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Minutes of a Meeting of the Environmental Authority Held on Thursday, 26 June 2025

At the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Botanical Gardens, Paget and Remotely using Teams Teleconference

PRESENT: Ms. Davida Morris, Chair

Mr. Eugene Saunders, Deputy Chair

Ms. Debby Correia, Member Dr. Tom Sleeter, Member Mr. Jonathan Starling, Member

ADVISORS: Dr. Geoff Smith, Director, DENR Ms. Patricia Hollis, Environmental Officer, DENR

Dr. Shaun Lavis, Hydrogeologist, DENR

Ms. Crystal Baxter, Environmental Health Officer

ABSENT: Mr. Andrew Barnes, Member

Mr. James Morrison, Member

Mr. Paul McDonald, Assistant Director, Dept. of Planning Mr. Tarik Christopher, Chief Engineer, Public Works Mr. Armell Thomas, Acting Chief EHO, Health

MPW&E REPRESENTATIVES:

Mr. Mark Husdan, Solid Waste Manager

Mr. Chris Williamson, Site Management Officer

1. MPW&E Presentation on the Airport Waste Management Annual Report 2024/25 (OL-168)

Mr. Mark Husdan gave a brief history of the Airport Waste site, and said it was for the disposal of inert materials that could not be combusted at the Tynes Bay Waste to Energy Facility (TBWEF). The normal waste stream includes large electrical appliances, refrigerators, CRT TVs, E-waste, vehicles, fibreglass, metal wastes, tyres, construction & demolition waste and ash from TBWEF.

Mr. Husdan said that the Solid Waste Section has to manage the ash as delivered by TBWEF. It was noted that the unconsolidated ash taken to the AWMF over the year has been deposited in the designated area and that the unconsolidated ash has been covered with ash-cement on a monthly bases. To keep dust to a minimum, Mr. Christopher said that it is wetted down as needed on a daily basis.

The Ministry will be undertaking a site survey to enable them to accurately record what types of wastes and locations disposed of at the site.

The weighbridge is not yet operational. All the weighbridges at the various waste sites need to be tied in together with the accounting system; a task that is challenging to accomplish.

Mr. Williamson reported that site improvements are ongoing. Dedicated containers have been placed for the collection of batteries and propane cylinders. A contractor is employed to drain fluids and batteries out of vehicles.

Permitting scavenging on the site remains problematic, primarily because managing Health and Safety onsite can be challenging.

Activities 2020/21 through 2024/25

| Activities 2020/21 tillough 2 | 102 1/23 | | | | |
|--|----------|--------------|---------|---------|---------|
| | NUM | MBER OF VEHI | CLES | | |
| Operating Licence Year (Period April - March) | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 | 2024/25 |
| Cars | 953 | 1,194 | 1,093 | 1,108 | 977 |
| Trucks (Heavy) | 49 | 47 | 29 | 57 | 36 |
| Vans/Pick-ups (Light & Intermediate) | 139 | 155 | 142 | 113 | 71 |
| Motor Cycles | 703 | 884 | 773 | 1,793 | 1,480 |
| Buses | 25 | 1 | 15 | 30 | 3 |
| | NUMB | ER OF WHITE | GOODS | | |
| Fridges | 1662 | 1,903 | 1,724 | 2,995 | 2,332 |
| Stoves | 1045 | 1,070 | 998 | 1,822 | 2,095 |
| Washers/Dryers | 1678 | 1,950 | 1,654 | 2,165 | 1,840 |
| Water Heaters | 612 | 728 | 730 | 1,271 | 918 |
| Air Conditioners (Residential) | 432 | 445 | 407 | 823 | 663 |
| Air Conditioners (Commercial) | 18 | 75 | 17 | 555 | 587 |
| | LOA | ADS BULKY W | ASTE | | |
| Demolition Debris (Steel/Rubble) | 14,484 | 12,315 | 12,918 | 12,723 | 9,060 |
| Gas Cylinders | 399 | 1,822 | 963 | 1,766 | 975 |
| Tires | 1,104 | 1,823 | 2,604 | 6,661 | 12,655 |
| Boats & Other | 91 | 97 | 162 | 162 | 70 |

Mr. Husdan highlighted some of the challenges facing the AWMF:

1. EV Batteries

With there being no recycling potential presently available, large EV batteries are being stored in containers at the site. Small batteries that weigh less than 75 lbs are exported. A long term solution is being sought for larger EV batteries. Rocky Mountain Industries is providing technical recommendations to the Ministry on ways to dispose of lithium ion batteries.

2. Vehicle Tyres

Since the fire at the AWMF in December 2023, tyres have been segregated. The Bermuda Fire & Rescue Service has recommended that they be shredded and put back into the landfall, thereby preventing creation of voids that can promote fires.

3. Medical Waste

There are still 16 of 21 containers of medical waste in storage at the AWMF for the last 24 months. These resulted from the decommissioning of the Steam Steriliser Macerators at KEMH when there was no process to dispose of these wastes. It was reported that the containers are still in good condition, and Mediwaste is examining ways to treat the wastes in a more timely manner.

4. Scrap Metal

Plans were being developed for the shipment of metal wastes off island, however, these were shelved after the untimely passing of Mr. Charles Crisson who was spearheading the programme.

5. Asbestos

The Solid Waste Section ships all asbestos abroad that can be reasonable packaged according to international regulations and the receiving facility. It is the intention of MPW&E to create a dedicated cell at the AWMF to disposal of the historic containers of asbestos at BLDC and Government Quarry that cannot be shipped abroad.

6. Commingled Wastes

Wastes that are collected in large skips and brought to the AWMF often contain unacceptable wastes. These are be separated at the site, once the wastes are tipped out of the skip.

On a positive note, Mr. Husdan said that they are working with KBB and the Airport to progress the cleanup of the beach opposite the AWMF.

The Authority **TOOK NOTE**.

Mr. Husdan and Ms. Williamson were thanked for their presentation.

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

2.1 The Authority **APPROVED**:

the applications for reissue of operating licences listed on the one-page printout, subject to standard conditions.

3. Applications for Water Rights (New)

The Authority **APPROVED**:

- 3.1 WR 5852 submitted by Jamie & Cadre Steeves for a domestic abstraction well at 6 White Crest Hill, Hamilton Parish, subject to standard conditions.
- 3.2 WR 5854 submitted by Peak Meadows Trust for a supply well for irrigation at Lot C, The Peak Hill, Smith's, subject to standard conditions.

4. Applications for Water Rights (Reissues)

4.1 The Authority **APPROVED**:

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

5. Date of the Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for 3 pm, Wednesday, 23 July 2025. It is the intention to have subsequent meetings at 3pm on the last Wednesday of each month.

CHAIRMAN

