

BCRG COMMUNITY FORUM 5/2010

MEETING NOTES

Date: 17 November 2010

Time: 6:00 for 6:30 – 9:30pm

Where: Brooklyn Community Centre, Cypress Avenue Brooklyn

AGENDA

Chair: Jen Lilburn

Meeting Purpose:

- To provide an update on progress towards resolution of dust, noise and odour issues

6:00	Light Refreshments
6:30	1. Welcome Apologies Confirm draft meeting notes – 15 September 2010 Confirm meeting purpose and agenda
6:45	2. Update on the dust monitoring program Update on the resolution of dust, noise and odour issues (EPA Victoria): Paul Torre, Scientist Lyn Denison, Principal Scientist, Environmental Strategies; and Richard Marks, Manager Pollution Response Includes questions/discussion
7:30	3. Maribyrnong City Council Update (Foti Beratis, Team Leader Environmental Health) Includes questions/discussions
7:55	Break
8.10	4. Nominations for the new Brooklyn Industrial Precinct Strategy Group (Carey Patterson, Manager Building & Compliance, Brimbank City Council) Includes questions/discussions
8:35	5. Brimbank City Council Compliance Update (Carey Patterson) Includes questions/discussion
9:00	6. Hobsons Bay City Council Update (Malcolm Ramsay, Public Health Coordinator) Includes questions/discussion
9:25	Close

Please note that the notes from this meeting will be posted on EPA Victoria's website and will be available to the general public. Meeting participants should advise Jen Lilburn if they would like their name removed from this public document.

Item 1. Welcome

Jen Lilburn welcomed all attendees and noted a number of apologies (see attendance record). An outline of the agenda was provided, confirming the opportunities to ask questions following each of the presentations.

The draft notes from the September meeting were endorsed as correct.

Attention was drawn to a number of documents on display around the room for information, including:

- The completed actions list
- The rolling actions list
- Responses to the 'little wins' exercise that took place at the September meeting

Jen told the meeting that she had received the comment from community members on a number of occasions that they are expected to treat everyone with respect at these meetings, but that this approach has not resulted in any action. Jen's response was that she does expect participants to be respectful of others at the meeting as everyone who participates does so on a voluntary basis showing goodwill. While it is acknowledged that issues still need to be resolved, the meetings have achieved more open communication between the various parties, have assisted in breaking down barriers and have heightened awareness of the problems faced by residents in the area. Things are happening, but the process is a long one.

Item 2. Update on dust monitoring program and on resolution of dust, noise and odour issues

Paul Torre (Air Quality Scientist, EPA) provided a brief outline of the monitoring program and station locations. Results of air quality monitoring to the end of October 2010, for coarser particles (PM10) and finer particles (PM2.5), were summarised in a presentation which included the following information:



Fig 1

Fig 2: What has been found to date

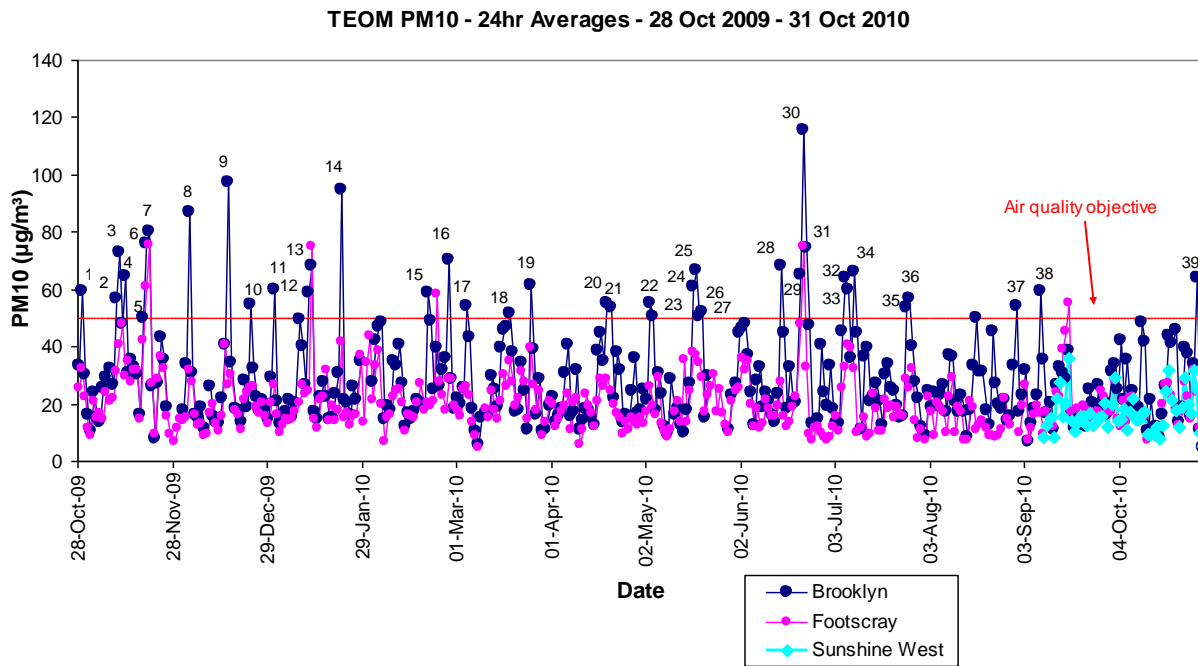


Fig 3: Month of Year

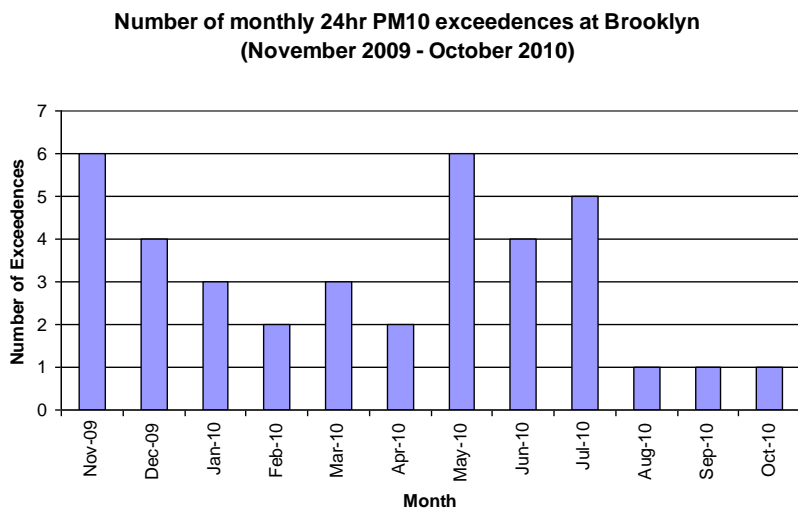


Fig 4: Day of Week

Number of 24hr PM10 exceedences at Brooklyn for each day of the week

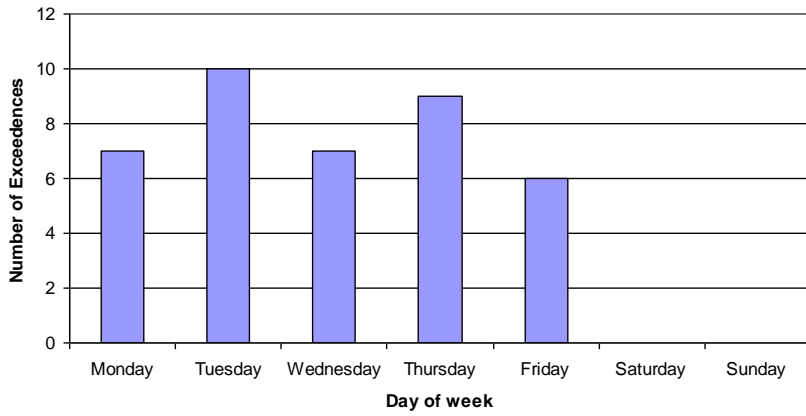


Fig 5: PM10 Levels vs Wind Speed and direction

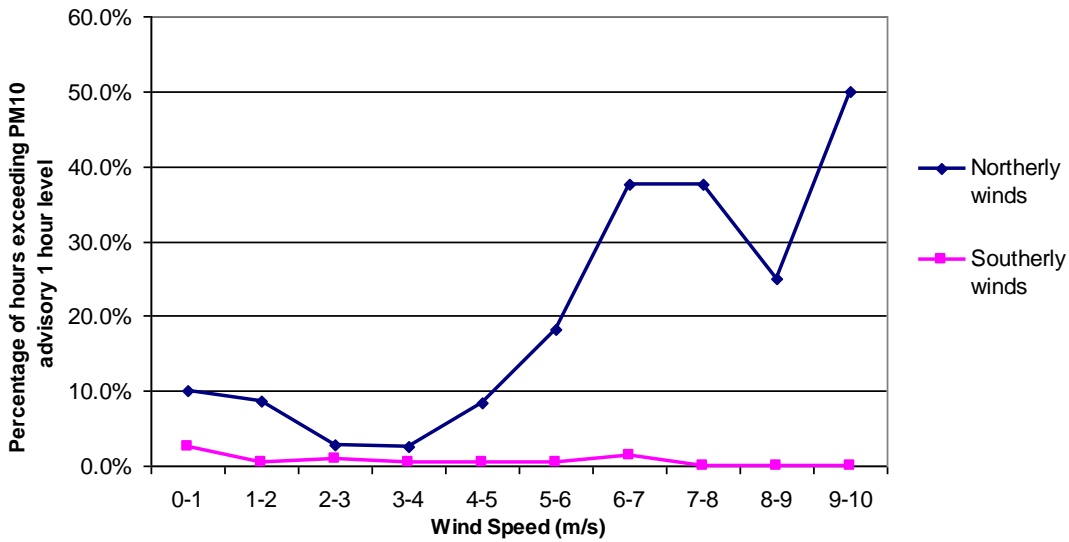
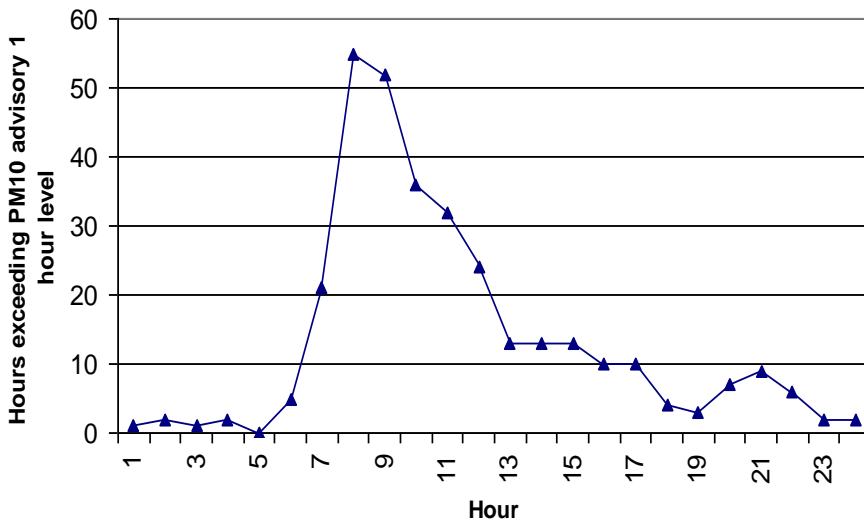


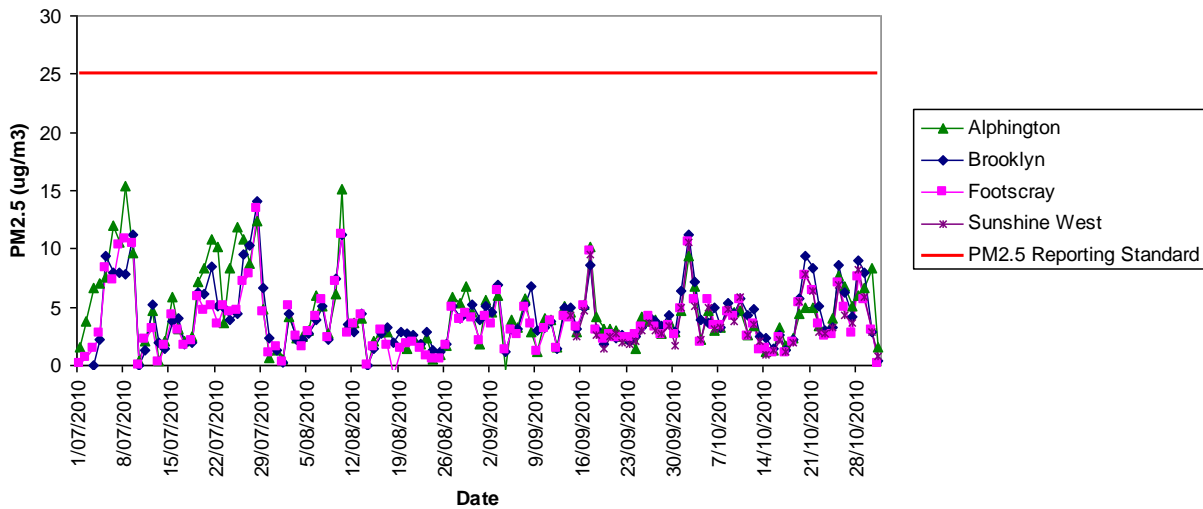
Fig 6: Daily PM10 Levels



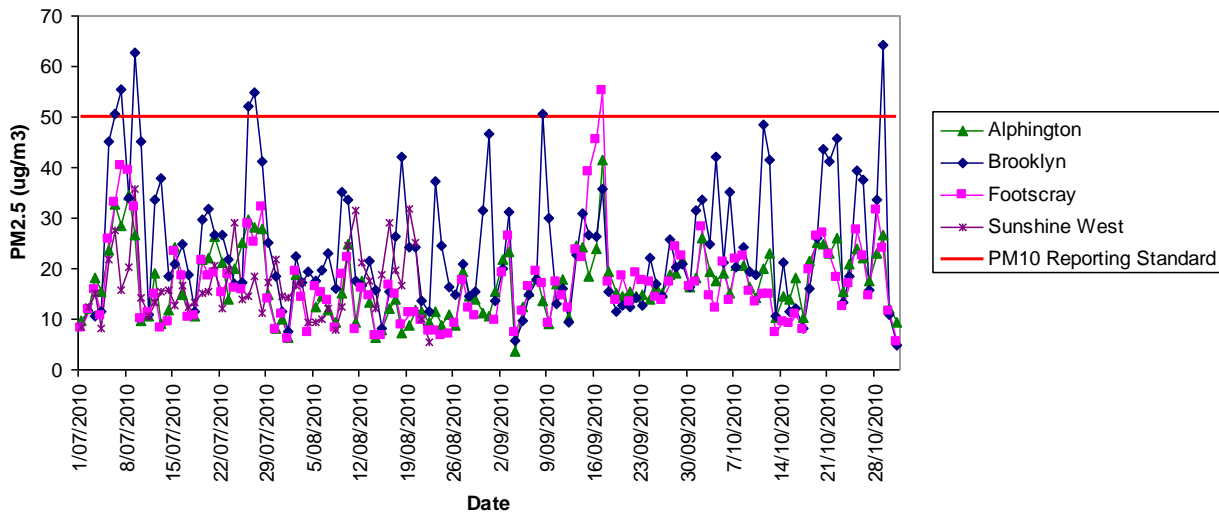
Figs 7 & 8: PM10 and PM2.5 Comparison

Meeting Notes BCRG 5/2010.

PM2.5 TEOM (July 2010 - October 2010)



PM10 (July 2010 - October 2010)



Questions/Discussion

Concern was raised about the constant emphasis on dust being generated from roads. This is contradicted by resident observations of dust coming directly off heaps/stockpiles on industrial sites. Some discussion took place as to why high dust levels were not recorded on weekends (ref Figure 4) if the piles are the main source, given that they are there all the time. It was noted that business activity on the industrial sites during the week most likely contributed to dust generation.

The EPA acknowledged that dust that is generated by industry stockpiles etc., forming part of the material that covers roads and then is stirred up by traffic – especially during the morning peak (Figure 6). To this extent the roads act as a vector, rather than a source of dust. The EPA reiterated that it is looking at the dust generation problem from a number of different angles (not just roads) and is examining a range of dust reduction strategies.

1. Cr Michael Clarke asked if Brimbank Council was in a position to indicate intent to seal roads and if so, what will its cleaning program be?
It was clarified that a program has already commenced on Bunting Road and further discussions on remedial works are continuing.

- 2 Are the PM2.5 levels recorded in Brimbank similar to those in Footscray?
EPA confirmed that the exceedences recorded in Brooklyn relate to the larger PM10 particles, not to the finer PM2.5 particles.

Lyn Denison (Principal Scientist, environmental Strategies, EPA) provided a presentation outlining the composition of particles identified in the dust monitoring program. Lyn emphasised that analysis is preliminary and requires more detailed investigation; a longer sampling period (12 months) will provide the basis for a thorough evaluation. Lyn's presentation included the following:

Particle Sources

- PM10 – is both PM2.5 and PM2.5-10
- PM2.5 – primarily combustion sources
- PM10 – crustal material (soil etc), sea salt, mechanical processes

What are we analysing for?

Respirable crystalline silica (RCS), Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), Arsenic, Asbestos, Metals (eg, Silicon, Iron, Calcium, Zinc, Lead, Manganese etc)

Results

- Two types of silica: RCS and Amorphous silica
- RCS is of interest from a health perspective
- All samples to date have shown non-detectable levels
- Amorphous silica levels have been found but are below levels of concern
- This measure provides information to identify potential sources

Metals

- Elevated levels of some metals eg., Fe, Al, Ca
- All below health based standards
- Arise from a number of sources eg. soils, re-entrained road dust, concrete crushing, metal recycling etc
- Asbestos below detectable limits

Arsenic

- Analysis has shown arsenic is present in the PM10 samples
- The levels are 100 to 200 times lower than the air quality guidelines for short-term health effects
- Not enough data at this time to assess long-term effects but sampling will continue
- NPI shows that roads can be a major source of arsenic

PAHs

- Levels are low
- Arise from combustion sources eg diesel and industrial emissions – mainly in PM2.5 fraction
- Vanadium marker for diesel – levels are very low and below detectable limits
- NEPM Poster Particles

Questions/Discussion

- 3 *The standard for PM10 is no more than 5 days/year – but Brooklyn has a higher number of exceedences than this. Would this greater exposure result in increased health problems for residents?*
Exceedences are likely to raise the potential for exacerbation of existing health conditions such as asthma. Lyn made reference to the National Environment Protection Measures (NEPMs) which outline national objectives for protecting or managing particular aspects of the environment and undertook to make information available to the group (see page 6).
- 4 *What items have been tested for?*
A suite of elements have been tested for (see page 5/6). Particular elements have been examined as a result of concerns raised by the community about what the dust contains.
- 5 *Height of the piles is not the issue. What steps are being taken to eliminate the source of dust?*

After the meeting Lyn provided the following additional information regarding Particles (PM10 and PM2.5)

Description

- *Particle pollution is a mix of solid and liquid particles suspended in the air. Particles are produced by a wide range of natural and human activities.*
- *Unlike the other criteria pollutants, particles are a broad class of chemically and physically different substances.*
- *PM₁₀ refers to particles that are less than 10 µm in diameter.*
- *PM_{2.5} refers to particles that are less than 2.5 µm in diameter.*
- *The biological effects of particles are determined by:*
 - *the physical and chemical nature of the particles*
 - *the physics of deposition and distribution in the respiratory system*
 - *the responses of the body that occur in the presence of the particle*

Sources

Sources of particles include:

- *motor vehicles (particularly diesel-fuelled vehicles),*
- *industrial and commercial boilers and incinerators,*
- *power stations,*
- *wood heaters, and*
- *Burning of vegetation (e.g. for bushfire prevention or clearing of agricultural stubble).*

Natural sources of airborne particles include dust and smoke from bushfires.

Current PM₁₀ Standard and Goal

Averaging period	Maximum concentration	Goal within 10 years Max. allowable exceedences
0 day	50µg/m ³	5 days a year

Exceedances of the PM₁₀ standard are observed in most Australian cities.

Current NEPM Advisory Reporting Standards for PM_{2.5}

Averaging period	Maximum concentration
1 day	25µg/m ³
Annual	8µg/m ³

Levels of PM_{2.5} in some Australian cities are close to or exceed the current standards.

Recent research

- Adverse health effects have been found for both PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} and to a lesser extent, ultrafine particles (diameter <0.1 µm).
- Most information comes from population-based epidemiological studies that find increases in daily death as well as increases in hospital admissions and emergency room attendances for both respiratory and cardiovascular disease.
- Worsening of asthma symptoms has also been linked with daily changes in ambient particle levels.
- There has been an increasing focus on the link between exposure to particles and cardiovascular impacts.
- In addition to studies on the various sizes for particles, recent research has also investigated the role of particle composition in the observed health effects.

Findings of the review of the particles health evidence

- Since the NEPM was made in 1998 there have been several studies conducted in Australia that show impacts of both PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} on daily death and hospital admissions.
- The size of the effects observed in the Australian studies appear to be higher than those observed in the US and Europe but comparable to the results of Canadian studies.
- Studies have also shown that long-term exposure to particles is linked with premature death and reduced lung growth.
- Reductions in lung function, increases in respiratory symptoms and asthma have been linked short-term exposure to particles.
- Most of the health evidence has come from epidemiological studies which is supported by an increasingly strong foundation of toxicological research.
- Various mechanisms have been proposed by which particles may cause and/or exacerbate acute (short term) and chronic (long term) diseases. Inflammation due to the production of reactive oxygen species is emerging as a central cause for respiratory effects.
- Many studies investigating the mechanism for cardiovascular effects have found that particles interfere with the electrical signals to the heart altering heart function.
- The contribution of ambient particles to personal exposures has been extensively studied and the results show that ambient particles contribute substantially to personal exposures even though most time is spent indoors.
- There is no conclusive evidence for the toxicity of ultrafine particles that would form the basis for a standard for this size fraction. In addition there is no data available in Australia that could be used to guide the development of a standard.
- There is increasing evidence that the coarse fraction, PM_{10-2.5} is associated with adverse health effects. This may be of particular importance in Australia given the large contribution of coarse particles from dust to PM₁₀. However, there is no data available at this time on ambient levels of PM_{10-2.5} that could be utilised to guide the development of a standard.
- The evidence that has arisen since the NEPM was made in 1998 reaffirms that particles, PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}, are associated with both short-term and long-term health effects.
- The results of the research support an independent role of particles in causing adverse health effects. This independent role has been documented through epidemiological studies that have carefully

disentangled the effect of particles from the effects of other pollutants, and by toxicological studies that have demonstrated mechanisms by which particles may cause adverse health effects.

Implications of the health evidence for particles NEPM standard

- For various health outcomes, there has not been any indication of a threshold below which adverse effects would not be observed.
- The results of studies conducted in Australia show that adverse health effects are observed at current PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} levels experienced in Australian cities.

There is no monitoring data available in Australia for either the coarse fraction, PM_{10-2.5}, or ultrafine particles that would enable a standard for these size fractions to be developed

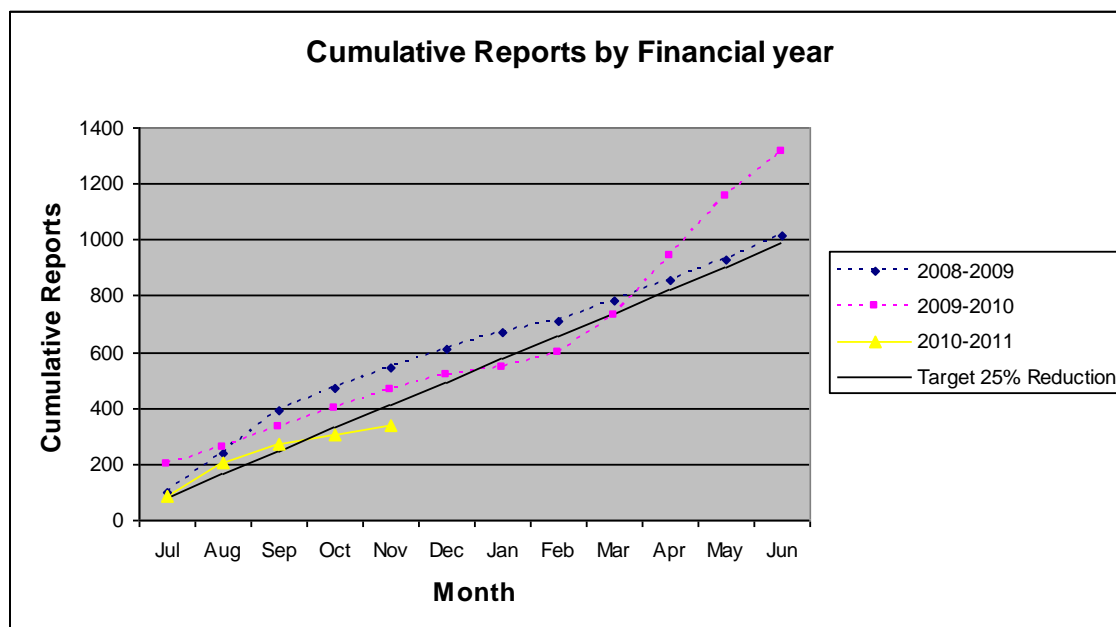
Richard Marks (Manager Pollution Response, EPA) detailed the EPA's priorities, strategies and corrective actions. Richard reported that a range of actions are being taken to address the issues in the area, advising that two out of the three objectives for improving air and water quality in the EPA Business Plan relate to Brooklyn.

Richard confirmed that enforcement has been a major focus and his presentation provided details of current and ongoing investigations and actions. Improvements are occurring and businesses are getting the message that their continued operations are at risk if they do not meet the required standards. The EPA is still responding to reports of odour, carrying out surveillance of activities and pursuing compliance with enforcement notices in order to achieve higher standards of air and water quality in the area. Data is showing that dust generation is industry related and is being exacerbated by activity on roads in the region and the EPA will continue to work with Councils and Vic Roads to address these problems.

Richard's presentation included:

EPA's Offensive Odours Strategy

- Hold Industries to account around licences and notices
- Concerted effort on enforcement - leverage
- Address issue using licencing and notices
- Follow through even if complaints reduce in the short term to ensure long term resolution
- Address odour producing premises on a priority basis



Offensive Odours Update

- Australian Tallow - Progressing Pollution Abatement Notice. Australian Tallow has voluntarily restricted throughput, to assist reduction in odour events. Australian tallow has been cooperative in the drafting of a PAN and are continuing to address odour issues
- Cargill – Proposed Enforceable Undertaking for series of incidents earlier this year has been strengthened and is in the final stages of negotiation
- EPA confident of achieving improved environmental performance that goes beyond compliance and delivers results quicker than traditional enforcement.

Enforcement

- Swift in Court to plea on 15 December – water matter
- Still concerned about risk of odour
- Australian Tallow has a second mention in Court on 2 December

Current Investigations:

- EPA continues to respond to pollution reports. Although EPA has investigated a number of reports no confirmation of significant odour was achieved since the last BCRG meeting.

Surveillance and investigations

- EPA continues to undertake surveillance and investigations in the Brooklyn area.
- In the coming weeks EPA will undertake set surveillance route for dust and odour monitoring (weather dependant)
- North Altona Landfill site will be included in this surveillance route.

Industrial Dust Strategy

- Continue to ensure compliance with Pollution Abatement Notices
- Continue to undertake monitoring
- Assess monitoring results and inform the community
- Use monitoring results to guide the focus of compliance and enforcement activities
- Continue to undertake compliance and enforcement activities for existing and new clients identified in the Brooklyn area
- Weather has kept direct industrial emissions low
- Expect without controls will escalate with warmer weather
- Will be ramping compliance and enforcement up over Summer

Particles Dust Update

Industrial Sources:

- Industrial dust generation low but still evident at Brooklyn. (Weather has been favourable but it is starting to dry out and get hotter)
- EPA will continue to work with Councils regarding roads and business compliance to notice conditions and permits.
- 1 Additional PAN issued to William Mary Pty Ltd, which is being cooperative.
- 3 Additional 55 (3D) notices issued to identify occupiers.
- 1 site difficult to identify the occupier. Not receiving correspondence, hence new notices to be sent to Director of suspected company.
- 1 site voluntarily closing unsealed access to its site.

Next Steps in Relation to PANs

- Please see handout prepared that provides a update of notice compliance
- In general EPA has been provided with the required dust management reports
- EPA is progressively assessing and providing feedback to client coupled with site inspections
- We are following up a small number of clients who have not provided reports or who have provided reports that have not addressed significant risks presented at the site
- Current inspections have identified an overall change in behaviour but additional work still to be done

Roads

- The latest analysis of the data is suggesting that the roads are a significant vector for dust
- Some roads are sources of themselves
- They also complicate enforcement of industrial dust emissions
- We continue to work with all levels of councils and Vicroads for improvements
- Councils will provide updates

- Will also support councils in preventing mud and dust being dragged onto roads through continued joint operations.

Questions/Discussion

- 6 *Is the reduction of complaints shown in the slides a reflection of people getting tired of complaining and getting no action rather than improvements in air quality?*
The EPA doesn't believe this is the case and does investigate all complaints.
- 7 *Does the EPA have power to do more to remove dust?*
Managing the height of piles of material on industrial sites is one strategy, but reducing the material being stored on site is still being pursued.
8. *Could the EPA consider placing a monitoring station at the Altona North landfill?*
EPA is currently looking into the situation at the Altona North landfill. Monitoring may form part of the solution
9. *If Councils don't have the funds to fix roads, how can problems be addressed?*
If funds are not available to seal roads, Councils need to consider other possible measures to reduce dust.
10. *Does the EPA handle litter dumping in drains?*
Councils deal with general litter and dumping of household rubbish, whereas the EPA is concerned with pollution abatement.

Item 3 Maribyrnong City Council Update

Foti Beratis (Team Leader Environmental Health, Maribyrnong City Council) outlined a number of initiatives and enforcement activities being undertaken by the Council to reduce dust problems within the municipality. His presentation covered:

Paramount Road

- VicRoads cleaned Paramount Road on the 12 September
- Council in conjunction with EPA, VicRoads conducted a blitz during the 13 -17 September
- Blitz targeted occupiers of sites and truck drivers who deposited dirt onto road.
- Unfortunately conditions were dry for the week
- Outcomes:
 - Notices were issued
 - Occupiers, drivers were warned
 - One yard laid bitumen in main traffic areas to reduce dirt and dust.

Council's Ongoing Enforcement Strategy

- Officers to attend future blitzes and issue compliance notices to occupiers, truck drivers and land owners when necessary.
- Continue ongoing Street Management plan of all Council Streets within Brooklyn and surrounding areas.
- Council officers in conjunction with EPA, will be the 'eyes and ears' in collecting evidence for further action.
- Working with EPA to identify problem sites
- Continual monitoring of problem areas

Cemetery Road Boundary

- Council Boundary is located in the middle of Cemetery Road
- Maribyrnong Council will continue to work with Hobsons Bay Council to address the issues along Cemetery Road

11. *Is Cemetery Road a problem because it is the boundary between two councils, being Maribyrnong and Hobsons Bay?*

The two Councils will continue to work together to solve the issues. The possibility of considering a municipal boundary realignment was raised by Cr Michael Clarke.

12 *Paramount Road problems are related to container sites. Why can't they be made to seal their sites or to depart the area?*

These issues are partly related to pre-existing use rights, which means that they do not have to comply with the same conditions that industries have to when applying for a permit now.

13 *Why can't they be made to meet the latest standards?*

Council does not have the power to impose retrospective controls on pre-existing industries, but still works with the EPA to manage their operations. It was clarified that certain industries are 'as of right' within the zone and do not even require a permit, but must meet certain specified conditions.

Comment: Then a change to the law is required!

EPA commented that a pre-existing use right is not a right to pollute and the EPA is working with Councils towards a consistent approach to these industries.

14 *When applications are lodged and permits issued, conditions are set, but Certificates of Occupancy (CO's) are issued without these conditions being first complied with. Why does Council issue a CO?*

Many CO's are issued by private contractors, not by Council any more. Where Council is aware of any breaches, it does work to achieve compliance with conditions.

The EPA noted that Council had achieved significant improvements in roadside conditions in Market Road.

Item 4. Nominations for the new Brooklyn Industrial Precinct Strategy Group

Carey Patterson (Manager Building & Compliance, Brimbank City Council) gave a presentation on the establishment of a support structure for the Brooklyn industrial precinct, including a Strategy Committee which will develop and oversee a strategy for the area.

Background

- Council has taken an active role in the establishment of a Support Structure for Brooklyn Industrial Precinct. This has involved seeking assistance from State and Federal Governments to change and develop a longer term vision and direction for the precinct
- A new group has been proposed by Council to provide a structure and mechanism to include a more comprehensive process to manage and develop the Brooklyn Industrial Precinct.
- Brimbank Council at its meeting on the 19th October resolved to establish the Brooklyn Industrial Precinct Strategy Committee.

Objectives of the Brooklyn Industrial Precinct Strategy Committee

- To oversee the planning and decision-making structure relating to the Brooklyn Industrial Precinct.
- To develop and oversee the implementation of a strategy for the area, and integrated action plans.
- To provide advice to Brimbank City Council on planning, enforcement and infrastructure issues.
- To enable community and industry representatives to be directly involved in the development of future strategies.
- To support the coordination of specific programs, as delivered through agencies and industry.
- To oversee development and delivery of a communications and engagement plan.

Relationships

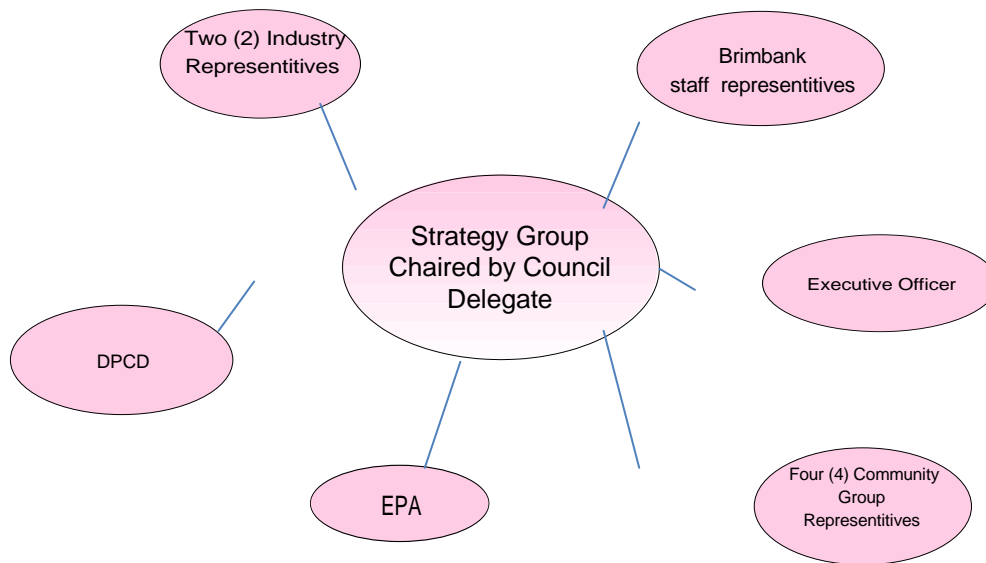
- The Committee will enhance the effectiveness of the BCRG and strengthen links.
- Complement the current communication and discussion functions
- Provide direct feed of information on the Committee's discussion and decisions in regards the Brooklyn Industrial Precinct
- Provide a means of connecting the various parties more directly with the Council decision making process
- Provide a connection to the development of strategic planning outcomes for the Brooklyn Precinct.

Strategy Plan

- Set a vision for the future of the area
- Identify major economic trends for the area

- Identify major opportunities for redevelopment
- Provide strategic direction to improve transport and infrastructure
- Enhance visual appeal
- Address land use conflicts
- Recommend changes to the planning scheme

Brooklyn Industrial Precinct Strategy Group



Membership

The membership of the BIP Strategy Committee will include:

- Chair: BCC Council Administrator
- Council Staff: GM City Development, Manager City Strategy, Manager Building & Development Compliance, Strategic Sites officer, Executive Officer
- Senior State Government Staff: EPA Manager Pollution Response, DPCD Senior Executive
- Community Representatives (x4)
- Industry Representatives (x2)

Have you got what it takes?

- Willing to participate and contribute to the discussion of matters associated with planning and development of the Brooklyn Industrial Precinct.
- Willingness to attend the Committee meetings and actively participate in discussions.
- Prepared to respect, support and value the different contributions made by all members and invited guests.
- Members will positively promote the work of the Brooklyn Industrial Precinct Strategy Committee.
- Have an ability to respect confidentiality on issues discussed, where appropriate.

Timeframe

17.11.2010	BCRG Meeting to seek nominations from the community and Industry
30.11.2010	Public Notice placed seeking nominations for the Community & Industry representatives on the Committee
15.12.2010	Period for nominations closes
TBA	Review nominations received
TBA	Interview nominees (if required)
Feb 2011	First meeting of BIPSC early February 2011

The Committee will not replace or duplicate the BCRG. Council recognises the need to look at how we fix the issues now, but to also consider the long term future of the area which is currently undervalued. Anyone interested can contact Carey for further information.

Questions/Discussion

15 Can a BCRG member be a representative on the Committee?

Jen indicated that it would be difficult for someone to represent BCRG as the group varies in both number and composition. BCRG is more a communication forum than a group with an identifiable membership.

Meredith Sussex (Brimbank City Council Administrator) confirmed that Brimbank will continue to attend BCRG meetings and report back on the issues raised. The aim is to ensure that the things we do now are consistent with what we want the Brooklyn area to be in the future.

Item 5. Brimbank City Council Compliance Update

Carey Patterson spoke to a second presentation detailing initiatives and actions for the Brooklyn area:

Additional Resources

Council is committed to improving the outcomes for Brooklyn

The Council is providing a number of additional resources to assist with the environmental outcomes in the Brooklyn Industrial Precinct. These include:

- Establishment of the Brooklyn Industrial Precinct Strategy Committee
- A planning officer has been given responsibility for planning outcomes in the Brooklyn area
- Appointment of a Strategic Sites Officer
- An additional Enforcement Position
- An Executive Officer to assist with the Strategy Committee

Works Underway

Bunting Road:

- Work has commenced on reshaping, additional road base added and dust suppression additives being applied.
- Subject to monitoring, dust suppression will be applied every 2 to 3 weeks

Old Geelong Rd:

- Clearing of the open drains and remove rubbish and litter has commenced.
- Shoulder maintenance will be carried out following the Bunting Road work

Jones Rd:

- Dust suppression and drainage works will be carried out on completion of works on Old Geelong Rd. Works will be programmed in sections.

We are also doing a detailed survey and concept design for Jones and Bunting roads.

Compliance Report

- Council and EPA are continuing with Joint Inspections where required
- Since the start of the year there have now been over 260 inspections of the Brooklyn area by Council staff.
- Companies along Somerville Road are reducing their stockpile heights
- Material Stored on Vic Track site has been removed.
- Currently working with the owners and various tenants and sub tenants operating recycling operations to relocate.
- Discussions with Vic Roads to increase their routine street maintenance program.
- Department of Health are looking at providing funding for some community engagement initiative most likely through the BIPSCs in the area

Permit Application Update

- Geelong Road – Installation of an anaerobic lagoon at Australian Tallow Producers is currently being assessed and awaiting comment from referral authorities. Community consultation will be undertaken as part of the planning application process.
- Discussions are underway with some of the material recycling operations in relation to the design for bunding walls around their sites.
- TPI site capping and remediation plans have been submitted to EPA and Council for comment- currently being assessed

Questions/Discussion

16 Cedar Meats seem to be extending their works, can Council clarify?

A response to this question was not recorded in the meeting, so Brimbank City Council provided the following thereafter: There is an application with the Council for an anaerobic lagoon to collect waste

gases and emissions. The application is currently out to referral from the various authorities and once this process is complete the matter will be advertised to the committee and members as part of the agreed referral process but at the moment it is on hold.

- 17 *There is an issue with drainage on the Old Geelong Road, what is happening with this?*
There are significant issues requiring an outfall drain and extensive design works.
- 18 *What is the status of tree and grass planting in Jones Road?*
Council is waiting until road works are complete – works are underway and the planting works are on the list.
- 19 *Are there moves underway to remove stockpiling along Kororoit Creek and Kororoit Creek Road?*
Plans to develop a stepped wall are currently being negotiated.
- 20 *Will the community have any say in the anaerobic treatment facility proposed at Australian Tallow?*
This is currently with the EPA, but will be subject to a public comment period before consideration by Council.

Comment from James Elton (Australian Tallow Producers): clarifying that the proposed anaerobic lagoons are completely covered and in this respect differ from 'aerobic' treatment which is open.

- 21 *What is happening with drainage works in Jones Road?*
Council will be cleaning out existing drains at this stage. Full curb and channel will not be undertaken.
- 22 *When referring to 'reduction of stockpiles', is this reduction due to material being moved to other sites, or are more, but smaller piles being created?*
This question was taken on notice.

After the meeting, Brimbank City Council provided the following response: The Council does not believe so as the intention is to remove the waste from the site therefore reducing the dust emissions. Most material from the sites in question are being removed. Any remaining soil or product is being sold or used for retaining walls.

The amount of soil removed equates to original estimates of 27-30 metre high stockpiles, that are now reduced to 15 and are to be further reduced to 10.

In other sites council requirement to removed stockpiles has seen the stockpiles reduced to zero (ie Victrack). Stockpiles of material such as bricks and rock have been removed completely (ie Ecorecycle bricks, Patten Industries Rock).

- 23 *Has a timeline been set for the relocation of recycling companies?*
A time has been set in which to apply for permits, but it is understood that they will not be renewing existing leases.
- 24 *We understood that the TPI Market Road site had reached capacity and would need to relocate. When will capacity be reached?*
Nadia Verga (TPI) indicated it could possibly be another 12-18 months before capacity is reached.
- 25 *What is the height restriction?*
Nadia indicated that TPI has a contour plan endorsed by the EPA.
- 26 *What is happening with organics processing?*
The preferred tenderer is Veolia and will utilise a site in Wyndham for transfer. Processing/ composting will take place in Bulla.
Kerry Murphy (EPA) advised the meeting that the Metro Waste Management Group (MWMG) will be running information sessions at Bulla and Wyndham. More information regarding community information sessions, further consultation and next steps will be provided on the MWMG website.

Item 6. Hobsons Bay City Council Update

Malcolm Ramsay (Public Health Coordinator, Hobsons Bay City Council) gave a verbal presentation to the meeting, which included the following:

Francis St

- No stopping signage has been installed in Francis St between Millers Rd and Cemetery Rd. 15 minute parking signs have been installed in Francis St in the vicinity of Export Drive near the Food shop to enable customers to park. Parking officers are actively enforcing the new parking controls in Francis St.
- Today a visit showed some signs had been defaced. These signs will be replaced. Parking officers will drive past and book any vehicles illegally parked. For officer safety reasons they may photograph or take notes on offences and send PINs through the mail.
- Some higher level discussion may be required between VicRoads, who manage the State Highway and the trucking companies.
- VicRoads have given verbal agreement to install bollards and chains along sections of Francis St. Once installed, council will consider the best approach to maintain the roadside edge.

Cemetery Rd

- Officers are still considering the best approach to improve the road and road side edge. No funding has been allocated at this point in time.

Road Freight Terminals

- Retrospective planning permit applications lodged for Amansteph Transport, Francis St (opposite Export Dr) and Tasman Logistics, Cemetery Road.
- The enforcement proceedings have been put on hold pending the outcome of the town planning permit application process. (This is usual procedure and consistent with the way VCAT deal with enforcement order applications.)
- The application in Francis St is likely to be refused and the Tasman Logistics application is likely to be supported with a condition requiring sealing of the site to prevent dust and mud.
- In both cases there will be a right of review to VCAT in relation to the decision that the Council makes. In the event that an application is refused and the use keeps operating, Council will lodge an enforcement order application with VCAT.

Note by Jen: After the meeting, Hobsons Bay City Council provided the following additional information:

Francis Street: Traffic officers will commence issuing PINs to drivers who disobey the no stopping and 15 minute parking signs from 1 December 2010.

27 Will reversing beepers be required as part of any permits issued to container yards?
This question was taken on notice.

After the meeting, Hobsons Bay City Council provided the following response:

#General amenity provision in State Planning Provisions:

An Industry or warehouse use within an industrial zone:

"Must not adversely affect the amenity of the neighbourhood, including through the:

- *Transport of materials, goods or commodities to or from the land.*
- *Appearance of any stored goods or materials.*
- *Emission of noise, artificial light, vibration, odour, fumes, smoke, vapour, steam, soot, ash, dust, waste water, waste products, grit or oil."*

The main focus of planning permits in 'Industrial 1' zoned areas is car parking and landscaping.

New planning permit condition on a permit for any new warehouse or Industrial development (in Hobsons Bay) if it is located in a position that may have a detrimental effect on surrounding neighbours:

"The operators must use broadband reversing beepers on forklift trucks or other types of beepers which are to the satisfaction of the responsible authority."

This condition is simply based on the officers' interpretation of the above 'general amenity provision#'.

It must be noted that any enforcement proceedings on this issue may not be successful as the trigger for a permit is for 'buildings and works' only, not use of the land.

Given the general nature of the 'amenity provision' and 'permit condition' the onus is likely to be on the Council to provide extensive, hard evidence from affected community members to place the matter before VCAT.

- 28 *Can Council do something about weed control/general maintenance in Cemetery Road and Francis Street as it is a disgrace?*

This question was taken on notice.

After the meeting, Hobsons Bay City Council provided the following response:

Cemetery Rd is a major link road and Council is having discussions with VicRoads on its future. Currently, council repairs pot holes, maintains pit lid covers and removes dumped rubbish. Cemetery Rd is non residential and is assessed every 6 months.

There are no plans to seal the verges or upgrade the road surface. However, the installation of no stopping signs is under consideration.

The dumped rubbish has been removed.

- 29 *Chalmers continue to truck mud onto Francis Street. Will they be required to seal trafficable areas?*

This question was taken on notice.

After the meeting, Hobsons Bay City Council provided the following response:

385-397 Francis St, Brooklyn:

There was a recent planning permit for additions and the construction of a hardstand area however this was located in the south east corner of the property and will not affect the existing dust concerns.

Comment: *If Brooklyn is undervalued as previously discussed, why can't it be rezoned residential?*

- 30 *Is the EPA and Environment Victoria merging into one organisation?*

No, but both organisations are working together to organise a Community Forum (first meeting 6th December). The Community forum will become a regular information and discussion event between EPA and the community. Participants can get an update on EPA's performance measures and key priorities as well as participate in discussions around serious environmental issues facing the Victorian community.

Meeting Close

At the conclusion of the meeting, participants were thanked for their attendance and were asked to indicate their satisfaction with the processes that are in place to resolve odour and dust. (This follows a similar question asked at the May 2010 meeting). Results were as follows:



Jen thanked Margot Harrison for her superb efforts in supporting BCRG Community Forum meetings throughout the year. It was noted that Margot's role will be undertaken by the new Executive Officer for future meetings.

Meeting closed at 9.15pm

Notes taken by Margot Harrison and reviewed by Jennifer Lilburn. Presenters were given the opportunity to review the notes relating to their item to ensure the discussion was accurately recorded. Additional comments received after the meeting have been highlighted as such.

Next BCRG Community Forum: 16 February 2010.

Meeting Attendance Record – 17 November 2010

49 people registered their attendance:

Adrian Masterman-Smith	Resident, Altona North	Kim Magee	Yooralla
Bert Boere		Laurie Bell	BRAG/Brooklyn Ratepayers
Bill Cole	Resident	Lowen Clarke	Resident
Bruce Light	On The Nose	Lyn Denison	EPA Victoria
Carey Patterson	Brimbank City Council	Malcolm Ramsay	Hobsons Bay City Council
Carmen Largaiolli	BRAG	Margot Harrison	Notes Taker
Catriona Mahony		Meredith Sussex AM	Brimbank City Council
Dennis Pedretti	Australian Tallow Producers	Michael Clarke (Cr)	Maribyrnong City Council
Di Fincher		Michael O'Keefe	Sita
Dorothy Brown	Resident Altona North	Michael Raffoul (Cr)	Hobsons Bay City Council
Doug Takano	Resident Altona North	Mike Jenkins	Resident
Foti Beratis	Maribyrnong City Council	Nadia Verga	TPI/TWM Landfills
Fran	Resident	Paul Ratajczyk	EPA Victoria
Geoff Mitchelmore	Resident Altona North	Paul Torre	EPA Victoria
Heather Humphreys	Resident Brooklyn	Peter Curl	Fulton Hogan
Hector Burton	Resident & Swift Employee	Richard Marks	EPA Victoria
Helen Takano	Resident Altona North	Ross Brunt	
James Elton	Australian Tallow Producers	Sheila Cabral-Sheppard	TPI/TWM Landfills
James Fraser	On The Nose	Stephen Sully	Brimbank City Council
James Twining	Leader Newspapers	Susan Fitton	Brimbank City Council
Jan Cole	Resident	Val Bazjak	Veolia
Jason Boyle	One Steel		
Jen Lilburn	BCRG Chair		
Jo-Anne Williamson	Resident Altona North		
Jo Anderson	Brimbank City Council		
John Karageorge	Maribyrnong City Council		
John Rowe	Local employer		
Kerry Murphy	EPA Victoria		
Kevin Annia	Swift Australia		

Apologies			
Ken Deutscher	Huntsman Performance Products		
Nick Morgan	Cargill		
Tom Buxton	Sunshine Groupe		
Tony Briffa (Cr)	Hobsons Bay Council		
Troy White	Swift Australia		

