

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Environmental Authority
Held on Tuesday, 28 June 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, Deputy Chair
Mrs. Susan Armstrong, Member (by remote access)
Mr. Andrew Barnes, Member (by remote access)
Mr. Willie Ferguson, Member (by remote access)

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

ABSENT: Mr. James Morrison, Member
Mr. Jonathan Starling, 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 31 May 2022 were approved and signed by the Deputy Chair.

2. BELCO Air Quality Updates

- 2.1 In May 2022, there were no complaints of odours from the fuel tanks on St. John's Road, Pembroke. BELCO is still waiting for a reply from the manufacturer of the activated carbon filters as to whether or not they are performing to specifications.
- 2.2 In May 2022 there were six (6) exceedances of the 1-hour NO_x UK/EU Air Quality objective at Ocean Lane. Five occurred on 7, 8th May, one on 10th May. On 7-8 May, there were 2 engines operating at low load (less than 70%). On 10th May, five engines were operating normally.
- 2.4 Five (5) soot complaints were reported for April from 5 separate events.
- 2.5 Air Quality Monitoring at Ocean Lane. The Authority **TOOK NOTE:** that the landowner of the property where the 'BDA4' monitoring station is sited has asked that the equipment be removed by the end of June 2022. DENR and BELCO are meeting to view alternative sites.
- 2.6 Partial Primary Abatement Standard Operating Procedure is being developed for use when the winds are from the SW/SSW and above 15 knots. The draft proposal is being reviewed by the Bermuda Weather Centre.

3. Elbow Beach Waste Water Treatment Plant

The Authority **APPROVED:**

The annual operating licence for the Elbow Beach WWTP (OL-352), subject to the same conditions as before. The Members took note that the main hotel is closed, wastewater is received only from 1 restaurant and some of the apartments of Fritholme Gardens. The effluent quality shows low biological oxygen demand with little settling (i.e. high suspended solids reading), reflective of a low organic load system. No complaints were received during the last year.

4. Ministry of Public Works Tynes Bay May 2022 Operation Update

The Authority **TOOK NOTE:**

- 4.1 Stream #1 was online for 19 days in May (63%) and was off-line due to a lack of garbage and water in the bunker (from firefighting events). Stream #2 was available for 24 days (77%) and was offline due to riddling hopper fire, hydraulic grate ram repair and with Crane A out of service.

- 4.2 The turbine was available for 29 days and ran at 51% efficiency. It was offline for 2 days due to Crane A being out of service.
- 4.3 Total waste incinerated (excluding metal) was estimated at 3,882 tonnes. Total cooking oil was estimated at 47.9 tonnes.
- 4.4 2,322 MWh sent to BELCO 18 April through 18 May. Total MWh generated 1-31 May was 2,303 MWh.
- 4.5 35 loads of ash cement were disposed of at the Airport Site as blocks or pours of ash-cement away from the revetment. 433 tonnes of unconsolidated ash were disposed of at the Airport Site. The issue with the newly supplied clinker crane is preventing the full length of ash from being processed to ash-cement.
- 4.7 The clinker crane project is progressing after a delay due to the manufacturer supplying incorrect equipment.
- 4.8 One of the two refuse cranes has a structural issue and needs to be repaired quickly. The plant cannot function if both refuse cranes fail. It is also noted that Crane A is the only crane that can fill the bailing contingency system, without which only raw garbage can be disposed under contingency measures. The Ministry of Public Works is developing contingency plans for the disposal of garbage at Marsh Folly should the cranes fail and bales cannot be made.

5. Lens Thinning around Glebe Road, Pembroke

The Authority **TOOK NOTE:**

that ground water monitoring is being undertaken. To date, there has been no recovery of the thinned lens, most likely because there has been little rainfall.

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

6.1 CP-748 OL-1181 Corcon Ltd. Spray Paint Facility, 3 Meadow Lane, Devonshire

The Authority **TOOK NOTE:**

that this application has been withdrawn from the Department of Planning.

6.2 CP-752, OL-1188 Mr. Brewe

The Authority **APPROVED:**

the construction permit and operating licence application for a 22 kW propane generator at 15 Riddell's Bay, Warwick subject standard conditions.

6.3 CP-753, OL-1189 Amis Memorial Chapel Pet Cremator

The Authority considered an application for a containerised 75 pound/hour animal crematory at 6A Waller's Point Road, St. George's. It was noted that the pet crematorium is to be located adjacent to the existing crematorium.

The Authority **APPROVED the application in principle**, subject to the conditions being circulated to and approved by the Authority.

6.4 CP-754, OL-1190 Paget Health Services

Susan Armstrong recused herself from consideration of this matter.

The Authority **APPROVED:**

the construction permit and operating licence application for a 2,000 kW diesel generator to be installed within a building at KEMH Acute Care, 7 Point Finger Road, Paget subject to standard conditions and providing soundproofing is installed as recommended by Paget Health Services' consultants, Sir Robert McAlpine. Additionally, the Authority expressed concern over the potential vibration from the generator and asked that Paget Health Services confirm that vibration potential has been minimised.

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

7.1 The Authority APPROVED:

The applications for reissue of operating licences listed on the two page printout, subject to standard conditions, with the exception of OL-434 Loughlands WWTP which was deferred pending receipt of the annual report. Those approved included the applications for OL-352 Elbow Beach WWTP, OL-358 Belmont Hills Harbour Road WWTP, OL-1074 Bermuda Skyport WWTP, and OL-1114 Crosswinds Rental WWTP. The annual reports showing satisfactory maintenance and effluent quality had been submitted.

7.2 OL-881 Amis Memorial Chapel Crematorium, Wallers Point Road, St. George's

The Authority **APPROVED:**

The reissuance of OL-881 until 28th April 2023 subject to the same conditions as before except with the amendment of the soil testing requirements to be undertaken every 5 years. The comparison of dioxins and furans in soils between the first baseline analysis in 2016 and the latest 2022 data showed sources from vehicle emissions predominate and did not indicate any increase in proportion of more incineration-based sources of dioxins and furans. Therefore these was considered to be no significant input of combustion products in the soils from the crematory thereby justifying a 5-year monitoring frequency of soil around this facility.

8. Applications for Water Rights (New)

8.1 The Authority APPROVED:

WR-5750 Ms. Maya Walker-Burrows. Water Right application for a domestic supply at 18 Middle Road, Sandys, subject to standard conditions.

8.2 The Authority APPROVED:

WR-5751 Ms. Jubilee Edness. Water Right application for a domestic rainwater disposal borehole at 3 Hillside Avenue, Pembroke, subject to standard conditions.

8.3 The Authority APPROVED:

WR-5752 E & B Trading Co. Ltd. Water Right application for a rainwater disposal borehole at 68 North Street, Hamilton subject to standard conditions and providing an oily water separator is installed.

8.4 The Authority APPROVED:

WR 5753 Mr. Vince Trott Water Right application for domestic supply at 1 Braithwaite Lane, Pembroke, subject to standard conditions.

8.5 The Authority APPROVED:

WR 5754 C33 Ltd. Water Right application for emergency sewage disposal borehole at 33 Church Street, Hamilton, subject to standard conditions and providing the borehole is sealed at least 40 feet below sea level. It was noted that the borehole is only for use when the City sewer is not accepting liquid effluent and until sanitation trucks can remove the effluent.

8.6 The Authority APPROVED:

WR 5755, 5756 C33 Ltd Water Right applications for two domestic rain water disposal boreholes at 33 Church Street, Hamilton, subject to standard conditions.

9. Applications for Water Rights (Reissue)

The Authority **APPROVED:**

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

10. Any Other Business: DENR Budget Cuts

The Authority **EXPRESSED CONCERN:**

that the Ministry of Home Affairs budget has been cut and that the Department is no longer able to fund the BIOS monitoring of Bermuda's ambient air quality in Prospect, East Broadway, St George's in addition to the oversight of BELCO monitoring at Ocean Lane. The Authority requested a letter of concern be sent to the Minister of Home Affairs. The Chair agreed to provide a draft. Update pending.

11. Date of the Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was set for Tuesday, 26 July 2022.


CHAIRMAN

26 July 2022
DATE

