



Waste Management Community
Reference Group

MINUTES

9 August 2010

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WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP

MINUTES

9 August 2010

(REF: COMMITTEES-11178)

A meeting of the Waste Management Community Reference Group was held at the EMRC Administration Office, 1st Floor, 226 Great Eastern Highway, BELMONT WA 6104 on **Monday, 9 August 2010**. The meeting commenced at **6.05pm**.

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1 DECLARATION OF OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Chairman opened the meeting at 6.05pm and welcomed Mr Trevor Brown to his first WMCRG meeting.

2 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED

Committee Members

Mr Peter	Pearson	Chairman
Mr Berry	Ambrose	Member
Ms Ruth	Balding	Member
Mr Malcolm	Barker	Member
Mr Trevor	Brown	Member
Mr Anthony	Fowler	Member
Ms Dianne	Katscherian	Member
Ms Dot	Kingston	Member
Mr Ray	Lewis	Member
Mr Mark	Simpson	Member
Mr David	Strain	Member

Apologies

Mrs Sally Paulin	Deputy Chairman
Mrs Tina Klein	Member

Leave of Absence Previously Approved

Mr Edwin Dell	Member
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EMRC Officers

Mr Stephen Fitzpatrick	Manager Project Development
Ms Tania Wells	Waste Education Coordinator
Ms Mary-Ann Winnett	Personal Assistant to Director Corporate Services

EMRC Apologies

Mr Peter Schneider	Chief Executive Officer
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Consultant(s)

Ms Delia Richardson	Community Engagement Consultant
Ms Gae Synnott	Consultant, Synnott Mulholland

3 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Nil

4 ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN OR PERSON PRESIDING WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Nil



11 GENERAL BUSINESS

11.1 RESOURCE RECOVERY PROJECT UPDATE

Item 6.1 Resource Recovery Project – Site Location Study was dealt with in conjunction with **Item 11.1 Resource Recovery Project Update**.

The Manager Project Development provided an update on the project activities and gave a presentation on the site location study for the Resource Recovery Project.

The Committee discussed the following issues:

- Difference in footprint between gasification and combustion plants;
- Water balance for Red Hill for the facility and the site;
- Distance from each site to nearest resident;
- The two major roads around the site and whether it was worth approaching the government to have the routes re-assessed;
- Monitoring on boundaries.

11.2 WASTE EDUCATION UPDATE

The Waste Education Coordinator provided an update on waste education activities:

- Tours of Red Hill Waste Management Facility and Education Centre – several tours have been conducted for community groups and schools;
- Battery Recycling Update – nearly 6 tonnes of batteries have been collected so far this year compared to approximately 8.5 tonnes for the whole of the previous year. Another 15 schools have joined the programme and heard about it through word of mouth;
- Earth Carers – the second training course was completed in June 2010 and there were 23 graduates from the course with a total of over 50 earth carers in the Region now. The EMRC has also scheduled additional earth carers training with Mindarie Regional Council (MRC) and Western Metropolitan Regional Council (WMRC) and special courses to continually upskill earth carers;
- Waste and Recycling - the Waste Education Coordinator gave a talk to Kalamunda residents on waste and recycling as part of the Solar Cities programme;
- Worm Farm – the EMRC has its own worm farm. The Manager Project Development converted an old fridge from the Red Hill Waste Management Facility to a worm farm and this will be used on the gardens around EMRC and used at events and showcased to residents;
- The EMRC has entered the Compact Fluorescent Light (CFL) and Battery recycling programmes into the Waste Authority's Waste Awards;
- The EMRC has nominated two of their lead primary schools into Waste Wise School Awards;
- Implementing an education strategy for Mundaring transfer stations to reinforce the types of waste to be separated out;
- Education centre garden – the re-use garden has been completed and all of the materials used to create the garden were salvaged from different sites or recycled in some way e.g. using Red Hill soil conditioner and mulch and using construction & demolition (C&D) materials from landfill;
- Royal Show – the EMRC is currently organising materials and displays for a stall at this year's Royal Show, highlighting waste minimisation and resource recovery;



Item 11.2 continued

A member stated that a lot of people have bought and are continually replacing solar powered garden lights as they're very cheap but the recyclable batteries in them are poor quality and don't last long so the batteries are winding up in the landfill. A member asked if there was a way of getting the message across to residents not to throw them in bins. The Waste Education Coordinator advised that the EMRC has a battery recycling programme and the Waste and Recycling Guides for 2010/2011, which provides battery recycling information and an a-z guide, had just been distributed to all residents in the Region. A member suggested that the problem could be stopped if the manufacture of these items was discontinued. The Manager Project Development advised that the problem would only be addressed at a national and state level through Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) strategy.

In response to a member's query on whether the EMRC interacted with other battery recyclers the Waste Education Coordinator advised that the EMRC was a member of a dry cell battery working group with other regional councils.

A member advised that he had seen a re-use garden in Wales a few years ago demonstrating natural earth, improved earth and improved earth with compost, and asked if EMRC's garden was similar. The Waste Education Coordinator advised that the EMRC didn't currently have this sort of garden but thought it was a good idea.

11.3 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

The Manager Project Development and Ms Delia Richardson provided an update on recent community engagement activities including the Community Task Force process.

Ms Richardson thanked Peter Pearson, Ray Lewis, Sally Paulin and Edwin Dell for their assistance with the doorknocking, stating that over 118 residences were visited but only 25 interviews were conducted as a lot of properties had electronic gates or dogs and were not accessible. Ms Richardson summarised the issues raised by residents as followed:

- 27 complaints about the current operations or issues at Red Hill – usually noise or odour issues;
- Most residents surveyed had no or little idea of the technology options proposed for the Resource Recovery Facility (RRF);
- Most residents valued the peace and quiet of living in the hills;
- Most residents didn't think the RRF would impact on them in the future but those that did were concerned about the environment, pollution of rain water, noise, traffic.

Ms Richardson advised that there was no regular standard form of communication throughout the area. The Gidgegannup residents receive the Gidgegram but this was put out by the Gidgegannup Progress Association and Parkerville residents don't receive it. Residents have to drive to the local shop for newspapers, there are only about 40 post office boxes in Gidgegannup but there are thousands of residents in the Region. Discussion ensued on methods for overcoming the communication issues in the hills area.

In response to a member's queries on whether there was a pattern to where the noise complaints were from; whether there was knowledge of the existing Red Hill facility or the proposed new RRF, Ms Richardson advised that there was no pattern, all residents knew about Red Hill but some residents didn't know about the new facility. Ms Richardson advised that a lot of residents knew about the Red Hill Community Liaison Group meetings but some residents hadn't been aware of it so the doorknocking was important, especially for new residents in the area.



Item 11.3 continued

The Manager Project Development advised that the nominations for the Resource Recovery Project Community Task Force closed on 30 July 2010 and 15 nominations were received which would enable representation from three geographical areas within the Region. The Manager Project Development was finalising the recommended applicants and would submit a report to Council on 19 August 2010 to confirm the success applicants. The EMRC was currently in the process of recruiting an independent facilitator to run the Community Task Force (CTF) and the first CTF meeting will be held on 24 August 2010. A community forum was expected to be held in mid to late October 2010 or September if a suitable venue could be secured.

Ms Synnott advised that the first meeting of the CTF would provide an opportunity for CTF members to get to know each other and go through governance issues for the group. The community forum would be a world café format meeting to gather a lot of information for the CTF to work with in developing the community partnership agreement (CPA). Ms Synnott also advised that the doorknocking had provided another source of information from people close to the facility and their concerns and this information would also be considered by the CTF.

The Manager Project Development advised that an issue of contention from the nomination process was that a couple of the nominations were from progress associations and they had asked for a deputy or proxy so that someone from their association could keep abreast and report back to their respective associations. The EMRC had initially advised against this but the issue was raised again at the Red Hill Community Liaison Group (RHCLG) meeting held last week so it will be considered at the first CTF meeting. Discussion ensued regarding deputies and proxies.

11.4 LEAVE OF ABSENCE – MR EDWIN DELL AND MR BERRY AMBROSE

The Manager Project Development advised that Mr Dell had requested leave of absence from 7 July 2010 until 31 October 2010 inclusive.

The Manager Project Development advised that Mr Ambrose had also requested leave of absence from 1 September 2010 to 31 October 2010 inclusive.

Mr Fowler advised that he would be an apology for the 13 September (if required) and 11 October meetings if they were held.

11.5 WMCRG MEMBERSHIP TERMS

The Manager Project Development advised that WMCRG members' terms expire at the end of December 2010, except for Mr Brown and Mrs Klein. Membership terms were discussed with the WMCRG earlier this year in conjunction with the different role for the WMCRG and the Community Task Force (CTF) and that there would be a period of transition. The Manager Project Development suggested that WMCRG member terms could be extended until the end of 2011 but by the middle of 2011 the Terms of Reference (ToR) and future role of the WMCRG would need to be finalised. The WMCRG meeting frequency would need to be reduced to once every three or four months as it would be difficult to keep both the WMCRG and CTF groups resourced.

The Manager Project Development advised that as the 13 September (if required) meeting was the same week as the Waste and Recycle Conference 2010 the meeting would not be required and the 11 October meeting was not likely to be required so the 8 November (if required) would be the next meeting.



12 FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE WMCRG

The next meeting of the Waste Management Community Reference Group will be held on **Monday, 13 September 2010 (if required)** at the EMRC Administration Office, 1st Floor, Ascot Place, 226 Great Eastern Highway, Belmont WA 6104 commencing at 6.00pm.

Future Meetings 2010

Monday	13 September (if required)	at	EMRC Administration Office
Monday	11 October	at	EMRC Administration Office
Monday	8 November (if required)	at	EMRC Administration Office

13 DECLARATION OF CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.50pm.