling. Is that still the plan or are you waiting for construction?

Robin
Krause

<p>Response (Robin Krause): It is still the plan to install the air monitor at least 2 months prior to commencement of construction. We won't start construction until we have EPA approval. The current timeline for commencement of construction is 2-3 months for EPA approval, 12 months for fabrication of plant and equipment in Australia and China and delivery. During the fabrication timeframe, we will be erecting the building and completing site works. The air monitor will be in place before any of the site works.</p>	
<p>Any other questions from the community members for discussion</p> <p>Question (Lorraine Bull): My concern is, as we are 2 years behind the original construction timeframe, how is this impacting the bottom-line of the project?</p> <p>Response (Robin Krause): In the last 7 months, we have made significant changes in the size of the building, the size of the land footprint, and the process, which has reduced the overall cost of the plant. We are still within our budget for the project.</p> <p>Comment (Lorraine Bull): Wish you good luck with the reports and hope there are no more hold ups.</p> <p>EPA (Stacey Clark): Proposed an additional agenda item for the December meeting to review the EPA submission.</p> <p>Lorraine Bull: Recommended an in-person meeting in December, rather than Teams.</p> <p>Action: Philip Reichert to speak to Rachel Irvine-Marshall to set up an in-person meeting with the option of Teams for those that are unable to attend.</p>	<p>Philip Reichert</p>
<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>Agenda items to Rachel 1 week in advance.</p> <p>Wednesday 6th December, venue to be confirmed, but will attempt to have an in-person meeting.</p>	<p>Philip Reichert</p>