

MEETING NOTES (APPROVED 27/02/2014)

Thursday, 28 November 2013 at 6:00pm

Chaired By: Ben Connell

Education Centre, 1725 Elizabeth Drive, Kemps Creek

Note Taker: Gareth Jones

ATTENDEES

SITA Australia

- (AK) – Sydney Landfills Manager
- (BC) – Business Development Manager
- (PH) – Sydney Resource Recovery Manager
- (LCC) – Elizabeth Drive Landfill Manager
- (NB) – Compliance Officer
- (JJ) – Landfills Technical Manager
- (GJ) – Stakeholder Engagement Manager

Community

- (WM)
- (PM)
- (ARA)
- (ZS)

Apologies

- (NH) (SITA)
- (MT) (Nepean Greens)
- (SW) (Nepean Greens)
- (DG) (Nepean Greens)
- (BF) (Community)

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

1. WELCOME AND AGENDA

Item	Discussion	Action	By
1.1	BC welcomed visitors to tonight's meeting. Apologies were acknowledged from SW, MT, NH, BF and DG.		

2. ACCEPTANCE OF NOTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Item	Discussion	Action	By
2.1	Notes from the previous meeting were accepted with no amendments.		

3. OPERATIONS UPDATES

Item	Discussion	Action	By
3.1	Kemps Creek SAWT Advanced Resource Recovery Facility		
3.1.1	PH reported that the previously proposed 8,000m ² concrete pad was now being constructed on the MSW compost maturation pad, located at the eastern end of the SAWT facility. The original bare earth surface has degraded from repeated use, and is likely to have contributed to odours. The new concrete slab, which slopes toward a leachate collection dam,		

will enable compost to dry more easily and to be kept dry and aerated.

3.1.2 PH added that when the new slab is complete, compost from the FGO compost maturation pad (on the southern side of the SAWT facility) will be transferred to the MSW compost maturation pad, and a new 4,000m² concrete pad will be constructed in this area. Work will then begin on 4 concrete bunkers with aerated floors and roofs overhead to protect compost from rain. Air will flow up through the aerated floors, forcing faster drying of the compost in the bunkers. If compost becomes wet, it is difficult to process – the material can then build up on the site, and odours can result. The construction of the concrete pads involves a significant expenditure, and PH believes it will make a big difference in minimising odours.

3.2 Elizabeth Drive Landfill

3.2.1 AK reported that landfill operations were progressing as normal. Contractors were currently in the process of excavating the next cells, as seen during the tour. Some excavated material was being transported directly off site, while some was going into stockpiles for future use on-site or transport at a later date. A new finished compost product pad was being constructed next to the current pad, which would reduce transport distances as the new pad would be closer to the SAWT facility. This would also enable landfilling in the area where the existing finished product pad is located.

3.2.2 AK reported that SITA were currently in negotiations with AGL to establish gas engines on site, which would use gas extracted from the landfill to generate renewable electricity. AGL were currently doing a feasibility study, and had gone to tender for establishment of the engines. AK hoped to receive an update from AGL in the next few months.

3.2.3 AK also reported that a new flare was to be commissioned next week, after which point the existing rented flares would be shut down and decommissioned.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE

Item	Discussion	Action	By
4.1	NB presented the Environmental Update included with these notes as <i>Appendix 1 – Environmental Update</i> . Since the last meeting, 4 odour complaints had been received, all from locations to the east of the facility, and within a 1km radius of the site. NB was currently investigating the possible cause of these observations.		
4.2	NB reported that SITA were in the process of sourcing an 'odour cannon,' which should be on site within the next 2-3 weeks. The unit was designed to spray a vapour into the air, which would then react with odourous compounds to neutralise odours. The cannon would be used in various locations around the landfill in a 3 month trial to evaluate its effectiveness.		

5. PROJECTS UPDATES

Item	Discussion	Action	By
5.1	SAWT Expansion and Upgrade		
5.1.1	BC noted that the work PH outlined earlier in the meeting was an interim solution, and could be viewed as a test prior to committing to the full expansion of the SAWT facility which had been proposed earlier in the year. Proceeding with the expansion would rely on winning new business and gaining approval from the NSW Department of Planning & Infrastructure.		
5.2	Landfill Gas Infrastructure		
5.2.1	All agreed that AK had covered this in his update earlier in the meeting.		

6. ACTIONS OUTSTANDING

Item	Discussion	Action	By
6.1	<p>4.7 <i>SITA to provide general information on recent complaints, including the distance from the site, and the number of complaints found after investigation to be attributed to SITA.</i></p>	SITA	28/11/13
6.1.1	GJ presented the report included with these notes as <i>Appendix 2 – Complaints Report</i> . ACTION CLOSED		
6.1.2	A request was made for the same information to be provided at future meetings as a regular update.		
Action 6.1	SITA to provide detailed updates at each CRG meeting on recent complaints, including their distance and bearing from the site.	SITA	Next meeting
6.2	<p>4.9 <i>SITA to provide the report produced by The Odour Unit on odours in western Sydney to CRG members.</i></p>	SITA	28/11/13
6.2.1	BC reported that as the report in question was commissioned by the EPA, SITA didn't own or have rights to its content, and therefore SITA's legal advisors had recommended that CRG members obtain a copy from the EPA directly. ACTION CLOSED		
6.2.2	BC said CRG members would be provided with the link to the relevant		

page on the EPA website from which the report could be downloaded.

Action	SITA to provide CRG members with the link to the relevant page on the EPA website from which the report produced by The Odour Unit can be downloaded.	SITA	Next meeting
6.2			
6.3	4.13 SITA to consider analysis of dust samples.	SITA	28/11/13

6.3.1 AK reported that the majority of the dust generated on site was from excavation activities, and was composed of virgin excavated natural material (VENM). There had never been any requirement or request under the facility's EPA licence to analyse the dust, since the source was known. Excavated material had been analysed in the past without detection of any concerns, and AK would expect the composition of the dust to be the same as that of the material stored in stockpiles. Furthermore, the average dust deposition in on-site dust gauges was approximately 4g/m²/month – these were extremely small sample, and would not constitute enough material to enable a proper chemical analysis.

ACTION CLOSED

6.4	4.14 SITA to provide an update on the partnership with Taronga Zoo.	SITA	28/11/13
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6.4.1 AK reported that initial discussions had taken place with representatives from Taronga Zoo, who had visited the site (along with SITA's Lucas Heights and Spring Farm facilities) to assess its suitability. The proposal involved planting eucalyptus trees from which leaves would be harvested and taken back to the Zoo for use as feed for koalas. Taronga Zoo had not been in further contact with SITA to date, but the option of using SITA's land was available if Taronga Zoo did decide to take it up.

ACTION CLOSED

6.5	6.2 SITA to release an information package to the CRG and general public on the Hunters Hill proposal, which includes the independent consultant's report and correspondence with the State Government.	SITA	When available
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6.5.1 BC exhibited the report received from Geosyntec Consultants, and explained that it would be available in its entirety to the CRG by Christmas. In the interim, BC delivered a presentation to the CRG members present. This presentation has been included with these notes as *Appendix 3 – Summary of Report by Geosyntec Consultants*.

6.5.2 ZS asked what the current background radiation level currently was at the Hunters Hill site.

BC replied that it was hard to say – there would presumably be ‘hot spots’ (small areas of elevated radioactivity).

AK suggested that ANSTO or GPNSW may be able to provide an answer, and recommended ZS refer his enquiry to one of those organisations.

BC added that he would be surprised if this information is not included in GPNSW’s submissions report.

JJ said he believed that the background level in broader Hunters Hill area is in line with the region’s average, being approximately 0.8-1mSv/yr.

6.5.3 BC remarked that it had been comforting to find that the consultant had concluded the site was robust and well-engineered, but added that community concerns had driven SITA to commission the study.

BC invited further questions from CRG members, which could be passed on to GPNSW. No such questions were forthcoming at this meeting.

ACTION CARRIED OVER

6.6

6.14	<i>SITA to provide the CRG with the information previously provided to Penrith City Council regarding the sources of material coming to the Elizabeth Drive Landfill.</i>	SITA	28/11/13
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6.6.1 BC advised that the materials that have been accepted under the restricted waste classification are as follows:

- Contaminated soil (containing elevated concentrations of heavy metals and/or hydrocarbons)
- Construction & demolition waste (including fibreglass, insulation batts, etc.)
- Non-soil contaminated wastes (containing elevated concentrations of heavy metals and/or hydrocarbons)
- Sludges
- Asbestos waste
- Refractory/catalyst wastes (from kilns, furnaces, and refineries)
- Filter cake (mainly from painting and powder coating industries)
- Baghouse dust and filters
- Grit blast material (from cleaning activities)
- Activated carbon (for odour control, etc.)
- Chemical waste (from laboratories)
- Contaminated paper & textiles (from industry)

Note: While exact tonnages and sources cannot be announced due to commercial sensitivity, the list above has been arranged in order of most tonnes received to fewest tonnes received.

BC added that the total volume of the above wastes which had been received since 2000 was approximately 220,000 tonnes. In contrast, 400,000 tonnes of general waste was accepted at the landfill every year.

6.6.2 ARA asked where else these wastes could be taken.

AK replied that there were not many other disposal options, but some

treatment options were available, for example thermal desorption or colation.

6.6.3 WM asked how far the wastes would travel in order to reach the site. AK replied that sources were generally within the Sydney metropolitan region, but that there were also many other suitable landfills in the area.

6.6.4 WM asked if Penrith's waste was brought to the landfill. AK replied that very little council waste was ever taken into the landfill, with most such waste coming from industrial activities. Most council waste arriving at the site was processed in the SAWT facility instead. BC added that the landfill was not open to the general public, being accessible only by account customers.

ACTION CLOSED

6.7

6.15	<i>ARA to forward recent media articles of interest to SITA.</i>	ARA	28/11/13
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6.7.1 ARA apologised that he had not yet been able to address this action.

ACTION CARRIED OVER

6.8

6.17	<i>GJ to organise a group tour for all CRG members coinciding with the next meeting. Tour to commence at 5pm, with CRG meeting to follow immediately afterwards.</i>	GJ	28/11/13
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6.8.1 It was agreed that the tour had taken place before the meeting in accordance with the action.

ACTION CLOSED

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

Item	Discussion	Action	By
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7.1 Meeting dates for 2014 were agreed upon. Meetings will take place on the final Thursday of every even-numbered month, beginning at 5:30pm, and will be held as usual in the Education Centre at SITA's Kemps Creek Advanced Resource Recovery Park – 1725 Elizabeth Dr, Kemps Creek.

The agreed meeting dates are as follows:

- 27/02/2014
- 24/04/2014
- 26/06/2014
- 28/08/2014
- 30/10/2014

GJ suggested that a new meeting time of 5:30pm be trialled for the first two or three meetings of 2014. All agreed that this would be convenient.

MEETING CLOSED 7:00PM

NEXT MEETING

Date & Time: Thursday, 27 February 2014 at 5:30pm

Venue: Education Centre – SITA Kemps Creek ARRP, 1725 Elizabeth Drive Kemps Creek

ACTIONS OUTSTANDING

Item	Issue	Action	By
6.1	SITA to provide detailed updates at each CRG meeting on recent complaints, including their distance and bearing from the site.	SITA	Next meeting
6.2	SITA to provide CRG members with the link to the relevant page on the EPA website from which the report produced by The Odour Unit can be downloaded.	SITA	Next meeting
	Response The report produced by The Odour Unit can be downloaded from the following page on the EPA website: http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/pollution/WestSydOdour.htm		
6.5	SITA to release an information package to the CRG and general public on the Hunters Hill proposal, which includes the independent consultant's report and correspondence with the State Government.	SITA	When available
6.7	ARA to forward recent media articles of interest to SITA.	ARA	28/11/13
Appendices	1) Environmental Update 2) Complaints Report 3) Summary of Report by Geosyntec Consultants		

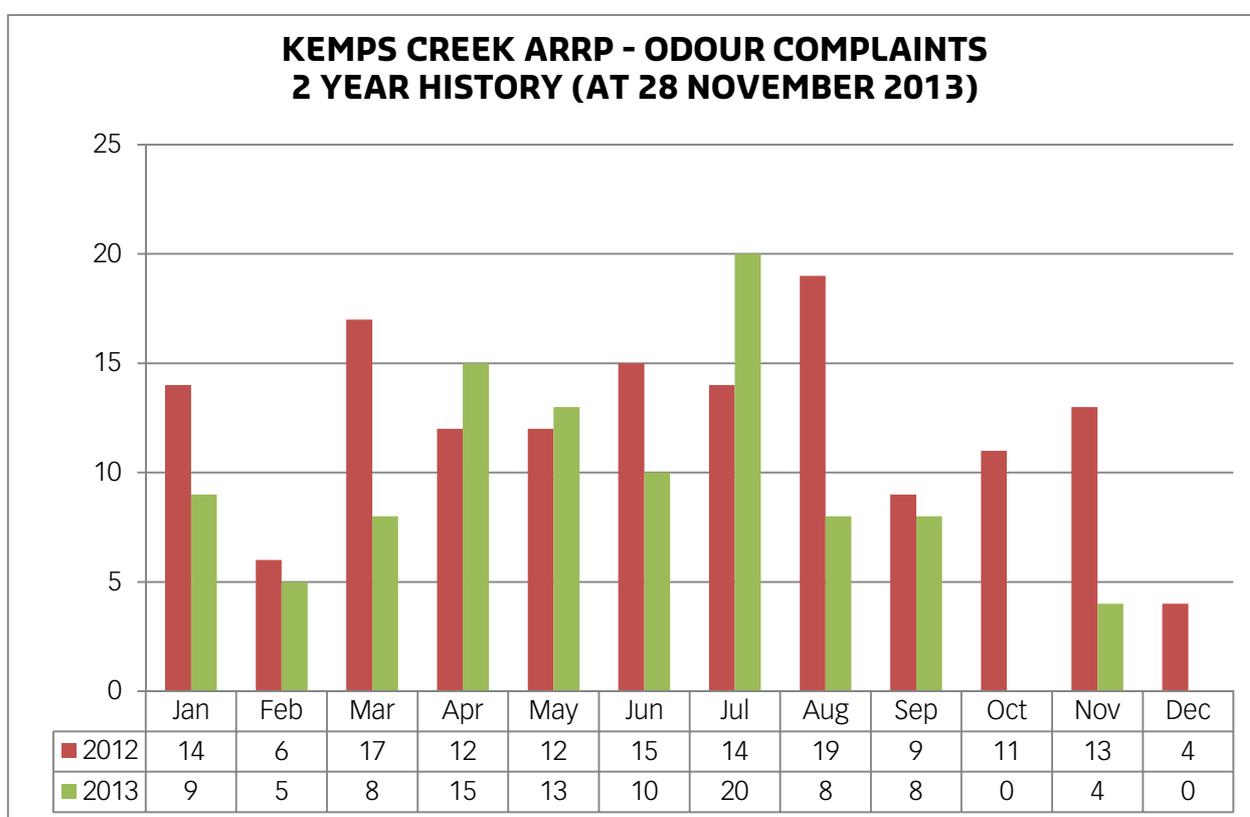
APPENDIX 1 – ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE

KEMPS CREEK ADVANCED RESOURCE RECOVERY PARK ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 2013

ODOUR COMPLAINTS

There were 4 odour complaints for the period 27 September – 28 November 2013.



There were no odour complaints received in October, and a total of four received to date in November. These odour complaints were received from residents within a 1km radius to the east of the facility. Investigations are currently being carried out to determine the cause.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- As part of the odour mitigation strategy, the upgrade of the outdoor maturation pads has commenced on the MSW compost maturation pad. This will ensure that the material will be kept dry. Liquids will not pool, instead running off into ponds which are under 24-hour aeration. The turning of maturing compost can then also continue during wet periods.
- SITA continues to employ an odour spotter. This has proven to be a key tool in identifying odour sources.
- A trial odour control system will be installed on the eastern boundary to determine the effectiveness of deodouriser against potential odours from the landfill.

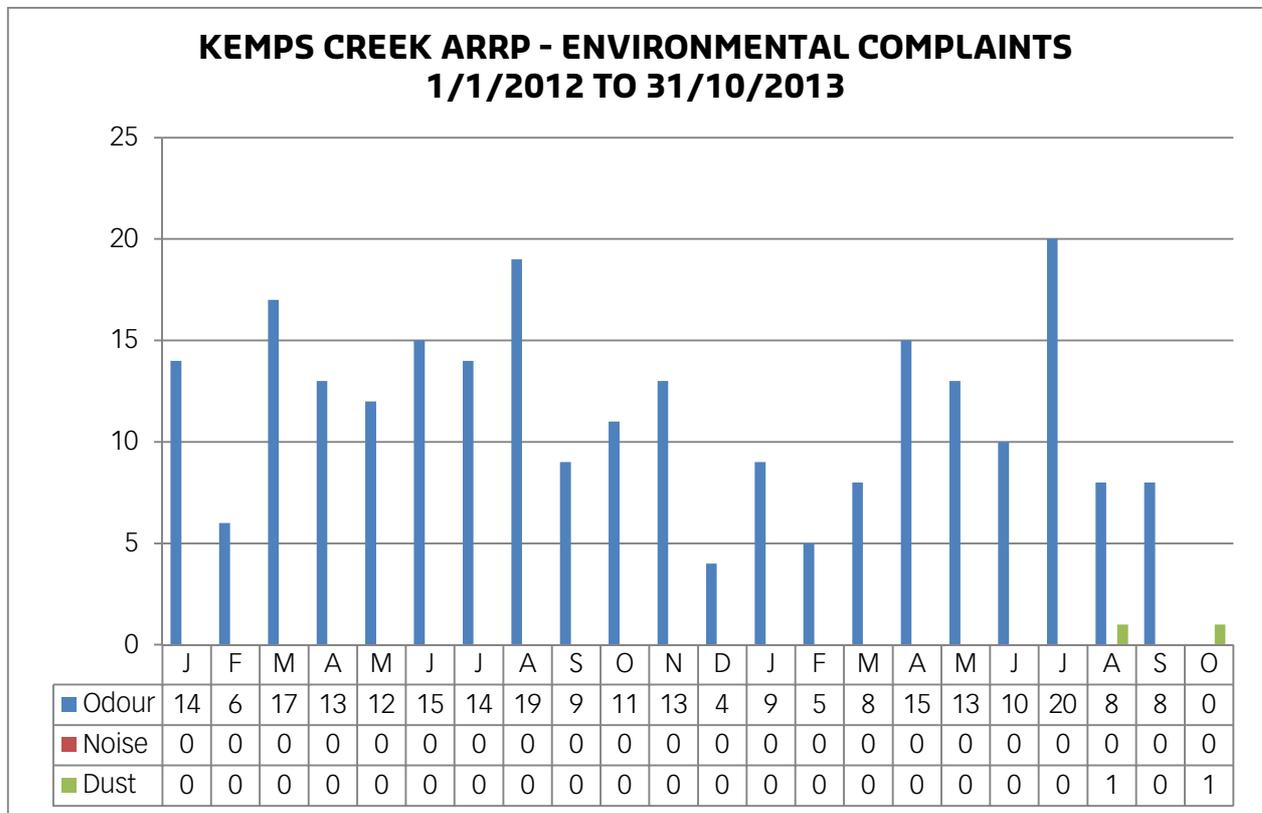
APPENDIX 2 – COMPLAINTS REPORT

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLAINTS

JAN 2012-OCT 2013

TOTAL COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

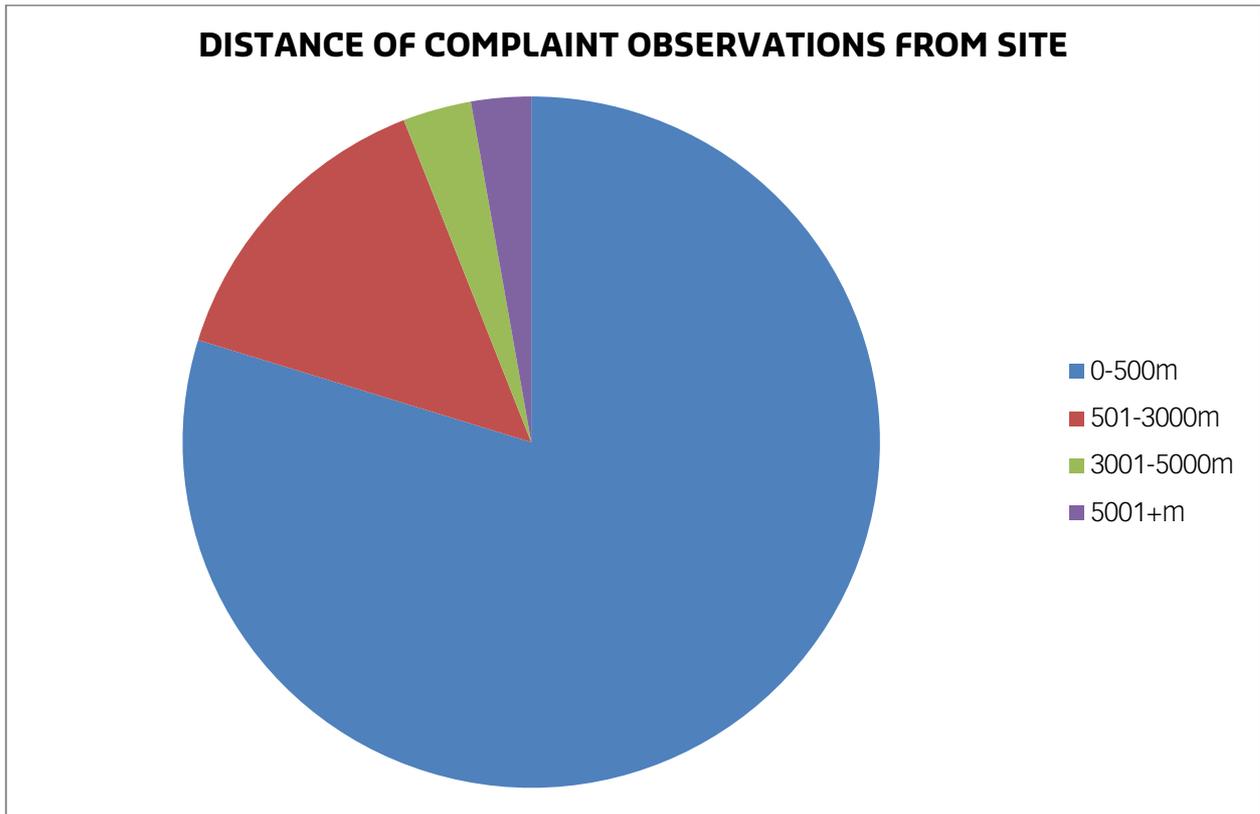
During the period beginning 1 January 2012 and ending 31 October 2013, SITA Australia’s Kemps Creek Advanced Resource Recovery Park received a total of 244 environmental complaints (242 odour complaints and 2 dust complaints).



- Complaints have fallen dramatically in recent months.
- Dust complaints were only received during recent hot, dry and windy weather.

DISTANCE OF COMPLAINT OBSERVATIONS FROM SITE

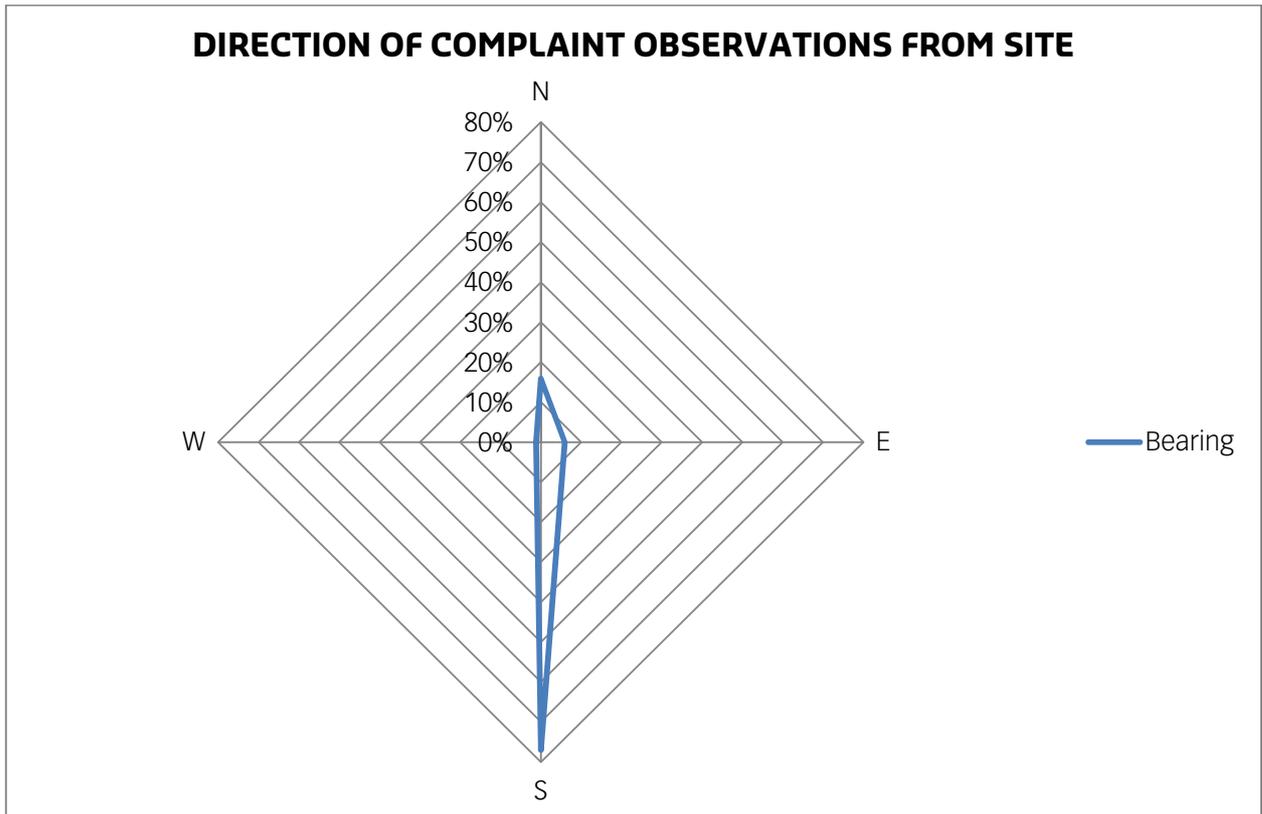
- The median distance between SITA's boundary and the location of odour or dust observations is 500m.
- The farthest distance at which an observation of dust or odour has been reported is 5.6km.
- 80% of complaints received were from locations within a 500m radius of SITA's boundary.
- 14% of complaints received were from locations between 500m and 2.4km from SITA's boundary.



- As distance from the site increases, it is also increasingly difficult to determine whether or not the odour was coming from SITA.

DIRECTION OF COMPLAINT OBSERVATIONS FROM SITE

- 77% of complaints received related to odours or dust observed in areas to the south of the site.
- 16% of complaints received related to odours or dust observed in areas to the north of the site.
- 6% of complaints received related to odours or dust observed in areas to the east of the site.
- 1% of complaints received related to odours or dust observed in areas to the west of the site.



KEMPS CREEK ARRП

COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP



SITA ENVIRONMENT REPORT HOTLINE: 1800 368 737
NSW EPA ENVIRONMENT LINE: 131 555

APPENDIX 3 – SUMMARY OF REPORT BY GEOSYNTEC CONSULTANTS