

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Environmental Authority
Held on Tuesday, 25 January 2022
At the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Botanical Gardens, Paget
and Remotely using WebEx Teleconference**

PRESENT: Ms. Davida Morris, Chair, (by remote access)
Mr. Eugene Saunders, Member
Mrs. Susan Armstrong, Member (by remote access)
Mr. Andrew Barnes, Member, (by remote access)
Mr. Jonathan Starling, Member, (by remote access)

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

ABSENT: Mr. Willie Ferguson, Member
Mr. James Morrison, Member
Mr. Tom Crossan, Chief Environmental Health Officer
Mr. Armell Thomas, Senior Environmental Health Officer
Mr. Paul McDonald, Acting Senior Planner, Dept. of Planning

1. Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 21 December 2021 were approved. The Minutes of the meetings held on 23 November, 30 November, and 21 December 2021 were signed by the Deputy Chair.

2. BELCO Air Quality Complaints – Responses to EA Letters

The Authority **TOOK NOTE:**

- i) At Ocean Lane, Pembroke, there were no exceedences of Bermuda's air quality standards or UK statute Limit Levels or Air Quality Objective Target Levels in December 2021.
- ii) There were 8 confirmed complaints related to 6 Belco-confirmed soot fallout events in December 2021. Suggested permanent damage to road-vehicle painted bodywork was reported.
- iii) The last remaining piston crown installation was completed on the North Power Station engines in January 2022 before the engine is reintroduced as part of a standard procedure. This retrofit is expected to improve combustion and reduce soot emissions. However, it was noted that if nuisance soot events continue to persist that this may be as a result of the periodic addition of water or walnut shells to the turbocharger exhaust ductwork to help clean the system. This treatment will cause increases in internal pressure thereby potentially leading to soot emissions.
- iv) Activated carbon filters were installed in December 2021 on the St. John's Road fuel storage tanks to address the passive breathing of the tanks which were leading to complaints of fuel odours in the vicinity. Belco was scheduled to re-survey the neighbourhood in late January 2022. Belco will monitor the life of the carbon filters to ensure efficacy of odour removal.

3. Elbow Beach Waste Water Treatment Plant

There was nothing to report.

4. Corporation of Hamilton – Upgrades to Sewer and Treatment Plant

The Authority **TOOK NOTE:**

that the Minister of Works has approved the Corporation's proposed expenditure for the design and installation of micro-screens and disinfection facilities at their Front Street pump house. This will effectively raise the level of treatment of the 500,000 USG per day of raw wastewater from 'preliminary' to 'primary' treatment. The project is proceeding with detailed design and planning approvals.

5. Regulatory Authority IRP Presentation

The Authority **REQUESTED:**

that a letter of thanks be sent to the Regulatory Authority for their presentation on 26 October 2021 and to ask them to keep the Authority apprised of progress.

6. Tynes Bay Waste to Energy Facility

6.1 Current Status

It was reported that both streams were operating until 23 January 2022 when stream 2 was shut down due to a failure in the quench tank gearbox. Repairs are underway.

On 25 January 2022, stream 1 conveyor belt for the quench tank became derailed. The stream was shut down for repairs.

6.2 Update on Nov/Dec 2021 Tynes Bay Outage

- Approximately 50% of the garbage that was landfilled at Marsh Folly between 27 Nov and 4 Dec 2021 (609 tonnes) has been excavated and processed at TBWEF.
- All 611 bales stored in contingency yard (917 tonnes) over this period have been returned to TBWEF for processing.
- 599 tonnes of unconsolidated ash were taken to the Airport Waste Management Facility between November and January. Delays to the new ash crane design issue may require some continued disposal of unconsolidated ash at the Airport Waste Management Facility. However, it was noted that MPW is using an excavator to temporarily fulfil the role of the ash crane such that the ash-plant can be operated to generate ash-concrete. The ash crane manufacturer has admitted liability for the incorrect design and is working to correct it.

6.3 Installation of new Heat Exchangers

During the planned maintenance period (2 Feb to 8 Apr 2022), new heat exchangers on both streams will be installed. Initially, stream 2 will be out of service, with stream 1 and the bailer being used to process garbage. It is expected that 20 bales a day will be created and stored at the Tynes Bay Contingency Yard in addition to an area at Marsh Folly which has been compacted and prepared in readiness. Once stream 2 heat exchanger is installed, all bales will be returned to TBWEF and then the procedure repeated for the replacement of the heat exchanger on stream 1.

6.4 Update on MPW Ash-Concrete Trucks

On 18 January 2022, MPW notified DENR that they have only one ash-concrete truck available. This is insufficient to address all of the raw ash generated by TBWEF, resulting in the need for the disposal of unconsolidated ash at the Airport Facility.

The MPW representatives stood aside during consideration of this matter.

After discussion, the Authority **AGREED:**

that a letter shall be sent on their behalf to the PS of the Ministry of Works. It shall highlight the Authority's concern regarding the noncompliance to an operating licence condition (*i.e.* the disposal of unconsolidated ash) because of avoidable reasons: inadequate equipment, poor planning, or inadequate maintenance. Further, the letter shall note the potential for increased leaching of heavy metals from the Airport Waste Management Facility into Castle Harbour, and shall express the Authority's request that the shortfall in ash-concrete truck availability be rectified as a matter of high priority. The draft letter is to be circulated to the Members for comment.

7. Amendments to Operating Licence Conditions—Complaints Received & Spillages

The Authority **AGREED:**

- 7.1 Where not already present, to add conditions to Operating Licences requiring that: Complaints received related to pollution from fumes, dust or other nuisance emissions from activities related to this operating licence shall be recorded in a complaints log and reported to the Department within 24-hours or next business day. Officers from the Department will witness the extent of pollution in order to validate whether the complaint is substantiated. Any mitigating measures deemed necessary to address validated pollution shall be addressed within the allocated timeframe stipulated by the Department.

7.2 Where not already present, to add conditions to Operating Licences requiring that: Pollution incidents of liquid fuel, paints, or solvents to unsealed ground (*i.e.* other than concrete) of greater than 1 litre (approx. 1 quart) shall be reported to DENR immediately (within 24 hours) and be cleaned up, monitored and reported according to the Risk Based Corrective Action (RBCA) Guidelines.

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

8.1 The Authority: DEFERRED

CP-700, OL-1104: Intelligent Excavating, Lukes Pond, Southampton, pending submission of further information concerning the rock crusher.

9. Applications for Construction Permits and Operating Licences (Reissues)

The Authority APPROVED:

the applications for reissue for operating licences listed on the two-page printout, subject to standard conditions, with the exception of OL-857 (BLDC WWTP) and OL-887 (Sardis WWTP) which were deferred pending submission of their annual reports. It was agreed that the expiry date for OL-434 (Loughlands WWTP) would be changed to 28 February to better align with annual data reporting.

10. Import Permit for Refrigerant Gases

The Authority **APPROVED:**

The issuance of an import permit C177, subject to standard conditions to Karibuni Ltd. for:

- 360 cylinders each with 10.9 kg R404A; 60 cylinders each with 13.6 kg R134A;
- 330 cylinders each with 11.3 kg R410A; and 30 cylinders each with 11.3 kg R407C

11. Applications for Water Rights (New)

The Authority **APPROVED:**

WR-5739 BELCO, 27 Serpentine Road, Pembroke for a supply well, abstracting up to 600 IGPD for dust suppression during demolition, remediation activities, subject to standard conditions and confirmation from Dept. of Health that health risks are managed properly.

12. Applications for Water Rights (Reissue)

The Authority **APPROVED:**

the reissuance of Water Rights on the one-page printout, subject to standard conditions.

13. Date of the Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was set for Tuesday, 22 February 2022.



CHAIRMAN

22 FEBRUARY 2022
DATE

