

MEETING No. 28
Newcastle Community Consultative Committee on the Environment
(NCCCE)

MEETING MINUTES

Date: 9 July 2014 **Time:** 5:30 pm

File: EF13/8723

Location: EPA Conference Room, Ground Floor,
117 Bull Street, Newcastle West

In attendance: John Tate (Chair), Rick Banyard (Community) Keith Craig (Community),
Nick Godfrey-Smith (Industry), John Mackenzie (Environment Deputy),
Paul Thomas (Industry), Sherree Woodroffe (Industry)
Adam Gilligan (EPA Manager Hunter Region),
Mitchell Bennett (EPA Head Regional Operations Unit)
Leanne Graham (EPA Project Officer)

Guests Ann-Louise Crotty (EPA Manager Air Policy)
Scott Thompson (OEH Senior Air Quality Monitoring Officer)

Apologies Paul McBain (Minister’s Nominee), Zoe Rogers (Environment),
Paul McMurray (NCCCE Deputy Representative for Newcastle City Council)

Meeting Record

Agenda Item	Meeting Details
Item 1	<p>Welcome and Introductions</p> <p>The Chair welcomed committee members and guests.</p> <p>The Chair congratulated Adam Gilligan on his appointment as EPA Manager Hunter Region, noting that Adam’s wealth of environmental and regulatory experience and his extensive local knowledge will be invaluable in his new role.</p> <p>The Chair thanked Adam for his role in representing Newcastle City Council on the NCCCE since its inception, providing constructive and valued contribution, clearly articulating the role of Council in environmental regulation.</p> <p>On behalf of NCCCE, the Chair extended best wishes for Adam’s continuing success.</p>
Item 2	<p>Apologies</p> <p>As above.</p>
	<p>NCCCE supported the Chair’s suggestion that members consider the agenda items in a revised order, to accommodate for changes in the availability of speakers.</p>
Item 3	<p>NCCCE Feedback on the EPA’s Diesel Emissions Management Workshop</p> <p>Mr Barnard provided feedback on the EPA’s Diesel Emissions Management Workshop, held on 13 July 2013. Mr Barnard and the Chair participated in the workshop.</p>

Agenda Item	Meeting Details
	<p>Mr Barnard noted that the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) has developed and documented a Tier Standard for the regulation of diesel emissions. The USEPA Tier Standard is supported by the major manufacturers of stationary engines as well as engines used in marine, locomotive, construction, mining and agricultural industries. European standards generally comply with USEPA Tier Standards. Mr Barnard provided a link to further detail on USEPA Tier Standards. http://www.epa.gov/nonroad/. Mr Barnard proposed that the NCCCE encourage the EPA to move forward with the regulation of diesel emission from non-road vehicles.</p> <p>In discussion, Ms Crotty confirmed that the EPA is developing a strategy for managing non-road diesel emissions and would release the strategy later in 2014. The EPA has published a background paper and the presentations from the workshop on the EPA website at http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/air/managenonroaddiesel.htm.</p> <p>NCCCE agreed to the following recommendation.</p> <p>Recommendation 1: NCCCE recommends to the EPA that the non-road diesel engine regulations, developed by the United States' Environmental Protection Agency, be considered for adoption in NSW.</p>
Item 4	<p>NCCCE's Priority Action No.2 in 2014: Part 1: <i>Identify strategies to increase the reach of messages about issues NCCCE is addressing (closing the information loop). This could include identifying and broadening the target audience and finding more effective means of reaching that audience.</i></p> <p>Introduction / Scene Setting – Lower Hunter Community Research Project Report</p> <p>Discussion: Broadening the Target Audience – Where to From Here?</p> <p>The Chair deferred this item to the next meeting when it was anticipated that Ms Sylvia Bell, EPA Director Stakeholder Engagement and Governance Branch, would be present.</p>
Item 5	<p>NCCCE's Priority Action No.1 in 2014: Part 2: <i>Advise on effective means of delivering factual, concise, timely information on air quality that the community can understand and act on (for example, web based, forums, newsletters).</i></p> <p>Discussion: Delivering Information on Air Quality: – Where to From Here?</p> <p>The Chair deferred this item to the next meeting when it was anticipated that Ms Bell would be present.</p>
Item 6	<p>Minutes from Previous Meeting</p> <p>Meeting Minutes No.27, held 11 June 2014, incorporating typographical corrections, were adopted as a true and accurate record.</p>
Item 7	<p>Actions Arising from Previous Meetings</p> <p><u>Meeting No.27 (11Jun14) Action 1:</u> Completed 19/06/14. EPA emailed to NCCCE Gareth Jones' slide presentation on EPA Air Emissions Inventory and My Community Web-Tool.</p>

Agenda Item	Meeting Details
	<p><u>Meeting No.27 (11Jun14) Action 2:</u> Due 13/08/14. EPA preparing for NCCCE a summary of different roles and responsibilities of EPA and Office of Environment and Heritage.</p> <p><u>Meeting No.27 (11Jun14) Action 3:</u> Completed 19/06/14. EPA emailed to NCCCE the web link to Orica Kooragang Island's Community Newsletter for April-May 2014, dedicated to emergency management.</p> <p><u>Meeting No.27 (11Jun14) Action 4:</u> Due 13/08/14. EPA to report back on findings of the Lower Hunter Community Research Project and EPA's response regarding community preferences for the type of factual information on air quality and methods for delivery.</p> <p><u>Meeting No.27 (11Jun14) Action 5:</u> Completed 24/06/14. EPA re-circulated to NCCCE the email sent to community attendees of NCCCE Meeting No.25, held on 12 March 2014, advising of how to obtain photos of the coal in the rail corridor, provided to the EPA by the Correct Planning and Consultation for Mayfield Group.</p> <p><u>Meeting No.27 (11Jun14) Action 6:</u> Completed 09/07/14, refer to Item 7 below. EPA provided to NCCCE further detail on the public exhibition period for the draft Regulation and Regulatory Impact Statement for the Newcastle Local Air Quality Monitoring Network.</p> <p><u>Meeting No.27 (11Jun14) Action 7:</u> Completed 09/07/14, refer to Item 7 below. EPA provided to NCCCE further details on the publication of the first progress report of the Lower Hunter Particle Characterisation Study.</p> <p><u>Meeting No.27 (11Jun14) Action 8:</u> Due 13/08/14. EPA to provide to NCCCE an update on EPA's response to community complaints about dust from the grain terminal.</p> <p><u>Meeting No.27 (11Jun14) Action 9:</u> Due 13/08/14. EPA to provide to NCCCE an update on opportunities for NCCCE involvement the public review of rail operations in the coal supply chain.</p> <p><u>Meeting No.27 (11Jun14) Action 10:</u> Due 13/08/14. EPA to provide to NCCCE the web link to relevant investigations by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal into regulation of industry.</p> <p><u>Meeting No.27 (11Jun14) Action 11:</u> Due 13/08/14. EPA to provide to NCCCE the ARTC report on the nature and operation of locomotive sandboxes.</p> <p><u>Meeting No.27 (11Jun14) Action 12:</u> Due 13/08/14. EPA to distribute to NCCCE a list of relevant commonly used acronyms.</p>
<p>Item 8</p>	<p>Update on EPA Lower Hunter Air Quality Projects</p> <p>Mr Gilligan provided an update on the following projects.</p> <p>7.1. Newcastle Local Air Quality Monitoring Network</p> <p>Before the meeting, NCCCE members visited the Carrington and Mayfield air quality monitoring stations to view progress in construction. Mr Thompson identified and explained the function of the components of the monitoring station.</p> <p>At the meeting, Mr Gilligan confirmed that the operation of the industry-funded air quality monitoring stations will commence in August 2014. The public launch is being planned for August on a date to be announced. NCCCE will be invited to attend.</p> <p>Negotiations continue for the transfer of the Orica site at Stockton.</p>

Agenda Item	Meeting Details
	<p>EPA expects that the draft Newcastle Air Monitoring Regulation will be released publically on the EPA website within the month. The release will be advertised in <i>NSW Government Gazette</i>, the <i>Sydney Morning Herald</i>, the <i>Daily Telegraph</i> and local media. Letters will be sent to key stakeholders and targeted stakeholder meetings conducted over the three week consultation period. Further information will be provided to NCCCE as it becomes available.</p> <p>In response to discussion, Mr Gilligan confirmed that the EPA would ensure that correspondence on the draft Regulation was issued to industry stakeholders as soon as possible.</p> <p>7.2. Lower Hunter Community Research Project EPA expects Macquarie University to provide the final report this month, on how best to integrate EPA air pollution education and information programs</p> <p>7.3. Lower Hunter Particle Characterisation Study The Project Management Team currently is reviewing the study's <i>1st Progress Report</i> which will be published in August 2014 on the study webpage http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/aqms/lowhunterparticle.htm.</p> <p>The EPA noted that the during the site tour, before the meeting, Mr Thompson identified instruments installed to collect samples of PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} for this study at the Mayfield and Newcastle air quality monitoring stations.</p> <p>On behalf of the Project Management Team, Mr Craig requested that the NCCCE nominate an alternative representative to participate in meetings in his absence.</p> <p>Action 1: EPA to facilitate NCCCE to nominate an alternative representative on the Project Management Team for the Lower Hunter Particle Characterisation Study.</p> <p>7.4. Lower Hunter and Lake Macquarie-Wyong Monthly Air Quality Reports EPA received draft reports for the months of October 2013 to April 2014. Contracts are ready to engage the contractor to continue the monthly reports for Newcastle to June 2015 and to provide monthly reports for Lake Macquarie – Wyong for the period from September 2013 to June 2015.</p> <p><u>Other projects of interest to NCCCE</u></p> <p><u>Diesel emissions</u> The EPA held a stakeholder workshop on diesel emissions management on 13 June 2014. EPA will develop a management strategy by the end of 2014, to address diesel emissions from non-road sources, including locomotives.</p> <p><u>Compliance audits</u> The EPA is undertaking a compliance audit program to examine the level of compliance with environment protection licences issued to coal train loading and unloading facilities. The program is ensuring that appropriate management procedures are in place to prevent or minimise loss of coal and coal dust emissions when coal is transported by rail to the port, as well as during the return of empty wagons from the port. Once completed, the audit reports will be made publicly available.</p>

Agenda Item	Meeting Details
	<p><u>Literature review</u> The EPA has initiated a comprehensive literature review of Australian and international management practices to minimise fugitive dust emissions associated with the movement of coal by train.</p> <p>This review will identify the effectiveness and indicative costs associated with management practices. The completed review will be made publicly available.</p> <p><u>ARTC Notice</u> On 10 March 2014, the EPA issued notices to ARTC and rail operators to provide information and records in relation to management of coal on the NSW rail network. The EPA is assessing the information provided to gain further evidence about potential environmental impacts of dust from NSW railways. The EPA is also working directly with rail operators in relation to managing dust from rail operations.</p>
<p>Item 8</p>	<p>General Business</p> <p>Mr Craig requested an update on progress to manage naphthalene odours Action 2. EPA to provide to NCCCE an update on EPA's response to community complains about naphthalene odours.</p> <p>In response to a question from Mr Craig, Mr Gilligan confirmed that Cargill had undertaken works on a bio filter, to reduce odours from canola processing.</p> <p>Mr Barnard tabled documents relating to community concerns for the operation and regulation of industries with the potential to harm Hexham Swamp Nature Reserve. Mr Gilligan noted that a number of agencies manage aspects of environmental regulation of Hexham Swamp. Mr Gilligan advised that the EPA would review the documents and report back to NCCCE at the next meeting.</p> <p>Action 3. EPA to review tabled documents regarding community concerns for environmental management of Hexham swamp and to report back to NCCCE.</p> <p>Mr Mackenzie informed NCCCE that NSW Government would conduct a parliamentary inquiry into the performance of the EPA. The inquiry offered the opportunity for the NCCCE to make a submission and play an active role in a public hearing that would be held in the Hunter in November 2014.</p>
<p>Item 9</p>	<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>Date: Wednesday 13 August 2014. Location: EPA Conference Room, Ground Floor, 117 Bull Street, Newcastle West Time: 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm</p>
<p>Meeting ended at 7:00 pm</p>	

ACTION ITEM LOG

MEETING NO. 28, 9 July 2014 - ACTION / RECOMMENDATION	DUE	RESP
Recommendation 1: NCCCE recommends to the EPA that the non-road diesel engine regulations, developed by the United States' Environmental Protection Agency, be considered for adoption in NSW.		EPA
Action 1: EPA to facilitate NCCCE to nominate an alternative representative on the Project Management Team for the Lower Hunter Particle Characterisation Study.	ASAP	EPA
Action 2: EPA to provide to NCCCE an update on EPA's response to community complains about naphthalene odours.	13 August 2014	EPA
Action 3: EPA to review tabled documents regarding community concerns for environmental management of Hexham swamp and to report back to NCCCE.	13 August 2014	EPA