

## MEETING NOTES (DRAFT – FOR APPROVAL 30/10/2014)

Thursday, 21 August 2014 at 5:30pm

Chaired By: Gareth Jones

Education Centre, 1725 Elizabeth Drive, Kemps Creek

Note Taker: Gareth Jones

### ATTENDEES

#### SITA Australia

- (PH) – Sydney Resource Recovery Manager
- (NB) – Compliance Officer
- (GJ) – NSW Stakeholder Engagement Manager

#### Apologies

- (BF) – Horsley Park
- (PC) – SITA
- (LC) – SITA

#### Community

- (PM) – Kemps Creek
- (WM) – Kemps Creek
- (JD) – Mount Vernon

## SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

### 1. WELCOME AND AGENDA

Item	Discussion	Action	By
1.1	GJ welcomed visitors to the meeting. All present introduced themselves. Apologies were acknowledged as listed above.		

### 2. ACCEPTANCE OF NOTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Item	Discussion	Action	By
2.1	Notes from the previous meeting were accepted without amendment.		

### 3. OPERATIONS UPDATES

Item	Discussion	Action	By
<b>3.1</b>	<b>Kemps Creek SAWT Advanced Resource Recovery Facility</b>		
3.1.1	PH reported that operations at the SAWT facility were business as usual. <i>An update on the SAWT upgrade was discussed – this is included in Section 5.1.</i>		
<b>3.2</b>	<b>Elizabeth Drive Landfill</b>		
3.2.1	NB reported that operations at the landfill were business as usual. The		

new cell has been lined and the gravel drainage layer has been completed. The EPA were expected to give approval for the new cell very soon, after which point waste would begin arriving. The new SAWT final product pad has been finished and is also awaiting EPA approval for use. Restricted waste tipping would move to the new restricted waste cell from next week.

3.2.2 JD asked if the restricted waste was odourous.

NB replied that it was no more odourous than other waste, although it had a slightly different odour character. The waste would be covered every day as per the current situation for all landfilled wastes. Only dry waste are accepted – no liquids or sludges.

3.2.3 JD asked if any tanker trucks ever entered the site.

NB replied that tankers do occasionally enter the site but only in order to remove excess leachate – never to deliver liquid wastes for disposal to landfill.

3.2.4 PM asked what measures were in place to control dust.

NB replied that water carts conduct ongoing traverses of roads within the landfill in order to wet the surface and prevent generation of dust. SITA will be trialling a surface sealing resin and analysing the results to determine its effectiveness.

JD suggested the use of recycled bitumen as this may be less dusty.

NB replied that he would pass on this suggestion to the landfill team.

#### 4. ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE

Item	Discussion	Action	By
4.1	<p><i>NB presented the Environmental Update included with these notes as <b>Appendix 1 – Environmental Update.</b></i></p> <p>NB reported that since the last meeting 10 odour complaints had been received – 1 in July (most likely related to the movement of rejected compost from SAWT to the landfill) and 9 in August (most likely linked to recent inclement weather – 91mm of rainfall had been recorded over the preceding 4 days).</p> <p>PH noted that as soon as the rain began, site staff reported that odours began increasing due to the rain mixing with exposed compost material.</p> <p>NB added that the recent rain has also led to a number of stormwater discharges off-site in accordance with EPA compliance requirements at approved discharge points.</p>		
4.2	<p><i>GJ presented the Complaints Report included with these notes as <b>Appendix 2 – Complaints Update.</b></i></p> <p>JD reported that he had noticed odours 2 weeks ago at Mount Vernon.</p> <p>PM and WM reported that they had noticed odours at Kemps Creek recently, possibly coming from the Wanless landfill.</p>		

## 5. PROJECT UPDATES

Item	Discussion	Action	By
<b>5.1</b>	<b>SAWT Expansion and Upgrade</b>		
5.1.1	<p>PH reported that SITA had recently elected to fully enclose the bunkers on the upper maturation pad, which were originally planned to be open. The bunkers would instead become fully-enclosed tunnels. This change is good news for local residents as the maturing compost will be fully enclosed, with air extracted and processed using biofilters to remove odour. This change has required an additional investment of over \$500,000. Altogether SITA have spent over \$4m in the last 12 months on the concrete pads and the new tunnels. The construction of the new tunnels is another step towards improving the site's odour profile. The walls are complete, with the floors currently being laid. The floors should be completed by the end of August, with the connection to the biofilters finished a few weeks later.</p>		
5.1.2	<p>JD asked about the structure of the tunnels and their walls.</p> <p>PH replied that he believed they were referred to as 'push-up' concrete walls, which are poured in situ. Drainage and aeration pipes are built into the concrete floor of the tunnel, and this is expected to lead to more efficient drainage and aeration.</p>		
5.1.3	<p>PM asked if the new tunnels would increase the throughput of the facility or the speed at which compost could be processed.</p> <p>PH replied that the throughput and speed of processing would remain the same, but the more effective drying expected from the new tunnels would mean the final product would be easier to screen and refine, being much lower in moisture. SITA are also looking at improving drainage and airflow in the existing tunnels based on lessons learned since the original construction of the SAWT facility.</p>		
5.1.4	<p>PM asked about the size of the new tunnels.</p> <p>PH replied that each tunnel is 30m long, 10m wide and 6m high – about the same size as the existing tunnels inside the SAWT building. Each tunnel will be able to hold approximately 500t of compost.</p>		
5.1.5	<p>JD asked if similar tunnels could also be an option for the lower pad.</p> <p>PH replied that this could be worth consideration. The new technology being used seems to be a very effective way of improving the end product and the performance of the overall process. SITA are planning to conduct a range of tests on the new tunnels to see how to get the most out of the technology. PH expects the tunnels to result in a vast improvement in odour performance and drying efficiency.</p>		
5.1.6	<p>WM asked if the new tunnels would be operating before Christmas.</p> <p>PH replied that they should be operational by the end of October if works proceeded according to plan.</p>		

## 5.2 Landfill Gas Infrastructure

5.2.1 NB reported that the new gas engine was still in the planning stages.

## 6. ACTIONS OUTSTANDING

Item	Discussion	Action	By
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6.1.1 No actions outstanding.

## 7. GENERAL BUSINESS

Item	Discussion	Action	By
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7.1 GJ advised that the next and final meeting date for 2014 will be Thursday 30 October. Meeting dates for 2015 will be set at the October meeting.

**MEETING CLOSED 6:00PM**

## NEXT MEETING

**Date & Time:** Thursday, 30 October 2014 at 5:30pm

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

## ACTIONS OUTSTANDING

Item	Issue	Action	By
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All outstanding actions were closed. No new actions were raised.

**Appendices**

- 1) Environmental Update
- 2) Complaints Report