



BROOKLYN COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE GROUP

***OUR PURPOSE:** to facilitate community, industry, local government and EPA working together to ensure that public concerns and aspirations regarding odour, noise and dust in the general Brooklyn area are consistently understood and considered.*

JULY 2015 MEETING SNAPSHOTS

Update on the sealing of Jones Rd and Bunting Rd

Ray Martin, Brimbank CC gave an update on the \$2.6M project to seal Jones Rd and Bunting Rd in Brooklyn.

Bunting Rd and Jones Rd works in progress

- installation of drainage
- widening and paving of the road
- kerbing channels
- vegetating swales where possible.



Bunting Rd



Jones Rd

Old Geelong Road Plans

- \$50,000 in Capital Works Budget 2015/16
- Widening and kerb & channel – Old Geelong Road to Transpacific site
- Proposal for landscaping – vegetated swale, plantings.



Containerspace Upgrade

Helen Paterson gave an overview of the formation of Containerspace after the previous site she was employed at was deemed unsuitable under a Pollution Abatement Notice (PAN) issued by EPA Victoria in 2012. The purchase of the new site and subsequent clean-up was a massive undertaking including demolition, remediation, planning and consultation with neighbours, VicRoads and council.

From this – to this!



The development of the new facilities includes many sustainable ideals, management plans and infrastructure resulting in a clean and modern facility which is a great example for Brooklyn.

Helen and Containerspace were commended by participants at the meeting for their approach and achievements.

BCRG is on Facebook

A new Facebook page has been setup for BCRG. Participants were encouraged to 'like' it! Andrea and Jen are the administrators of the site – anyone wishing to contribute should message via Facebook or send an email to eo.bcr@gmail.com.



<https://www.facebook.com/BrooklynCommunityRepresentativeGroup>

Chris Bydder, Team Leader - Compliance Strategy & Support - Metro

Chris gave an update on the air quality and odour reports to EPA and the encouraging outlook for Brooklyn. He was especially encouraged by the passing of **100 days with no exceedences** of the standard for dust in the air. Improvements in sealed roads and container parks such as the one in Paramount Rd and Containerspace appear to be making a difference. Compliance by industry has also improved.

Key Updates

- Seventeen exceedences in 2014/15 (lowest level since monitoring began in 2009)
- Driest year since monitoring began
- 166 odour complaints in 2014-15 (second lowest since electronic recording began in 1996)
- Construction of Jones and Bunting Roads underway
- Metro is recruiting an additional field team

Odour reports have reduced significantly since 2012. The EPA undertakes a regular tour of inspections Brooklyn in Spring to identify any new or returning odour sources. The annual average of odour complaints has reduced from 1220 to 200/month. Last month there were only 7 odour reports.



1300 EPA VIC (1300 372 842)



contact@epa.vic.gov.au

More work to be done

The target for dust exceedences is still less than 5 per year. Priorities to help reach that include:

- Sealed forecourts and wheel cleaning at entrances to sites on **Jones and Bunting Roads**.
- Targeted **enforcement** against companies that continue to **track mud** onto **Somerville Road**.
- Continued **compliance monitoring** of sites across the precinct and where noncompliance is detected EPA will initiate **enforcement actions**.



Stockpile Heights in Brooklyn

The height of the stockpiles is still a major concern for the community and agencies in the Brooklyn precinct. Discussion and information received after the meeting included:

- The EPA doesn't monitor stockpile height. There are three recycling companies with permits in the Jones and Bunting Roads area. EPA is working with council, which issues the permits and controls stockpile heights.
- The main concern raised by residents was the "stockpile" at the Western Land landfill. The landfill has an EPA licence, requiring compliance with a final contour plan. The finished landfill will have the appearance of a small hill, similar to the Transpacific landfill on Old Geelong Road.
The final height of the landfill will be at least 4 metres high and up to 7 metres higher than surrounding land. This is crucial to ensure rainwater drains off the landfill and doesn't pool on the surface, infiltrating the waste and generating leachate. EPA has issued a notice on the site last year to formalise the operator's plans in relation to conforming to the final contour plan.
The current mound is mostly grassed and there will be vehicles driving on it from time to time as part of the standard operations on the site. EPA has no current evidence to support this mound as being a significant source of dust in the area and will continue to monitor the situation.
- Brimbank CC is monitoring the City Circle, Delta Group and Sunshine Groupe sites. There has been a lot of dirt movement recently as they are creating bund walls around the perimeters. BCC is currently working on new permits with these industries and hopes to include the right conditions for the long term management. Overall the stockpile heights shouldn't be increasing.
- The Fulton Hogan site has one of the planning permits with no height conditions. BCC will continue to have discussions with them.
- The only gypsum stockpile is at the Sunshine Groupe site and they have discussed building a facility to enclose that stockpile.

Statewide Waste and Resource Recovery Infrastructure Plan (SWRRIP)

Karen Wilson, Sustainability Victoria and Vanessa Petrie, Metropolitan Waste and Resource Recovery Group gave an overview of the proposed 30 year Statewide Waste and Resource Recovery Infrastructure Plan. The plan has implications for Brooklyn as a potential hub for consolidating materials and co-locating facilities in a central location:

- **Brooklyn is currently very significant for processing**
 - metals (40% of state's metals)
 - construction and demolition materials recovered (1 million tonnes annually)
- **Brooklyn has potential for parts of the precinct to be used for resource recovery facilities if it includes:**
 - Best practice operations
 - Community and local government support
 - Meet planning and EPA approvals
 - Adequate buffers

It was stressed that this is the initial stage of planning and involves undertaking extensive community and stakeholder engagement including:

- Community Leader's Forum and ongoing community reference group discussions
- **Online engagement open now**, visit www.participate.mwrrg.vic.gov.au/conversation

BCRG participants expressed concern about Brooklyn being identified as a hub for resource recovery and requested that MWRRG review the principles outlined in Brooklyn Evolution.

Remaining Meeting for 2015: November 11

Attendance by open invitation; contact eo.bcr@gmail.com

See the meeting notes at <http://www.brooklynip.com.au/bcr-g-meeting-notes> for a full account of discussions at the meeting.

