

MEETING No. 30
Newcastle Community Consultative Committee on the Environment
(NCCCE)

MEETING MINUTES

Date: 10 September 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), Nick Godfrey-Smith (Industry), Paul McBain (Minister's Nominee), Paul McMurray (Newcastle City Council), Zoe Rogers (Environment), James Whelan (Community), Sherree Woodroffe (Industry), Carmen Dwyer (EPA A/Director North) Sylvia Bell (EPA Director Stakeholder Engagement) Adam Gilligan (EPA Manager Hunter Region), Leanne Graham (EPA Project Officer)

Guests Dr Kirsten Davies, Researcher, Macquarie University

Apologies Keith Craig (Community), Paul Thomas (Industry)

Meeting Record

Agenda Item	Meeting Details
Item 1	Welcome and Introductions The Chair welcomed committee members and introduced Dr Davies.
Item 2	Apologies As above.
	NCCCE considered agenda items in a revised order, prioritising Dr Davies' presentation.
Item 3	Findings of the Lower Hunter Community Research Project Report Ms Bell introduced Dr Davies, principal researcher on the project which investigated ways to improve community access to information on, and understanding of, air quality in the Lower Hunter region. Dr Davies presented a summary of the method and the findings of the study. Dr Davies asked that the findings not be discussed beyond the NCCCE until the report was finalised. In response to discussion, NCCCE noted that Dr Davies would consult with the research cohort to finalise the report. The Chair noted the presentation and thanked Dr Davies. Action 1: EPA to inform NCCCE of finalisation of the Lower Hunter Community Research Project Report, in liaison with Dr Davies, Macquarie University.

Agenda Item	Meeting Details
Item 4	<p>NCCCE's Priority Actions in 2014 - Discussion: Where to From Here?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Delivering Information on Air Quality - Broadening the Target Audience <p>NCCCE agreed to defer this discussion, pending finalisation of the Lower Hunter Community Research Project.</p>
Item 5	<p>Minutes from Previous Meeting</p> <p>Meeting Minutes No.29, held 13 August 2014, incorporating amendments were adopted as a true and accurate record.</p>
Item 6	<p>Actions Arising from Previous Meetings</p> <p><u>Meeting No.27 (11Jun14) Action 2:</u> Completed 10/09/14. EPA provided a handout outlining the different roles of EPA and OEH in air quality monitoring and management.</p> <p><u>Meeting No.27 (11Jun14) Action 4:</u> Update received 10/09/14. Dr Davies, Macquarie University, presented a summary of the findings of the Lower Hunter Community Research Project. (Refer to Items 3 and 4, above).</p> <p><u>Meeting No.27 (11Jun14) Action 9:</u> Completed 10/09/14. EPA emailed NCCCE 08/09/14, advising that EPA published a media release and a position paper. The paper, <i>Review of regulation of 'railway systems activities' under the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997</i>, proposes amendments to the current regulations for the rail industry under the POEO Act. The position paper is open for comment until 8 October 2014. Refer to http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/epamedia/EPAMedia14090401.htm</p> <p><u>Meeting No.27 (11Jun14) Action 12:</u> Completed 13/08/14. EPA advised that an EPA literature review of best practice management of air emissions in the rail corridor would be published as part of the reports on EPA Compliance Audit of coal trains. However, the literature review does not include sandboxes.</p> <p><u>Meeting No.27 (11Jun14) Action 13:</u> Deferred to 08/10/14. NCCCE to provide feedback on draft list of relevant commonly used acronyms provided on 13/08/14.</p> <p><u>Meeting No.29 (13Aug14) Action 1:</u> Completed 14/08/14. EPA emailed to NCCCE the Fact Sheet of the Lower Hunter Dust Deposition Study and map of recommended localities for sampling sites, for circulation to residents likely to be interested in hosting a sampling site.</p> <p><u>Meeting No.29 (13Aug14) Action 2:</u> Completed 18/07/14. EPA emailed to NCCCE the package of project plans to be funded by the penalty recently handed to Orica by the Land and Environment Court for pollution incidents in 2011.</p>
Item 7	<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>Negotiations continue between EPA and Orica regarding the transfer of Orica's Stockton air monitoring station to the Network.</p> <p>7.2. Lower Hunter Community Research Project</p> <p>Refer to Items 3 and 4 above.</p>

Agenda Item	Meeting Details
<p>Item 7 (Cont)</p>	<p>7.3. Lower Hunter and Lake Macquarie-Wyong Monthly Air Quality Reports</p> <p>EPA has published Lower Hunter Air Quality Monthly Reports for the months of October 2013 to May 2014 on the NCCCE webpage. The report for June 2014 is delayed, awaiting data expected to be available mid-September 2014.</p> <p>Contracts are progressing for Todoroski Air Sciences to prepare the monthly reports for:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lower Hunter Air Quality Monthly Reports (continuous monitoring at Newcastle, Wallsend, Beresfield at Stockton and 6th day high volume sample Mayfield) for July 2014 and August 2014, and - Lake Macquarie – Wyong Air Quality Monthly Reports for September 2013 to June 2015. <p>OEH will commence quarterly reporting to NCCCE on the results of continuous monitoring at OEH operated sites at Newcastle, Wallsend, Beresfield, Stockton, Carrington and Mayfield. The reports will include a seasonal analysis of weather conditions and the influence on air quality.</p> <p>7.4. Lower Hunter Particle Characterisation Study</p> <p>On 20 August 2014, the Project Management Team met in Newcastle. NCCCE member Sherree Woodroffe attended as alternate for Keith Craig. A site tour followed the meeting, visiting the sampling sites at the OEH air quality monitoring stations at Newcastle, Beresfield, Mayfield and Stockton. The next meeting will be held on 18 September 2014, via teleconference.</p> <p>7.1. Lower Hunter Dust Deposition Study</p> <p>EPA emailed to NCCCE the Fact Sheet of the Lower Hunter Dust Deposition Study and map of recommended localities for sampling sites, for circulation to residents likely to be interested in hosting a sampling site. The Fact Sheet is available on the EPA website at http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/air/140602dustdepst.htm .</p> <p>On 28 August 2014, The Newcastle Herald published an article, including a call for residents to host dust deposition gauges. Radio stations 2HD and KOFM included news grabs. The EPA received a good response. Contractors AECOM will investigate residences for compliance with Australian Standards for siting of instruments.</p> <p>The EPA, on behalf of the Project Management Team, circulated the study methodology to Jacobs SKM for peer review and to NCCCE for community review by 5 September 2014. The EPA forwarded feedback to AECOM for its consideration and response. The next meeting date will be advised.</p>
<p>Item 8</p>	<p>General Business</p> <p>Mr Banyard tabled information on an accident and associated explosions, involving a truck transporting ammonium nitrate, near Charleville, in southern Queensland on 5 September 2014. Mr Banyard noted that Orica Kooragang Island intended to report to its Community Reference Group on the incident.</p> <p>The meeting discussed the risks and regulation of the storage, handling and transport of ammonium nitrate, including transport route selection and vehicle labelling.</p>

Agenda Item	Meeting Details
Item 8 (Cont)	<p>General Business (Cont)</p> <p>The EPA noted the various agencies involved in regulating dangerous goods, including ammonium nitrate. The Commonwealth Government sets the Australian Dangerous Good Code. Agencies including the EPA, WorkCover, Police and NSW Fire and Rescue implement the code. For example, post 11 September 2001, the Police lead audits of major hazardous facilities, include Orica Kooragang Island. Post August 2011, WorkCover, Police and Fire and Rescue inspected local storage and handling facilities for hazardous chemicals.</p> <p>The Chair noted the information and thanked Mr Banyard.</p> <p>Action 2. EPA to provide to NCCCE information on the regulation of vehicles used in the transportation of ammonium nitrate.</p> <p>Mr McMurray advised that Newcastle City Council's new Manager of Regulatory Services may review Council's representation on the NCCCE before the next meeting. The Chair thanked Mr McMurray for his contribution to NCCCE.</p> <p>On behalf of Dr Whelan, Ms Rogers distributed a handout reminding NCCCE of the current public exhibition of the Impact Statement on the draft variation to the National Environment Protection (Ambient Air Quality) Measure. Submissions close 10 October 2014.</p>
Item 9	<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>Date: Wednesday 8 October 2014. Location: EPA Conference Room, Ground Floor, 117 Bull Street, Newcastle West Time: 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm</p>
Meeting ended at 7:50 pm	

ACTION ITEM LOG

MEETING NO. 30, 10 September 2014 ACTION / RECOMMENDATION	DUE	RESP
Action 1: EPA to inform NCCCE of finalisation of the Lower Hunter Community Research Project Report, in liaison with Dr Davies, Macquarie University.	As soon as possible.	All.
Action 2. EPA to provide to NCCCE information on the regulation of vehicles used in the transportation of ammonium nitrate.	As soon as possible.	EPA