Waste Management Community Reference Group

MINUTES

21 November 2011

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WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP

MINUTES

21 November 2011

(REF: COMMITTEES-13311)

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, 21 November 2011**. The meeting commenced at **6.06pm**.

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1 DECLARATION OF OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Chairman opened the meeting at 6.06pm.

2 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED

Committee Members

Mr Peter	Pearson	Member
Mr Berry	Ambrose	Member
Ms Ruth	Balding	Member
Mr Edwin	Dell	Member
Mr Anthony	Fowler	Member
Ms Dianne	Katscherian	Member
Mr Ray	Lewis	Member

Apologies

Mrs Tina Klein	Member
Mrs Sally Paulin	Member
Mr Mark Simpson	Member

EMRC Officers

Mr Stephen Fitzpatrick	Manager Project Development
Ms Tania Wells	Waste Education Coordinator
Ms Gabrielle Grime	Community Education Coordinator
Ms Giulia Bono	Administration Officer Waste Management (Minutes)

EMRC Apologies

Mr Peter Schneider	Chief Executive Officer

Consultant(s)

Ms Gae Synnott	Consultant, Synnott Mulholland

3 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Nil

4 ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN OR PERSON PRESIDING WITHOUT DISCUSSION

The Chairman announced that the election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the WMCRG would be deferred until the next meeting of the WMCRG in 2012.

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

5.1 MINUTES OF WMCRG MEETING HELD ON 8 AUGUST 2011

That the Minutes of the Waste Management Community Reference Group meeting held on 8 August 2011, which have been distributed, be confirmed.

WMCRG RESOLUTION(S)

MOVED MR DELL SECONDED MR AMBROSE

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP MEETING HELD ON 8 AUGUST 2011, WHICH HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED, BE CONFIRMED.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6 PRESENTATIONS

6.1 OUTCOMES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPOSED RESOURCE RECOVERY FACILITY AT RED HILL WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY.

The Manager Project Development presented the outcomes of the Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed Resource Recovery Facility at Red Hill Waste Management Facility.

Ms Balding arrived at 6.13pm.

Discussion ensued

A brief discussion ensued with a range of questions.

The Manager Project Development explained that once the Environmental Review Report had been presented to the EPA he would organise a detailed presentation by Mr John King of Cardno and Dr Peter Forster of Synergetics Engineering at a workshop in early December.

7 BUSINESS NOT DEALT WITH FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING

Nil

8 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Nil

9 REPORTS OF RELEVANT RESOURCE RECOVERY COMMITTEE RESOLUTIONS

9.1 RENEWAL OF WMCRG MEMBERSHIPS

The Manager Project Development advised members that the RRC will be tabling its recommendation that nominations for reappointment to the WMCRG be accepted for the term from 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2012 to Council at its 8 December 2011 Council meeting.

9.2 INVESTIGATION INTO THE FEASIBILITY OF CONVERTING WOODWASTE AND OTHER RESIDUALS AT HAZELMERE INTO RENEWABLE POWER

The Manager Project development advised the group of a proposed feasibility study into pyrolysing woodwaste and other residuals at the EMRC's Hazelmere site.

Discussion ensued

The Manager Project Development gave a brief explanation on the conversion of woodwaste and how it would be used to generate power for the wood waste grinder and biochar.

10 REPORTS OF MEMBERS

Mr Dell tabled a two (2) page report on his attendance at the Waste and Recycling Conference held in September 2011 (refer attached). Mr Dell found it very interesting and informative and thanked the EMRC for the opportunity to attend.

The Chairman gave an overview of his attendance at the Waste and Recycling Conference.

Waste & Recycle Conference 2011

I thank the EMRC for affording me the opportunity to be a full time delegate at the 2011 Waste and Recycle Conference including participation in two tours on Wednesday 14 September prior to the conference proper on 15 and 16 September 2011.

The Household Hazardous Waste Tour and Workshop at Tamala Park was informative and educational in regard to the challenges confronting those involved in this sector of the waste avoidance and recovery sector. I now have a fuller understanding of the need for continuous public education if optimum diversion of household hazardous waste is to be achieved.

The visit to the new Colmax, fully integrated glass processing plant in Kewdale demonstrated that it is possible to successfully recover and process the broken glass fraction from the multiple item yellow top recycle bin. However, the amount of dust in this new plant does not alter my view that the best form of recycling is to have complete sorting at source, i.e. separate bins for glass bottles.

In addition to hearing the various informative keynote speakers I found the concurrent sessions that I attended quite enlightening especially:

- Pippa Henderson of New Energy Corporation's talk on Drivers for Waste Energy Project Development. I think that her comment that public sentiment in WA on the social climate for the use of pyrolysis technology is pertinent to our project. Her comment on poor environmental performance in NSW is very not helpful.
- Cathy McGowan speaking on the National Television and Computer Stewardship Scheme that will be phased in from late 2011 mentioned that regulations would be effective from November 2011. Standardisation across the nation with appropriate publicity should greatly diminish the inappropriate disposal of electronic waste.
- In talking on the subject of Carbon Price for Waste Michael Voros provided interesting data of possible implications for the waste management industry once the proposed carbon tax became law. In essence he said that there is a need to prepare now for likely additional costs especially where emissions arise from landfill. Thus it would be prudent to ascertain how considering alternatives and options could effectively reduce costs.
- Particularly interesting was the address by Richard Denniss on Food Waste and Organics. Particularly alarming was his statistics on the volume of food waste in Australia and the prediction that this is set to continue increasing.
- Kevin Wilson in addressing Commercial Organic Waste – Key Learnings, cited the criteria essential for enhancing increased recycling such as cost neutrality when compared to landfill costs. I was interested to hear that SITA does not accept biodegradable plastic bags. SITA has an Australia wide policy of only taking compostable plastics.
- Martin Gravett of AnaeCo in talking on the Large Scale Hybrid Digestion and Composting Implementation mentioned that the project was viable when the organic fraction was 70%. Less than 60% organic fraction would change the economics of the project. The current diversion rate to landfill is 25%. Fifty-five thousand tonnes of waste produces 1mg of electricity yearly.
- The address by Rod Welford of the Australian Council of Recycling was essentially an update on the Australian Packaging Covenant and the new national Stewardship Bill.

- Maureen Maher of Keep Australia Beautiful outlined the new advertising program aimed at the under 25 segment of the community.
- Kristie Stevens of DEC outlined a new initiative developed in partnership with industry. This Eco Drive program is free from DEC and is the first of its kind in Australia.
- Elmar Offenbacher of BDI – BioEnergy International AG, Austria paper on Advanced Conversion of Waste into BioGas provided interesting statistics on the European experience. Interestingly separation is critical to successful operation. The Italy plant that has been operational for five years has an output of 1,450Nm5/h of BioGas, 3.4 mw of electricity plus heat.
- In the keynote address by Neal Bolton on the American experience, he mentioned that tradition does not lead to efficiency or productivity. In any system it is critical to define, measure and analyse. It is not possible to effectively manage what is not measured.
- Heidi Cabaniss of Connecticut College, USA explained how change could be effected with adequate research. In doing so she drew on the California experience with E-waste. For this there is mandatory finance, fees are collected for the government driven service for which administrative costs are 11%. Importantly it is imperative to get the message before the population.
- The message by Martina Reinzner of Sustainability Victoria gave an overview of the household chemical waste program that has been running in Victoria for several years. To optimize usage it is essential for the community to have easy access. The program needs to be environmentally sound and cost effective. The Victorian program has a number of permanent sites as well as the occasional mobile collections.
- John Jackson of CARDNO explained the need for public drop off sites to be no more than ten minutes from homes for maximum usage. They must have easy ingress and egress especially for trailers. Operational must be considered in the planning process. Incentives must be provided for clients to separate, e.g. landfill, recycling.
- Lincoln Falconer of Biohazard Waste Industry-Division of WMAA in identifying New Directions in Clinical Waste Management identified a number of new issues that included a new definition for clinical waste and a new code of practice that was issued last June for the Australian/New Zealand region. The new code more particularly includes bio-hazardous waste from sources other than health services

Overall I found the whole conference very enlightening.

Edwin Dell
WMCRG

11 GENERAL BUSINESS

11.1 RESOURCE RECOVERY PROJECT UPDATE

Item 11.1 was covered off by Item 6.1 Outcomes Of The Environmental Impact Assessment Of The Proposed Resource Recovery Facility At Red Hill Waste Management Facility.

11.2 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME

The Community Engagement Officer updated the group on community engagement activities and asked for further suggestions on activities to engage the community.

Members suggested outdoor cinema advertising and electronic media.

11.3 WASTE EDUCATION UPDATE

The Waste Education Coordinator updated the group on waste education activities.

- Battery recycling is progressing with over 14 tonnes collected since January 2011;
- The EMRC's Waste Education Strategy will be reviewed in the New Year. Research Solutions will be conducting the research into the current strategy using focus groups and online surveys of residents in Perth's Eastern Region. Findings from the research will be presented to the WMCRG at the May 2012 meeting. The groups will be asked for comment/feedback on both the old and new strategies;
- Royal Show 2012 - 12 EMRC Earth Carer volunteers helped with the waste education stall;
- Waste Education Officers attended the following events and spoke or displayed waste education materials at; Maylands Sustainable Expo, Gidgegannup Show and the Mt Helena WHIM festival**;**
- A presentation was given at Mundaring Living Smart course with 56 people attending to learn about waste and recycling;
- A tour of the Red Hill Waste Management Facility for the hearing impaired has been scheduled for 2012;
- A presentation was given at the Waste and Recycling conference on the findings of the CFL recycling trial;
- Presentations have been given at a number of community groups around the Region over the past month;
- The number of people touring the Red Hill Waste Management Facility this year up to November 2011 was1,800;
- Green Room - Ellenbrook Shopping Centre has a separate room for drop off of recyclable items;
- City of Swan recycling drop off days provided assistance and information with over 100 cars through per day with the majority of the collection being e-waste;
- Signs for Coppin and Mathieson Road Transfer Stations are complete and have been installed; and
- Responses to questions from residents using the online Q & A were provided with most questions being posted around the time a Watch Your Waste (WYW) column ran which advertised the R-gang website.

12 FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE WMCRG

The next meeting of the Waste Management Community Reference Group will be held on ***Monday, 13 February 2012*** at the EMRC Administration Office, 1st Floor, Ascot Place, 226 Great Eastern Highway, Belmont WA 6104 commencing at 6.00pm.

Future Meetings 2012

Monday	13	February	at	EMRC Administration Office
Monday	14	May	at	EMRC Administration Office
Monday	13	August	at	EMRC Administration Office
Monday	26	November	at	EMRC Administration Office

Mr Pearson advised members that Ms Dot Kingston did not renominate for the WMCRG and wished to thank her for her contribution and input to the WMCRG throughout her term. A Member suggested that she be invited as a guest to the 13 February 2012 WMCRG meeting.

WMCRG RESOLUTION(S)

MOVED MR AMBROSE SECONDED MS KATSCHERIAN

THAT MS DOT KINGSTON BE THANKED FOR HER CONTRIBUTION AND INPUT TO THE WMCRG THROUGHOUT HER SUCCESSIVE TERMS AND BE INVITED AS A GUEST TO THE 13 FEBRUARY WMCRG MEETING.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

13 DECLARATION OF CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.00pm.