

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Environmental Authority
Held on Wednesday, 27 November 2019
At the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Botanical Gardens, Paget**

PRESENT: Mrs. Winnifred Fostine-DeSilva, Chair
Mrs. Susan Armstrong, Member
Mr. Eugene Saunders, Member
Mr. Jonathan Starling, Member

ADVISORS: Dr. Geoff Smith, Environmental Engineer, DENR
Mr. Tom Crossan, Chief Environmental Health Officer
Mr. Kirk Outerbridge, Chief Engineer, Public Works
Mr. Tarik Christopher, Principal Engineer (Water & Sewage), Public Works
Dr. Shaun Lavis, Hydrogeologist, DENR
Ms. Patricia Hollis, Environmental Officer, DENR, Recording Secretary

ABSENT: Mrs. Sarah Haycock Tafur,
Dr. Nick Bates, Member, via internet video call
Ms. Lynesha Lightbourne, Member
Mr. Armell Thomas, Senior Environmental Health Officer

1. Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 30 October 2019 were approved and signed by the Chair.

2. Update: Elbow Beach Waste Water Treatment Plant

It was reported that Elbow Beach has implemented short term improvements to their waste water treatment plant and that there has been some improvement in effluent quality. The long term improvements will be started once Elbow Beach management board has approved the consultant's proposals and finances.

3. Tynes Bay Waste to Energy Facility disposal of unconsolidated ash at the Airport Waste Facility

It was reported that the Ministry of Works and Engineering is continuing to dispose of unconsolidated ash at the Airport Waste Management Facility because of a shortage of funding. The area receiving the ash is three quarters ($\frac{3}{4}$) full; a new area is to be identified and prepared for the unconsolidated ash. It was noted that the deposition of raw ash represents both an environmental impact and potential health risk to personnel at the site. The Chief Environmental Health Officer stated that an Officer from the Department of health would attend the next inspection of the site to determine whether a health risk exists.

The Authority **REQUESTED:**

that another letter be sent on their behalf to the Permanent Secretary to express their concern with the non-compliance with the Operating Licence conditions.

It was noted that Bermuda has been experiencing unusually high tides and associated flooding. The boom at the Airport Waste Facility is partially submerged and is not containing much of the floating debris. Consequently, there have been complaints of materials escaping the site and littering the Castle Harbour shoreline.

Mr. Kirk Outerbridge replied that a contractor has been engaged to adjust the boom so that it will float as designed. This will be undertaken within the next few days once the weather improves. A clean-up of the shoreline is to be arranged once the boom is functioning.

4. Corporation of Hamilton Operating Licence for Front Street Pump Station

The Members were reminded that the Corporation of Hamilton cannot comply with some conditions in their Operating Licence because the Minister of Home Affairs has not approved expenditure of money for upgrades including the installation of a mechanical primary treatment system using Salsnes screens to improve effluent quality. Based on input from engineers at MPW the need for a guaranteed performance specification on the removal of Fats Oils and Greases (FOG) from the effluent stream that is pumped to the Seabright Outfall was key to the approval of such expenditure, estimated at \$4M. It was noted that with respect to

the removal of FOG from the ~600,000 USG effluent each per day that it would be difficult for manufacturers to provide a guaranteed removal efficiency within a contract and equipment specification.

The Authority **AGREED:**

to defer issuing the Corporation of Hamilton (CoH) front street pump station operating licence.

The Authority **REQUESTED:**

that a letter be sent on their behalf to the Permanent Secretary of Home Affairs (Ms Rozy Azhar) stating support of the proposed CoH's upgrades to the front street pump station.

5. Bermuda Electric Light Co. Operating Licence

It was noted that proposed changes to BELCO's operating licence were circulated to Members before the meeting. The Conditions were amended to reflect the removal of retired engines; the deletion of the requirement to move the existing ambient air monitoring station located on Cemetery Lane to a potentially non-compliant location within Bermuda High School. Instead the air monitoring station at cemetery lane will remain for a couple of year to observe improvements following the retirement of the shorter stack engines; D3, D3, D10, D14 in 2020 in addition to the older tall stack engines E1-E4. A new location for the air monitoring station can be considered in 2 years' time. The conditions were also amended to require the noise monitoring along St John's Road to be continued in 2020, once N1-N4 are in operation.

The Members then considered an amendment to require BELCO to report major spills sooner than the present limit of 4 hours. The Members requested that the Conditions be amended to reflect the need for immediate notification of spills that had the potential to enter waterways and which may require external resources.

The Authority **REQUESTED:**

that proposed wording for BELCO to notify DENR within a short time period (E.g. within 60 minutes of the discovery of the spill), be circulated to them via email for their consideration and approval.

6. Applications for Construction Permits and Operating Licences (New)

6.1 The Authority **DEFERRED** the following applications pending submission of additional details:

- a CP-613, OL-989 Clarien Bank, 40kW Kohler, Diesel genset, Point Finger Road
- b CP-363, 368, OL-1028 & 1029 AECON, 2x 1500 kW Diesel gensets, Airport
- c CP-610, OL-986 C. Lopes Genset, 40 kW genset, Lot 1, Mission Crescent, Paget
- d CP-665, OL-1062 US Consulate, 33 Wilkinson Ave, Hamilton Par. 55kW Diesel genset.

6.2 OL-983-2 to OL-983-6 Meyer Agencies for Disney Magic

The Authority **APPROVED:**

the retroactive application for operating licences for one diesel generator, two boilers, one oily water separator and one dry cleaning machine aboard the "Disney Magic", subject to standard conditions.

6.3 CP-662, OL-1055 Mac's A+ Auto

The Authority **APPROVED:**

the retroactive application for a construction permit and operating licences for one spray paint facility at Mac's A+ Auto, 1 Well Bottom, Warwick, subject to standard conditions.

6.4 OL-1061 E & B Trading

The Authority **APPROVED:**

the application for a spray paint facility at 11 Tumkins Lane, Hamilton, subject to standard conditions. It was noted that this facility is presently operated by Woodlands Garage and the property is being sold to E & B Trading.

6.5 CP-667, OL-1064 Bermudiana Development Co. Ltd (formerly Grand Atlantic)

The Authority **APPROVED:**

the application for a 24,100 GPD Hipaf WPL Ltd waste water treatment plant at 60 South Road, Warwick, subject to standard conditions for secondary treatment. The existing plant, which was not used, will be upgraded and enlarged.

6.6 OL-1065 JM DaSilva

The Authority **APPROVED:**

the application for an operating licence for a mobile sand sifter to be used at sites with a valid Building Permit, subject to standard conditions.

6.7 CP-664, OL-1057 Sunny Cote Laundromat

The Authority **APPROVED:**

the application for a 1,500 gpd aerated laundry waste water and sewage treatment plant at 1 South Avenue, Southampton, subject to standard conditions.

6.8 CP-661, OL-1054 M. Collins

The Authority **DEFERRED:**

the application for a 125 kW diesel generator at 50 Tucker's Town Road, St. George's pending submission of modelling showing that the noise guidelines will be met. It is expected that the clients will engage the services of an acoustic engineer to assist with ensuring the genset noise will not be a nuisance to neighbours.

6.9 CP-659, OL-1052 R. Aeschliman

The Authority **DEFERRED:**

the retroactive application for a 14 kW propane generator at 34 Pitts Bay Road, Pembroke. It was noted that following the receipt of a complaint of noise from this generator, Dept of Environment and Natural Resources requested the owner to apply for the permit and licence. Both the modelling and noise survey showed the generator exceeded the noise guidelines established by the Environmental Authority.

The Authority **REQUESTED:**

that the applicant be advised to undertake measures to attenuate the noise, after which the application will be reconsidered.

7. Applications for Operating Licences (Reissue)

7.1 The Authority **APPROVED:**

the reissue of Operating Licences on the one-page printout, subject to standard conditions, with the exception of OL-819 Sinky Bay Ltd waste water treatment facility, which was deferred pending submission of the annual report.

8. Applications for Water Rights (Reissue)

The Authority **APPROVED:**

the issue of water rights as listed on the four-page printout with the exception of four indicated as withdrawn.

9. Date of the Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting will be established later.



CHAIRMAN

5 Feb. 2020

DATE

