

Meeting No. 158
Tuesday 10 October 2023
9.00 a.m. – 11.00 a.m.

Inside Industry, BlueScope

Minutes
Attendees

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<p>Community members Ron Hales Mark Peterlin Peter Maywald Phillip Laird Jess Whittaker</p> <p>Business Representatives Kristen – AIE/Squadron Energy Alex Lovell – AIE/Squadron Energy Natasha Porteous – BlueScope Nigel Harpley – IXOM Grant Tilling – IXOM Luke Pascot - PKCT</p> <p>University of Wollongong Andy Davis Chantel Carr</p> <p>NSW Ports Jon Stewart Trevor Brown Brooke Eggleton</p> <p>Port Authority of NSW None present</p> <p>NSW EPA Greg Newman Craig Patterson</p> <p>Wollongong City Council None present</p> <p>Department of Agriculture None present</p>	<p>Guest Presenters Kate Williams – MM Port Kembla Michael Petrozzi – MM Port Kembla</p> <p>Apologies Sharad Bhasin – Port Authority of NSW Sara Starr - AAT Brian Beudeker – NSW Ports Lorrie Zammit – Bluescope Karl Batshon - WCC</p> <p>Chairperson & Minutes Chris Haley – Chairperson Natalie Murphy – Minute Taker</p>

1. Introduction & Apologies:

- 1.1 Acknowledgment of the Dharawal people – Chris Haley
- 1.2 Welcome attendees and guest presenters– Chris Haley

2. Guest Presenters – Michael Petrozzi and Kate Williams – MM Port Kembla - Appendix A

- Results of investigation are for ground water contamination at the MM site.
- The declaration is for one allotment only, being the MM operational site.
- The contamination derived from wells is kerosene-range petroleum hydrocarbons and a chlorinated solvent (Trichloroethene).
- Ground water contamination occurs in the fractured rock. The clay is predominantly dry. The ground water in the fractured rock is where the contamination lies which is tidally influenced along the eastern site boundary. The landward extent of tidal influence is not known.
- Liquid phase Kerosene samples was found on the western side of the Gloucester Boulevard site, none on the eastern side.
- The product appears to move in and out of the wells in line with diurnal tidal fluctuations in groundwater levels.
- There was monitoring every day of the week in since April, with no key contaminants found in beach or rockpool water or sand.
- There is a good network of wells on Gloucester Boulevard along the beach, and there was no separated phase found in any of those wells on the eastern side of the road.
- Purchasing records show no record of bulk quantities of Trichloroethene being purchased. Similarly, there is no formal degreasing areas or facilities being established on the site.
- Kerosene has not been bought in bulk for many, many decades.
- There is no detection of kerosene or Trichloroethene on the beach in samples of ocean water, rock platform water or sand.
- Continuing to work on the site to exclude areas by establishing a series of control cross sections in further investigations, in the absence of a credible source.
- MM Kembla recently submitted a report on the offsite investigations. The report was reviewed and accepted by the independent site auditor.
- MM Kembla will now submit a Voluntary Management Proposal that will outline how the identified contamination will be managed.
- MM Kembla continues to undertake onsite investigations aimed at identifying onsite contamination source areas.
- MM Kembla has continued to carry out daily sampling of water in rock pools, the Pacific Ocean and sand on MM Beach. Investigations to date have found no risk to the community or users of MM Beach. Results are available on MM Kembla’s website <https://www.kembla.com/support/environmental/groundwater-monitoring-program-updates/>
- MM Kembla will continue to provide updates to the EPA and the community via its website.

Queries relating to:	Responses/Updates
Question: have you ruled out the possibility that the source is not coming from MM but possibly from the copper smelter site?	This possibility will be evaluated in future investigations.
Question: Why did you do the initial wells?	It was in response to a proactive approach from the owners
Question: Could ground water movement travel west towards the harbour?	Future investigations will establish groundwater flow direction.

Comment: There was a quarry near this site in the 70's completely uncontrolled. Anything could be dumped there.	The quarry will be targeted in future investigations.
Question: If it turns out that it is the quarry is the source, who then is responsible?	It is understood that Council owns the majority of the former quarry.
Question: How easy is it to remediate a quarry?	If the quarry is a concentrated source area, some pumping of liquid could be carried out. Fractured rock is much more difficult to remediate.
Question: There is a natural spring that runs through the vegetation. Has it been tested?	Not at this time but it can be as part of future investigations.
Question: Trichloroethene is a fairly hazardous substance. Is there anything done to contain it?	There are vapour monitoring wells 12 metres below the ground level and under factory floor slabs. No risk to workers or members of the public has been identified at this time.

3. Karl Batshon – WCC – Green House Park Remediation Update – Absent from meeting due to illness however Karl provided points below as an update:

- Remedial Action Plan (RAP) has been endorsed by the Site Auditor and submitted to EPA.
- A Draft Concept Design as part of the RAP has been prepared.
- Ongoing Water Quality Monitoring continues.

4. Minutes of Meeting and Actions

4.1 Acceptance of Minutes of Meeting held 1 August 2023 – Accepted

4.2 Acceptance of Minutes of Meeting held 13 June 2023 – NSW Ports to provide further information on its community research findings at the 10 October meeting.

ACTIONS	RESPONSE
Provide further information on NSW Ports community research findings to PKHEG members	Jon Stewart

4.3 Business arising from the meeting held 10 October 2023

ACTIONS	TO RESPOND
It was asked what NSW Ports has done to encourage tenants to use rail.	Jon Stewart to investigate and report back at next meeting.
Invite Manildra to present at a future meeting	Chris Haley
Invite NSW Ports CEO, Marika Calfas, to address PKHEG meeting	Jon Stewart

5. Harbour related environment matters :

Queries relating to :	Response/ Update
On the EPA self-reported incident spreadsheet Squadron detected turbid water outside silt curtain in Outer Harbour. Do you know the volume of material ?	It is hard to say. There is no measurement. There are external factors like tidal movements and tugs. B101 will be dredged.

6. Round Table Reports

6.1 NSW Ports – Trevor Brown / Brooke Eggleton/ Jon Stewart

- Trevor Brown noted on behalf of Bryan Beudeker that Habitat Offset Package works at Gurungaty Waterway to offset the impacts of reclamation in the Outer Harbour are nearing completion.
- Brooke Eggleton noted NSW Ports are wrapping up the 2022 NSW Ports Community Grants Program, 2023 projects are being delivered and other community programs are ongoing
 - NSW Ports worked with UoW and artist Karla Hayes who created a 45-metre great southern reef wall mural at Port Kembla. It was officially unveiled a few weeks ago (part of the 2023 grants program)
 - Progressing a beehives permaculture installation at Warrawong High School (part of the 2022 grants program)
 - The ‘living classroom’ permaculture program supports 7 Illawarra schools and is ongoing throughout the school year (part of an NSW Ports sponsorship)
 - The NSW Ports Port Kembla School Tours Program partners with Inside Industry and takes primary school students on tours of Port Kembla to learn about the businesses at the port. The aim is to have reached approx. 600-700 students by the end of the year.

• NSW Ports community research methodology information – Jon Stewart

NSW Ports worked with FiftyFive5 to conduct community research between July and November 2022, which targeted the local areas around our ports (Port Botany and Port Kembla) and the Enfield Intermodal and Logistics Centre.

The purpose of this research was to determine what our local communities need and would value directly from NSW Ports, where/how we might be able to engage with them and what strategies could be executed to deliver a fit for purpose community consultation and communication program. This research was conducted for internal purposes only for NSW Ports – this has not been shared broadly beyond the community consultation groups we participate in.

Whether our local communities have a basic awareness of NSW Ports, what that awareness entails, how they’ve built that awareness and how they might engage with NSW Ports in future were all relevant considerations of this research.

To this end, part of the research results indicated that residents aware of NSW Ports gained that awareness primarily from driving/walking around the sites and seeing NSW Ports’ signage. The majority of those who had heard of NSW Ports believed it is a government organisation, and these results were particularly high for those in Port Kembla and Enfield. There remains significant confusion regarding the difference between NSW Ports and the Port Authority of NSW, both their different roles and functions, and the fact that NSW Ports is a private company, while the Port Authority of NSW is a NSW Government owned corporation.

Finally, while around 1 in 3 residents surveyed believe they have engaged with NSW Ports in some way, these were mostly via social or digital means.

Queries relating to :	Response/ Update
At the last PKHEG meeting, there were questions about how this research was conducted and how many people were involved.	<p>There were 3 key aspects of this research:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>AUDIT</u>: Review of local communities’ social media and review of similar organisation’s community engagement programs 2. <u>(A) QUALITATIVE</u>: 90-minute focus groups that were held face-to-face in local areas or online via Zoom (at the time of the research there was a spike in COVID cases, so an online option was offered for people who did not feel comfortable being in a group setting)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. In total, 42 residents were included in this part of the research (across Port Botany, Port Kembla and Enfield) b. The following characteristics were considered in the recruitment process based off the area's demographics: Some awareness and knowledge of local site, mix of attitudes towards local site, mix of life stage, income, household structure, gender, and residents who speak a language other than English at home. c. Three of these focus groups (out of a total 8) took place in Port Kembla, which included a total of 18 local residents. d. The participants were recruited via an external qualitative research agency called The Human Network. This gave FiftyFive5 a good spread of people and not just those who have previously had interactions with NSW Ports. (The same recruiter was used for all areas) <p>3. <u>(B) QUALITATIVE:</u> 60-minute in-depth one-on-one interviews with key opinion leaders (KOLs) who were members members of the three community consultation groups (CCG) and engaged residents. This included 5 reps (out of a total 13 KOLs across Port Botany, Port Kembla and Enfield – four of whom told the researchers they were happy to be identified):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jenny Briscoe-Hough (Founder Port Kembla Community Project) 2. Mark Peterlin (PKHEG) 3. Andy Davis (UoW) 4. Peter Maywald (PKHEG) <p>4. <u>QUANTITATIVE:</u> 20-minute surveys with residents living in local communities around Port Botany, Port Kembla and Enfield</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. In total, 450 interviews were conducted, which included 150 interviews in Port Kembla b. Over the three total sites, interviews were conducted through a mix of online (72%) and telephone interviewing (28%) to reach a spread of ages and increase representativeness of the sample. c. Data is weighted to the demographic (age and gender) make-up of the local areas according to Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)
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• **Manildra Transport Route – update from Brooke Eggleton**

Queries relating to :	Response/ Update
<p>At the last meeting there was an enquiry about why Option 1 for truck route movements using the Manildra facility has been selected under the Development Approval.</p>	<p><u>The following information was provided directly from Manildra:</u></p> <p>After significant consultation with the community, our independent transport study/risk assessment (by Pinnacle Risk Assessment) advised that “route 1” is the most ideal route to avoid impacting residents.</p>

	<p>This detailed assessment compared the two route options on a number of factors including impacts to residence, community, the environment to traffic flow and more.</p> <p>The study concluded and recommended the final route (route 1), which avoids disruption to residents in the Shellharbour and Windang areas. It enables our transport to operate via the A1 onto Five Islands Road, to access Port Kembla.</p> <p>The transport study is a public document on the NSW Planning major projects website, and all public documents regarding the Port Kembla Liquid Terminal are available here:</p> <p>Manildra - Port Kembla Bulk Liquid Terminal Planning Portal - Department of Planning and Environment (nsw.gov.au)</p>
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6.2 AIE/ Squadron

- Alex noted the pipeline is all but finished. The testing phase will start in the next couple of months.
- B101 onshore receiver facility has well progressed. There has been a delivery of equipment for the operation facility. There will be a care and maintenance period for some time. The first ship is expected 2026 however this could be brought forward however is dependant on customer demand.
- The dredging works continue and will be finished in the outer harbour by Dec 23.

6.3 UoW

- Andy is attending the Illawarra Business Awards because the UoW and Port Authority of NSW were nominated for a Business Sustainability Award for the Safe and Secure Anchorage Program.
- Last week UoW entered their submissions for the upcoming Illawarra Offshore Wind Zone proposal.
- Chantel is happy to be a point of contact for UoW regarding their offshore wind research.

6.4 BlueScope

- BlueScope self-reported water discolouration in mid-June. The site was investigated, and the source or reason were not located.
- BlueScope is paying more attention to the Recycling Dam trucks that leave the area. The number of trucks has increased, and we are assessing how much water we use on the road. We are making sure the truck drivers let the water drop off before driving and we will continue to monitor to assess impact.

6.5 Community Members

- Jess Whittaker attended the Blue Energy discussion regarding the Illawarra Windfarm proposal and links attached for the Q&A.
 - Submissions on the offshore wind energy Renewable energy zone due before 15th Nov (extended): <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/about/news/illawarra-offshore-renewable-energy#:~:text=Offshore%20renewable%20energy%20projects%20must,portal%20by%2016%20October%202023>
 - More info here: <https://www.uow.edu.au/ancors/blue-energy-futures-lab/frequently-asked-questions/>

- Also a comprehensive article by Saul Griffith here: <https://electrify2515.org/news-events/saul-griffith-wind?fbclid=IwAR1KiufFZrg-cCeMDxjMhcBL0INDcMs8BqQfiuOxE4tcyFpLFgxUcOhujxE>

6.6 PKCT

- Luke Pascot returned to the PKHEG meeting today after being away for 1 year.
- Annual Environmental Management Reports (AEMRs) are on the PKCT website that shows what the business has been up to for the last few years. www.pkct.com.au

6.7 EPA

- Nothing to report

General Business

- A question was asked if this group still remains relevant or provides a benefit in light of an absence of many port user tenants attending the PKHEG meetings?
 - Alex Lovell commented that Squadron feels encumbered to be a part of the community and encourages other tenants to attend.
 - Nigel from IXOM commented that tenants can get a feel for what projects are going in and around the harbour to pass on.
 - Greg from EPA believes the group facilitates the exchange of information from tenants to address problems and overcome harbour related problems.

6. Next Meeting:

DATE: 5 December 2023
VENUE: Inside Industry, BlueScope
TIME: 9am to 11am