



CHUNXING ULAB
Community Liaison Committee Meeting
22.06.2022
7.00pm
Century Inn Traralgon

Agenda Items & Minutes

Topic	Host
Welcome Committee Members and Visitors	Philip Reichert
Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners	Philip Reichert
Apologies	Philip Reichert
Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting Approved by Lorraine Bull and seconded by Philip Reichert.	Philip Reichert
Introduction of Pure <p>Dr Lakshman introduced Peter Goodwin, the founder of Pure. Dr Lakshman advised Chunxing has been approached by Pure to buy the planned Hazelwood Plant, with the Chunxing Group of China continuing to provide the technology, equipment and meet compliance requirements to commission the plant. Dr Lakshman also advised the current local management team would remain in place.</p> <p>Peter Goodwin advised he grew up in Tocumwal, and then worked for BHP in Newcastle, starting as a trainee and gaining several university qualifications over the next 15 years with the company.</p> <p>Peter advised his next role was with Veolia, where he became very interested in the mining industry and their waste management, as mining is Australia's main heavy industry. Peter had studied many other waste industries worldwide with Veolia and began their involvement in the mining area, and met Dr Lakshman during this time about twenty years ago as he was an expert in extracting value from wastes in the mining process.</p> <p>By 2010 Veolia was generating around 2 billion dollars of revenue in Australia, about one third of waste management revenues were generated through mining and related industries, and they were involved with most of the large mining facilities across the country.</p> <p>In 2010 Peter had the opportunity to join the Australian company Toxfree which was a specialist in hazardous and problematic waste. That company was assisted to grow from around 200 employees to around 1800. The company also started servicing the mining industry, but grew to include hospital, municipal, and commercial waste management. It was focused on science based solutions for problematic waste.</p>	

Toxfree was arguably the largest hazardous waste company in Australia, when it was then taken over by Cleanaway about 4 years ago. Peter then invested in a business building tanks and servicing grease traps, and expanding it to treating the associated wastes. Peter then became involved in storm water service with councils and water authorities, including cleaning GPT's, drains and the relining of pipes. Peter however still wanted to pursue a business more like Toxfree, with a similar culture with personalised customer experiences, and thus formed Pure.

Pure now provides an alternative for the community and waste industry to handle and treat difficult to manage waste streams. Pure's initial investment was into a liquid waste treatment business, Pure do not own trucks, they only recycle and process problematic waste streams. This includes composting, waste from the coal seam gas industry, oily water and sludges from manufacturing facilities.

Peter believes the battery industry is a massive growth opportunity for the community, and is the second core business Pure entered. Pure has now has interests in businesses in Perth and Brisbane, and Peter approached Dr Lakshman to request a 50% investment in this project. After negotiations with the vendor, it was decided to buy the entire project, but still utilise the Chinese equipment and technology. Pure have signed up for a 15 year technology support agreement with the Chunxing, but Hazelwood is now an entirely Australian owned business.

Pure now aims to become the leading battery recycling business in Australia. Pure will begin focusing on providing clinical waste solutions which is also both a high growth and specialist area, which also employs engineers and scientists to manage these specialised waste streams.

Pure believe in the Hazelwood Project as they believe in the future of batteries. 80% of new batteries are already produced from recycled batteries - which is good for the environment, and reduces both the amount of mining, and emissions. Starting this project has been challenging, but the people working for Pure are very experienced with meeting both EPA and Council requirements and will assist the local team in successful completion of the project.

Peter and his family members now own a small stake in Pure and are strong supporters of the Australian recycling industry, and are very keen to make the project a success. Peter is acutely aware some people are not happy to having a recycling facility in their community, and Pure is committed to managing those concerns by addressing them systematically, and in time reducing the communities fears. Only when operating for some years within the required parameters will Pure fully earn the social licence businesses like us need to operate. Peter advised he had meet some local community members who were extremely critical of the EPA, but explained it takes years to gain a licence from the EPA to operate recycling facilities, and it then takes a huge amount of work to meet their requirements. The EPA regulations ensure we are all able to live in a great environmental space.

Mark Richards commented that it was his understanding that everything except for the spacers in batteries were recycled. Robin confirmed that was correct and 96% of the battery was recycled.

Philip advised the EPA was always a part of the CLC meetings. Peter agreed, and commented that Pure would be operating under the close supervision of the EPA on an ongoing basis and welcomed their support and engagement.

Stacey advised that the EPA is only involved in a regulatory basis.

Philip asked if the branding would change from Chunxing to Pure. Peter advised the EPA would require the application to be resubmitted to change the name. However, when the operating license is provided in full, a name change will be formally sought, possibly in around two years.

Lorraine asked if there would be any changes made to the current proposal. Peter advised that it would be as planned to date to ensure the processes remain as planned, however the building footprint had been reduced by around 10%.

Peter
Goodwin

Project Status Report

Robin advised that topsoil stripping had commenced on site and 120 tonnes of topsoil have been tested and classified as clean fill, which can then be disposed of off site as per the Construction Environmental Management Plan requirements.

Meluca Have been contracted to complete the stripping of the site and screening the materiel.

The next stage involves cutting the site to level and putting in a drainage system. The site will then be closed for winter to allow the site to dry. Soil compaction will be started around September before concreting works commence.

Pricing for construction of the main building has commenced, and design work for concreting and excavation of the storage ponds has started.

Access to private land near the Hazelwood North Primary School has been obtained to install the air monitor. The landholder has accepted the proposal to assit in reassuring the community that no pollution is occurring in areas around the ULAB plant.

Mark asked if particulates in the operating area of the plant were also measured. Robin confirmed that the dust going up the stack was also monitored.

Robin advised the shaker grid was designed to remove any loose material from vehicles before leaving site, and to wash the undersides of the vehicles to ensure no contaminants go onto the roadways. All collected water from the wheel wash is tested and if required treated before being discharged as trade waste.

Robin
Krause

Community Questions & General Business

Bronwyn asked why the building was reduced in size. Peter advised it was a more efficient design. Robin explained that one plastic granulation and sorting system had been removed, as Australia didn't separate plastic colour for recycling. The whole building has been reduced by approximately 40 meters. The original Chinese design was for a much larger capacity plant.

Lorraine asked if the plant processing capacity could still be expanded as there were now Perth and Brisbane partners. Peter advised that the Brisbane and Perth plants were designed for the local market as it was expensive to transport heavy batteries. The Perth plant is about half the size of Hazelwood, and only services Western Australia. The recyclers in Queensland only service that state. Hazelwood will service Tasmania, South Australia and Victoria.

Mark asked if there were still the same clearances in the plant after reducing the granulation system to one unit. Robin advised the clearances were the same. Mark asked if we needed more room could the building be expanded. Robin advised this could happen but would need new approvals from EPA and Council.

Stacey asked how much soil was going to be moved off site. Robin advised approximately 7500m³. Lorraine asked where the soil would be taken. Robin advised that testing had established the topsoil was classified as clean fill and had 2 people interested in taking the fill, either for domestic purposes or landscaping on the Hazelwood Mine rehabilitation.

Stacey asked what Meluca's role on site was. Robin advised they were stripping and screening the topsoil, leveling and draining the site. The site will be stabilised to achieve bearing pressure when the weather is dryer.

Lorrae asked if the revised plans had been submitted to council. Robin advised they were still proposed. The water management system was being updated before the plans were being resubmitted for endorsement.

Robin
Krause

<p>Lorraine asked if Latrobe Magnesium had water management on their site. Robin advised they have a legal point of discharge for their rain water. All rain water diverted around our site flows to the wetlands. All water inside the construction footprint is collected and tested and treated if required before being discharged as per the trade waste agreement.</p> <p>Robin advised Dr Christine Sindt published a letter in the Latrobe Express claiming the Environmental Officer left as "perhaps he could see a Pure Environmental Disaster". The statement is incorrect. The environmental officer resigned of his own accord and was paid all his requirements by the company. Meticulous records are kept of all testing and monitoring on site. Tania has been completing all record keeping and an Environmental Scientist has been engaged to supervise Tania and complete the weekly and monthly audits on site. Latrobe Valley Express have been requested to rescind the letter and the author to issue a formal apology. Dr Sindt attended the Chunxing office where she spent 2 hours with Robin and Tania going through the recycling processes and discussed the reasons why the environmental officer had left his position.</p> <p>Shane Mynard advised he was a member of the Central Gippsland Industry Group and thanked Robin for doing the ULAB presentation for the committee at Shanes request. Lorraine asked what other groups Robin had presented to. Robin advised the Gippsland Regional Executive Forum, 3 Rotary Clubs, and Latrobe Health Forum.</p>	
<p>Agenda items for next meeting by Wednesday 27th July 2022 to tania.brown@chunxing.com.au</p>	<p>Philip Reichert</p>
<p>Next Meeting Wednesday 24th August 2022 7.00pm. Venue to be confirmed.</p>	<p>Philip Reichert</p>
<p>Close</p>	