Note that minutes are paraphrased to an extent and may not exactly match actual statements.

Project	Hydro Kurri Kurri site redevelopment project	From	Alexandra Parker
Subject	Community Reference Group	Tel	1800 066 243
Venue/Date/Time	Thursday 16 February 2017 Business Enterprise Centre, Crn Barton and Merthyr Streets Kurri Kurri 6.00pm – 7:30pm	Job No	21/23175
Copies to	All committee members		
Attendees	Mr Toby Thomas – Community representative Mr Andrew Walker – Hydro Kurri Kurri Mr Richard Brown – Managing Director, Hydro Kurri Kurri Mr Ian Turnbull – Manager Natural Environment Planning, Cessnock City Council Mr Ian Shillington – Manager Urban Growth, Maitland City Council Mr Kerry McNaughton – Environmental Officer, Hydro Kurri Kurri Clr Darrin Gray – Cessnock City Council Mrs Kerry Hallett – Hunter BEC Mr Alan Gray – Community representative Clr Arch Humphery – Maitland City Council Mr Rod Doherty – Kurri Kurri Business Chamber Mr Michael Ulph – CRG Chair, GHD Ms Alexandra Parker – CRG minutes, GHD		
Guests/observers	Mr Shaun Taylor - Environ		
Apologies			
Not present	Mr Bill Metcalfe – Community representative Ms Debra Ford - Community representative Mr Brad Wood – Community representative		

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Notes	Action
1 Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country Meeting commenced at 6:02 pm **Michael Ulph (Chair)** Acknowledgement of country.	

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2 Meeting agenda

- Welcome and meeting opening
- Apologies
- Acceptance of minutes from the last meeting
- Project update
- EIS – submissions and progress
- CRG questions and answers
- All other business
- Next meeting / Meeting close

3 Welcome and meeting opening

Michael Ulph welcomes the committee and notes apologies.

4 Last meeting minutes

Michael Ulph requested a motion that the minutes be accepted as a true and correct record of the last meeting.

Moved: Kerry McNaughton
Seconded: Toby Thomas

Richard Brown thanked Kerry Hallett and Kurri Kurri BEC for hosting the CRG meeting on this occasion.

5 Project update

Andrew Walker: I will run through the project update and hand over to Richard for an update on SPL recycling and rezoning.

Things we have been working on over the last 2 months: Completion of product removal, continued SPL pulverising, commissioned the new power supply, continued the containment cell detailed design and sampling leachate and gas from the capped waste stockpile (CWS) and getting ready for Stage 1 demolition. We found a bit of product in the pot room scrubbers. This is a photo of the bag house duct in line 2 north. We cut hatches in various parts of the duct work to inspect them. We used a local contractor with a vacuum truck to clean that material out.

These are other areas we have been cleaning: Line 1 reactor inlet ducts, line 2 and 3 buse piles, and actual baghouse hoppers themselves.

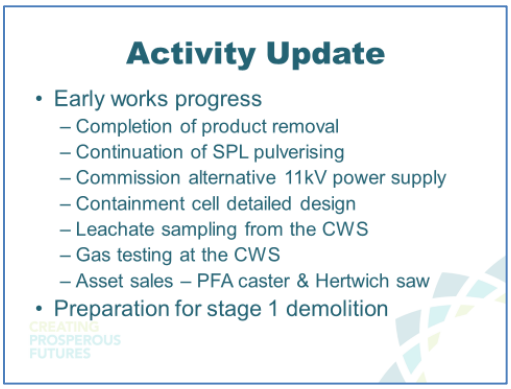
Richard Brown: What is that product?

Andrew Walker: RA, reacted alumina. We are just storing it. This is the other baking furnace, the 7A furnace. We are going to store this product and things like scrubber bags here. Because there is some fluoride in this material, we want to keep it undercover.

Rod Doherty: Why couldn't we put it through Tomago?

Andrew Walker: We did put a lot of alumina through Tomago. This alumina has been sitting around for so long it has got a lot of scale in it and they probably don't want it.

Richard Brown: A smelter could take it. It is what was being processed through the Kurri plant but Tomago are pretty



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conservative. Anything not pure they aren't really interested. It was the same with our baked anodes.

Andrew Walker: We continued pulverising SPL. When we were delining the pots, so we could keep the contactor working, we let them store some first cut in shed two. That contractor demobilised and finished but we have just got another contractor transporting it back to the bake furnace and pulverising it. That should be finished in the next few weeks.

Darren Gray: If they won't take it what will happen to it then?

Richard Brown: It has to be disposed of. In our current concept, it will be included as waste material in the containment cell.

Toby Thomas: We can't even give it away?

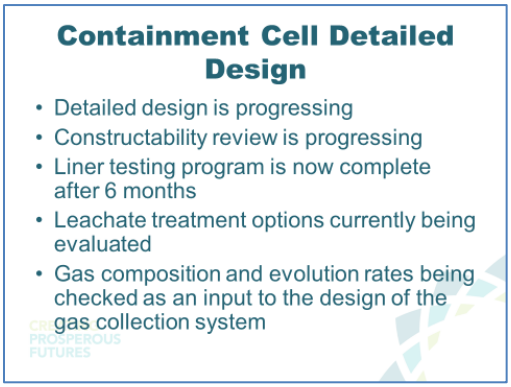
Richard Brown: No. We would have.

Rod Doherty: Why can't you use it for grinding paste?

Richard Brown: We have another batch of raw material, the anode cover material, we can't give that away either.

Andrew Walker: We have also been working on our power supply to make the site safe for demolition. Today we commissioned it so we had Ausgrid there and we energised the new Ausgrid kiosk, with power running down to the transformer, we are going to be using over the next four years. Tomorrow morning we are going to switch over from one transformer to another to supply the three buildings that we need to use to for the course of the project. We are also working on isolating the 11kv coming out of the switch yard. There will be no live cables underground apart from the one new cable we have going from this switch board to the transformer we need. All other cables on site will be disconnected and the site will be made safe.

We have continued with the containment cell detailed design. The design is progressing and the constructability review has started. The liner testing is now complete, six months testing with three materials with our leachate. The leachate is from the capped waste stockpile that we removed from wells to use for testing. We are waiting on the report to come from a company in Melbourne. We are working on leachate treatment, on site or using a contactor and taking gas composition and gas evolution rate measurements from the capped waste stockpile. We need that as data for use in the cell design.



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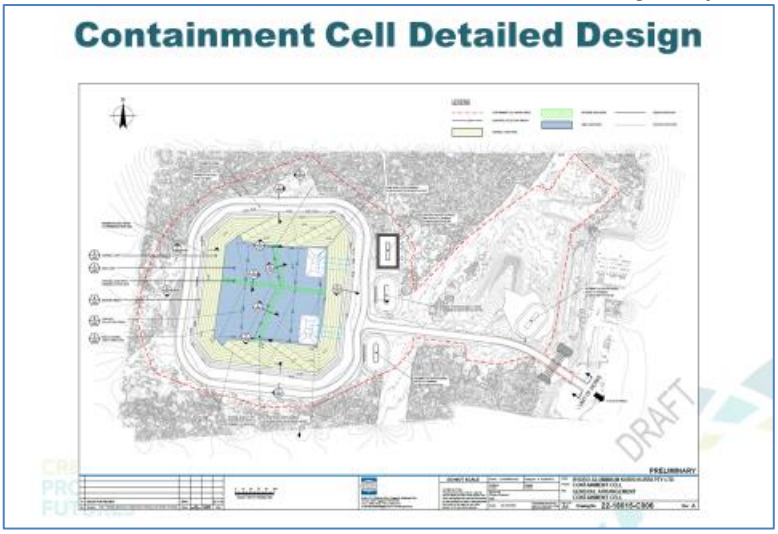
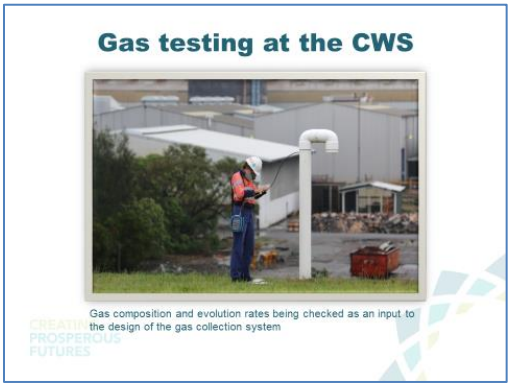
I showed this slide last time. This is the basic design showing 4 compartments. A berm separating each compartment that will allow us to fill each cell at a time and cover it so if we get any



rain events it can be pumped via the sump here to these stormwater storage ponds. This one here is a leachate collection pond so if we have waste in this cell we can pump across and take it to the water treatment plant on site. We took some more leachate from the CWS. This is for our environmental consultant to get samples tested. Looking at 3 different contractors offsite that could potentially treat the leachate. At some stage, even if we go for onsite treatment, at some stage if there is any leachate while the well is drying out after we have capped the cell, if there is still being leachate generated we may need to treat something off site so it is good to have that as an option.

This is a photo of some gas testing we were doing at the capped waste stockpile. Kerry and his guys do regular testing, they have been doing that over the last 20 years for hydrogen, methane and ammonia. This testing was checking the volume of gas currently being generated from the waste and measuring other components like carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide and H_2S which is hydrogen sulphide, as well as ammonia, methane and hydrogen.



Toby Thomas: How has the volume of that gas changed over the years, since it was first capped?

Andrew Walker: At the moment it is very low, so 0.1 litres/minute.

Kerry McNaughton: It hasn't changed much at all over the years. From the analysis there hasn't been much variation

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between now and 20 years ago. It has been consistent at the various wells.

Richard Brown: From the data collected from the smelter. When it was first capped and they first measured concentrations, the concentrations were reasonably high, methane and ammonia. You could see it very quickly drop off. It dropped off in the first couple of years and has become consistent.

Kerry McNaughton: Consistent since then, yes.

Alan Gray: You mentioned hydrogen, do you get much of that?

Andrew Walker: I think there was hydrogen in the early days but not now. It is mainly ammonia and a bit of H_2S.

Toby Thomas: Once it is disturbed and relocated, do you expect it to go up?

Andrew Walker: It could go up, because by handling the waste, if we break it, you will get new fracture surfaces that can generate more gas or it might get wet.

Richard Brown: When it is uncovered there is a risk of it getting wet. Initially you might have a reasonable amount of gas generation.

Shaun Taylor: We have got a decent precedent to look at. We know when it is capped the generation drops off sharply.

Richard Brown: One of the key environmental controls that we put in place is to make sure we minimise the risk of getting it wet, so that gas generation is low. So making sure it is covered and that excavation work doesn't happen in tropical depressions. It is part of that process for minimising the potential for exposure.

Darren Gray: When this stuff goes into the cell, it will take a settlement period, where you expect that spike? Over the years do you expect that to continue?

Richard Brown: No, not really. This is the example, if it does exactly what this did then it will quickly dissipate. Even the levels that were high were nothing compared to a domestic landfill gas. You could mine that for methane, but [here] you are talking about small percentages of those concentrations.

Michael Ulph: The reason you mine domestic [landfills] is because you have putrescible materials in the waste mix, so vegetation and other organic material. This [material] isn't something that putrefies and breaks down.

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Andrew Walker: The casthouse asset removal has finished. Last meeting we were still packing the equipment and shipping. That has finished.

Stage 1 demolition, we are very close to awarding a contract. We are still arranging some final commercial issues. We are hoping to award that contract by the end of this month. Then they will be mobilizing in March and start demolition in early April. It will tie in well because by then we will have most of the site power disconnected.

Richard Brown: It might be an interesting topic for the next CRG meeting. All things going well we will have a contractor in place and they can come along and talk to you about who they are and what their plans are for the demolition of the site.

Rod Doherty: In regards to power, you are powering up your auxiliary power today. The cables coming across the fence will they be disconnected?

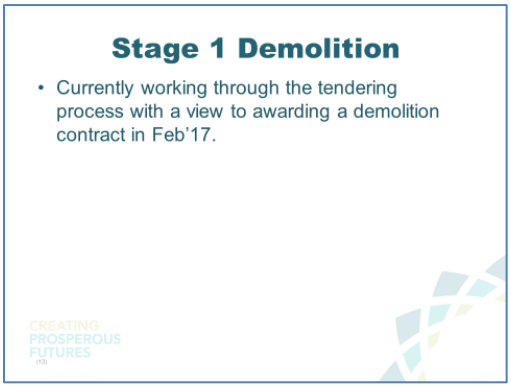
Andrew Walker: We are going to leave the three 132KV feeders in place, they are still going to supply power into the switchyard, the fenced area. It is the cables leaving the switchyard, they are the ones we are going to isolate. There are 23 11KV cables.

Rod Doherty: So that power is going in and coming back out?

Andrew Walker: Yes it is going back out and distributing to the site. That is the underground 11KV we need to isolate to make it safe for demolition. The switchyard has a potential reuse for a developer so we want to keep it intact as a way of supplying power to a new industrial development or potential residential development.

That heading is for stage 1 demolition but the contract will actually be for Stage 1 and Stage 2. Stage 2 demolition is below ground, so all the foundations and services 1.5 metres below ground, explosive demolition of the stacks and demolition of the buildings containing SPL, after we recycle the spent pot lining. At this stage we only have approval from Cessnock Council for stage 1 demolition, we are going to go for an approval for Stage 2, which Shaun will talk about. We need to do that to keep the contractor going, so they don't have to demobilise and re-mobilise.

Richard Brown: Spent Pot Lining recycling is still going along, not the recycling as such but our investigations. We are getting closer, comfortable now we are getting to a point that in the next month or so we will put something in place with one of the



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options. There are a number of other options which we will continue to have discussions with. We are at a point now where we are having commercial discussions which is encouraging. We [expect to] start doing some of that this year and if the claims of the recyclers are able to be delivered then we can still meet our expected time frames.

Toby Thomas: Where will we get it out of first? The sheds or where you've got it stored [elsewhere].

Richard Brown: It depends on the contractor and which material they are able to process. We'll probably start in the sheds and freeing up some of the space in the sheds for other materials that are generated during demolition.

On the rezoning side of things, there has not been much progress. The major reason behind that is that the rezoning is contingent on the completion of a flood study, which I understand Ian, is currently being procured. Is that a fair comment?

Clr Arch Humphery arrived at 6:20pm

Ian Shillington: An invitation has gone out this week to select a consultant. Submissions close on the 10th of March. We will review after that and have a decision sometime after that in March.

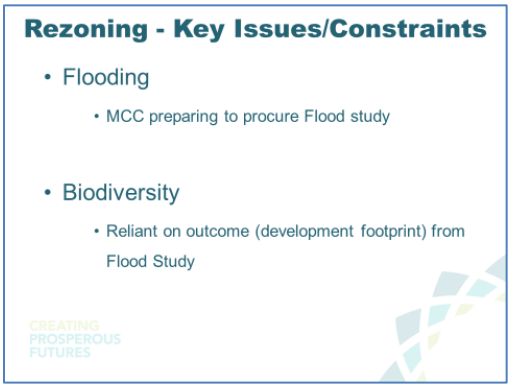
Richard Brown: But it won't be until you get the submissions back that you will know the timing for the studies is that right?

Ian Shillington: Yes.

Richard Brown: The reason it's holding everything else up at the moment is because a lot of the other things depend on the ultimate development footprint. Where flooding is uncertain, which we have been told it isn't, then things like the biodiversity for example, we can't settle on a footprint and start doing our calculations on development versus conservation, and those sorts of things, so this is a critical step in that whole process.

Rod Doherty: Is there a best guess timeline on when the flood study results will be in?

Ian Shillington: We expect at least a draft study later in the year, roughly in 6 months for a draft study, complete by early next year. That is a broad timetable we are working to, until we get the submissions in.



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Rod Doherty: Are they only concentrating on Wentworth Swamps?	
Ian Shillington: No, they are looking at the whole catchment, for Wallis, Swamp and Fishery Creeks. It is a joint study with Cessnock Council. OEH has advised the need to review that as part of the study while looking at the whole catchment comprehensively.	
Richard Brown: On the divestment of the site – that slide has not changed since the last meeting. That is not to say we haven't been progressing that issue. We have got to a point where we are taking a recommendation back to our corporate management. We will go to Norway to do that, either next Monday or the Monday after, and present the recommendation to proceed to the next stage of that process. That is not a guaranteed transaction outcome, but it will potentially mean a period of due diligence from a potential purchaser during which they will have some views as to how the development of the site will ultimately look and have some input into that. Hopefully during that process, hoping we get across the first hurdle, we will have that party come and join us here. If that comes off, the sort of information I have seen fits very well with the Regrowth ambitions and our vision and it is quite exciting.	
Toby Thomas: I assume the future of the speedway is part of that?	
Richard Brown: Yes. Anything that has anything to do with the land, we'll have to wait and see because they will have input into that. Needless to say, we have made representations in that process about of our views on the speedway.	
Michael Ulph: Having the entity in the in room will be a great opportunity for people to put their points forward.	
Richard Brown: I can't guarantee that will happen, as it won't be done at that point, we are at the start of that process. But at any point along the way, they could find any number of reasons to walk away, but the fact they are at the table means that they are interested and think there is something there for them. We need to make sure we provide them with all the information. That will eventually involve dialogue with the different councils and planning authorities to understand where the project is at and what the potential roadblocks are, and perhaps where they may be able to have an influence on where that process goes forward.	

6 EIS – submissions and progress

Shaun Taylor: Just a reminder that the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) covers the remediation of the site, including the containment cell and relocation of the capped waste stockpile, and Stage 2 demolition.

To give a reminder of what we have had to do to get to were we are, back in August 2014 we started the process of getting a request for the SEARS from DPE, they issued those in November. We submitted the EIS for their adequacy review which determines that it is sufficient to go on exhibition. That took a bit of negotiation on a few issues. The EIS went on exhibition August/September and now we have received the final submissions on the exhibition last month.

In terms of the submissions we received, there were 24 submissions in total, of those, seven were from individuals (five were local residents), seven were from organisations and ten were from government agencies. We had one formal nomination of support and five formal objections.

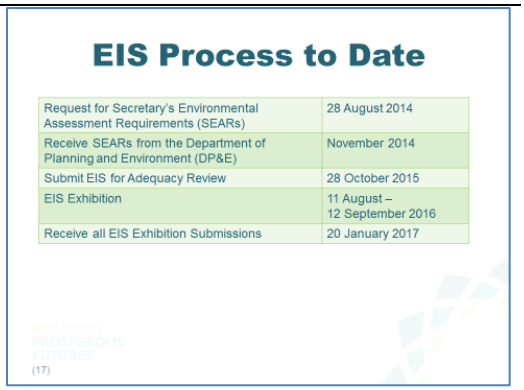
Some background to that, the Department of Planning and Environment takes in all the submissions, does provide them to us so that we can look at them, and also provides summarised key issues that we need to address. We are looking at the issues that have been raised and we are required to specifically respond to each issue.

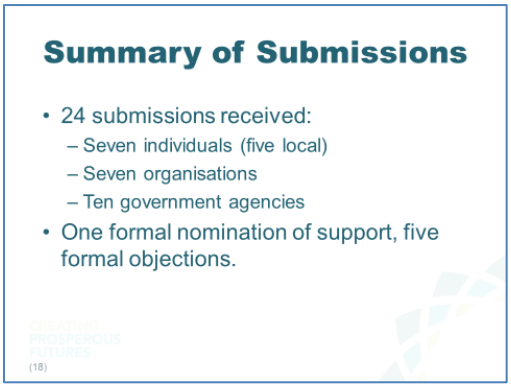
Letter from DP&E was passed around

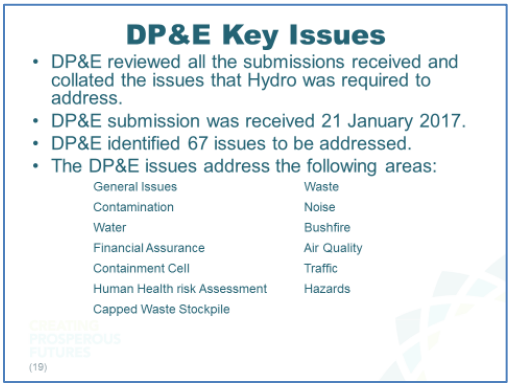
Shaun Taylor: That document and other submissions are on the DPE website. DPE summarised 67 issues that we need to address. There are general issues, contamination, water, and financial assurance around the containment cell, the human health risk assessment, detail around the capped waste stockpile, waste, noise, bushfire, air quality, traffic and hazards. Other people raised other issues, such as ecology, aboriginal heritage and the like but these are the key issues in the department's mind.

Kerry Hallett: You are doing your EIS and they have raised all these issues. When a developer takes over do they have to do a new EIS?

Richard Brown: It depends what they do. If they submit a DA for something and that is of sufficient scale, it may require them to do another EIS for that development.







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Shaun Taylor: This EIS is for the clean-up of the site so someone else can do something with it.

Richard Brown: Any development as such would have some sort of environmental assessment, whether that is a full-blown EIS or a statement of environmental effects, or similar.

Kerry Hallett: You are going into such detail here so for someone else to turn around and go into the same detail.

Michael Ulph: It would be detail around something else though, a different project.

Rod Doherty: Steel River when was remediated and set up, it didn't have to go back in and do all the investigations again.

Shaun Taylor: They set up a special plan similar to what we have done for the biodiversity on this site. There was a note saying the site had been remediated so each individual developer didn't have to deal with that contamination assessment. There was an approved strategy for how to deal with it. That is what we have done with the biodiversity so each individual developer doesn't have to worry about offsetting what they are clearing.

Richard Brown: To some degree, it will be similar to contamination. Our intention is to have audit statements for every square metre of ground, to say that it is suitable for the proposed use in line with that master plan. So hopefully there are no questions around contamination because that has been dealt with up front.

Arch Humphery: Wouldn't it be beneficial to get some assessment so what you are selling, the people buying it have got a clear pathway rather than a situation of, now look at the mess we are in, or it's easy, or it's hard? I understand that certain types of developments need some impact statements but there could be some guidelines, particularly on a site as big as this.

Shaun Taylor: There are two processes, this EIS and the rezoning that Richard touched on earlier - is doing that. With land, we have broken it up into 18 different parcels and undertaken contaminated site assessments for each parcel. We have gone and done a walkover.

For the conservation land it was pretty clear that there wasn't anything there that needed further investigation. In some areas, obviously the smelter and the old Dickson Road landfill and the

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like, we did need to do some further investigations to understand the extent of contamination, what it is, and what was needed to be done. And so there is a process from that where there is contamination where we are going to do Remediation Action Plans (RAPs). In turn we have an EPA accredited auditor, independent to the process, who has to sign off on what is called an audit statement to agree that either the site has been remediated and is suitable for that proposed development, or, it can be remediated. This EIS is about that remediation of the smelter site.

Michael Ulph: Further approvals processes depend on what you put there. Such as if you want to build a house you may need a DA, if you want to build a factory you may need an EIS.

Shaun Taylor: I have pulled out some of the key issues DPE raised. In terms of general issues. The details of the SPL strategy, they are also asking for further information and considerations of alternatives and understand the negotiations with the EPA regarding the containment cell.

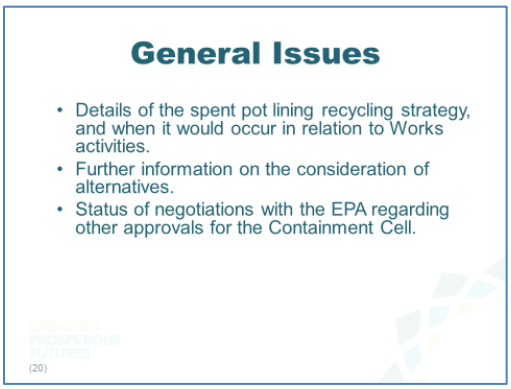
I won't give all the answers today as we are still in process of doing that. A lot of the issues that have been raised have been addressed in the EIS. We are finding that certain people have only looked at parts of the EIS, so we are just saying 'refer to section XYZ', in the EIS to get the answer.

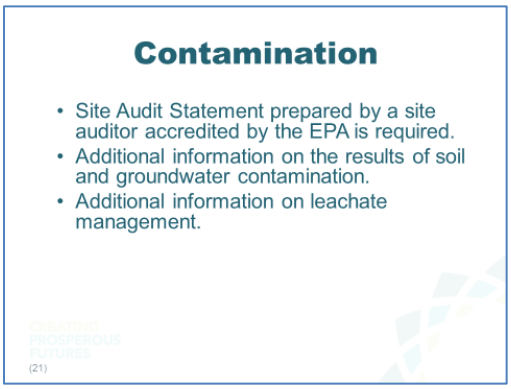
Contamination, we have just touched on that, we have to get a site audit statement. We are able to get a preliminary statement from the auditor to go with the EIS and we are in the process of finalising that. They are also after some additional information regarding investigations we have done.

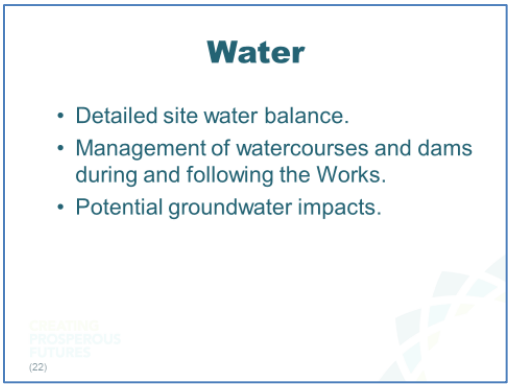
Water, a few of the departments want an understanding of the site water balance. How much will be used on site, how much do we expect to be generated from rainfall etc, to ensure we have got a balance to ensure we can manage that, ensuring we are not discharging dirty water.

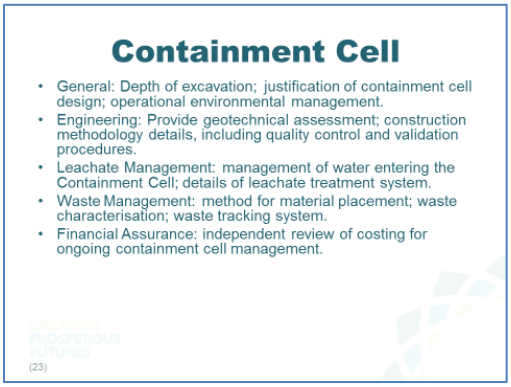
That in turn goes into the management of watercourses and dams during the works and what is going to happen after the works and potential groundwater impact. We have got all that information, it is now about providing that to the Department.

The containment cell, some very technical questions have been asked. Detailed design is continuing. We have already got a lot of the answers to these questions, In terms of depth of excavation and the justification of the design.









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Some things we are continuing in negotiations with the EPA, for example, the financial assurance, or ongoing management structure of the containment cell into the future. Human health risk assessment. Despite the complexity of the project, the agencies were very happy with the assessments that were done. There was only a couple of issues that were raised by the Department. Have we considered future users of the site? and more detail around the management measures we are going to implement during work. **Kerry Hallett:** So the future employees at the industrial estate, are they employed by whoever comes into the site once you sell? How do you control that? **Shaun Taylor:** They key thing was, with a containment cell, for example, are there any impacts for anyone in an industrial estate adjoining that containment cell? We did and we can refer to the part in the EIS where we did that. Capped waste stockpile, we just talked on the issue about how we remove that to minimise it getting wet. We have provided some detail on the strategy for doing that, so a gradual removal of the capping, rather than doing all at once you would have a 'mine front', only capping what you need to and minimise that and have alternatives for covering that in case there is a rain event. We have talked previously that there is a lot of clay that is available for reuse from the capped waste stockpile. They want some details on that and they want to understand how we know what we know about the capped waste stockpile, without actually going in and taking samples. We have done that work, which backs up what we know from the information Hydro have about what went into that cell and the results of the groundwater monitoring, that basically confirms what we already knew. Waste, some questions about what are our waste storage areas and wanting to understand the procedures to ensure none of the recyclables like concrete and metal end up in the containment cell. **Darren Gray:** You think you are going to have recyclables that people won't take, that will be put in the cell anyway. **Richard Brown:** They aren't recyclable if no one will take them.	**Human Health Risk Assessment** • Have future employees of the industrial estate been considered. • Further detail the WHS and engineering controls to protect employees. (24) **Capped Waste Stockpile** • Provide details on how the capping would be removed, and rainfall/ water would be managed. • Details on reuse of the clay capping layer. • How characteristics of the Capped Waste Stockpile are known without sampling (25) **Waste** • Identify waste storage areas. • How recyclables would be managed so they are not placed in the Containment Cell. (26)

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Shaun Taylor: This is the issue, there is material that is potentially recyclable. But if no one will take it to recycle it then we are very limited in what we can do with it. There is a market for concrete and a market for metal, there was a market for some of what is on site but that has disappeared. We have to look at what we can do with that material if those who *can* treat it, don't want to. Noise, in the EIS we identified that for various reasons there because of the nature of the works, that there is potential to undertake work outside those standard hours. In our assessment we look at what activities could be done that wouldn't have any impact on the nearby residents. A couple of questions are around that, they want further information about that issue. Bushfire, they want to understand how the containment cell design accounts for that. One of the key things is that there is a big buffer between the bush and the containment cell. Eventually that land will be developed for industrial development. Obviously, there will be a period of time where there is bush there and there are a number of measures in place for dealing with that risk. Air quality, goes back to an issue we were just discussing, want a better understanding of the air quality assessment. What is coming out of the gas vents once the containment cell is completed? Traffic, most of you have been out on site and can see there are a number of big carparks out there where employees will be parking. They just want to understand what traffic numbers were used in our assessment. **Rod Doherty:** Is there an indication of how many people will be on site during demolition? **Shaun Taylor:** There is in the EIS, I can't remember at the moment. **Andrew Walker:** It would be 25-50. **Shaun Taylor:** At the peak we were predicting about 75 smaller vehicle movements, depending on a regime, if transporting spent pot lining there would be more truck movements at once, but generally it will only be when we have a program of taking material offsite.	**Noise** • Proposed hours of operation for the Works. • Identify the need to work outside standard construction hours. (27) **Bushfire** • How Containment Cell design has considered bushfire risk management. (28) **Air Quality** • Air quality assessment of the Containment Cell operation (gas vents). (29) **Traffic** • Provide details on employee parking. • Confirm truck numbers used in the traffic assessment. (30)

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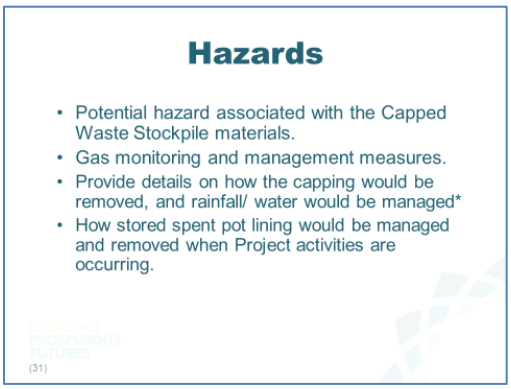
Michael Ulph: You will have internal movements but they mean public roads?

Shaun Taylor: Yes. The other thing the study showed is that about 90 per cent of all vehicles will turn off at the Hart Road interchange heading to Newcastle and a small proportion, of predominatly small vehicles, local employees, will go to Sawyers Gully Road.

Hazards, potential hazards associated with the capped waste stockpile materials. The gas monitoring and management measures, not just the gas wells. What we will do to protect the employees while they are handling this material?



Other issues we found is that there is a lot of duplication of key issues summarised by Planning. How to remove the capping, manage rainfall, when and how we would be moving spent pot lining and other activities occurring on site.

Rod Doherty: In regard to the old stockpile, which was capped about 94-95, was there any evidence about gas and the potential for flammability? Any evidence from the last 43 years?

Richard Brown: No, the gas concentrations are well below LELs, which are the Lower Explosive Limits.

Toby Thomas: Capped waste stockpile, I read through all the submissions, and the EPA submission talked about the existing chemical control order on the SPL. It said, you can't put SPL into the ground and bury it until it is pacified, by mixing it with cement or whatever. How are you addressing that?

Shaun Taylor: The first point is that none of the stored spent pot lining will go into cell, that is being recycled. An issue that we have and we are continuing negotiations with EPA on, is around that chemical control order. It is an old piece of legislation with some ambiguity in it. There is a more recent piece of legislation that means that there are no issues. We are continuing those negotiations and interpretations of legislation and the technological side of things about the benefits of what we are proposing compared to other options. That is part of why this process is taking some time. I think there are some internal negotiations going on at the EPA around this process, as well as the negotiations they are having with us. While they have noted that in their letter, one of the things we are continuing is those discussions with EPA.

There has been an acknowledgement that what we are proposing is good for the environment, especially compared to

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the existing situation. It's more about, how do we get to that point where the regulators can be satisfied and how it is managed going forward.

Richard Brown: Ultimately we can't not comply with government regulations. Through those discussions with the EPA and with Planning, the solution we come up with must be viable and must comply.

Alan Gray: On the material to give it away but no one wants it. Can that material be treated and it is just not economical?

Richard Brown: That's what we are doing with the spent pot lining. With the other materials, there is no other treatment option.

Toby Thomas: Does Weston aluminium use alumina in the scrubbers?

Richard Brown: No, they use lime scrubbers. Another example, we have had four years or more to try and find homes for different things. We found homes for 75-90 per cent of it, now we are at the dregs, for stuff that is difficult to find homes for. We are still trying, even today we have had some casting alloying elements that we have not been able to find a home for, but today someone has agreed to take it. We are not getting any money for it. It is being given away to avoid the disposal costs and associated risks. That will continue to be our strategy until we finish.

Andrew Walker: We are hoping to sell the carbon anodes to another smelter. It is cost neutral, they will just reimburse for the transport costs.

Richard Brown: We demolished the pitch tanks, we had a hundred tonnes of steel, those who would be taking all that stuff off site wouldn't touch it because it had been a pitch tank. Just because it had been touching pitch, there might have been the risk of some residual pitch material, as soon as they got the MSDS they just said no. It took persistence on our behalf to find someone who was willing to take it.

Shaun Taylor: Keep in mind there is a cost associated with material going into the containment cell, if recycling is a cheaper option, then obviously Hydro would push for it.

We are currently preparing the response to the submissions report. In parallel negotiations are ongoing with the EPA relating to the ongoing management. Upon completion of that, it will be

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submitted back to the Department for them to consider it as part of the documentation for approval.

One thing to point out is rather then the Department being the approval body it will go to Planning Assessment Commission. That is primarily because one of the parties that made a submission reported a political donation. It wasn't that Hydro made any political donation, it was someone who made a submission to the project.

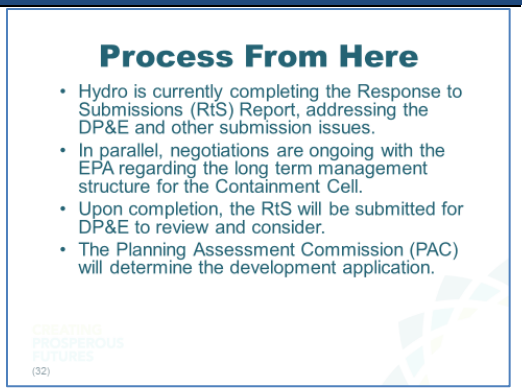
Despite the argument of logic, in the Department to be certain they will get the referral to the Planning Assessment Commission. The Department go through their process and they make their recommendations but ultimately the Planning Assessment Commission (PAC) will determine the application. The timing on that is largely guided by how successful we are in our negotiations with the EPA. We like them to be nice and short and quick but we are guided by others on the timing of that.

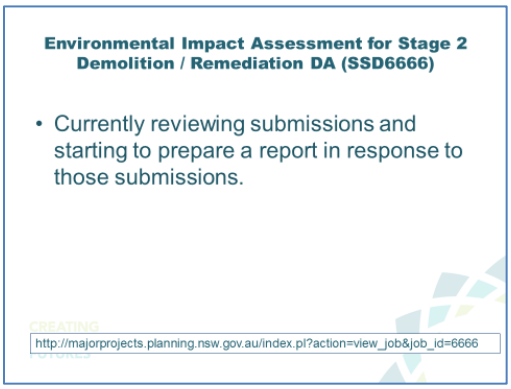
One thing that Andrew touched on is the stage 2 demo. Stage 2 demolition was part of the State Significant EIS. As discussed and as you saw in the timeline, the program for that approval is taking a lot longer than anticipated, primarily for issues not related to demolition. We have started negotiations with Council and the Department about withdrawing the demolition from the major projects EIS and making it subject of a separate Development Application with Council and it will have it's own EIS.

Michael Ulph: An EIS through DPE?

Shaun Taylor: There will be SEARS issued by the Department and Council will be the consent authority. I want to point out that we are not doing that to try to reduce the environmental impacts of the project. Both the EIS processes for each part will consider all the activities that are occurring at once and will have the cumulative effect considered.

For example. We won't look at the air quality assessment of demolition in isolation. We will assume it is happening at the same time as the remediation and removal of waste from the capped waste stockpile. What is in the current EIS will reflect in both still. It is more about the approval process and one of the risks is this ongoing delay to the major project. The contractor will come to the end of Stage 1 demolition and will have to demobilise for an unknown period of time and then remobilise. That has economic issues but also in terms of timing and just





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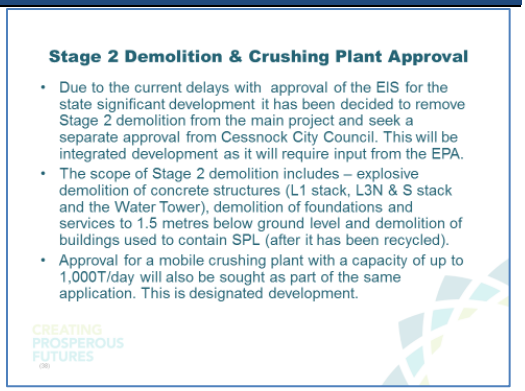
finishing the job. We are in that process now, we have been in discussions with relevant agencies to get that process going. The way we are looking at it, while we expect to proceed with the main EIS this is about addressing the risk that in the event that the negotiations with the EPA take even longer than we have already had, we don't want that holding up what is a relatively simple project which is the demolition. With the Stage 2 demolition there is the sub structures, down to -1.5 metres. It is the stacks and a few remaining buildings. Stage 1 accounts for about 80 percent of demolition; Stage 2 is only a small proportion of it. It is fairly consistent with what council has already considered. The only difference is the blasting that is required for the stacks. The rest of it, how it would be managed, is basically the same as Stage 1. From an environmental perspective there is no real change it is purely a regulatory process. **Michael Ulph:** What would the timeframe be on the second demolition EIS? **Shaun Taylor:** We are continuing on with the EIS right now, we expect roughly around September for approval, given the program we have for Stage 1 demolition. One of the benefits we have is that we have gone through the Stage 1 demolition process with councils expectations regarding demolition and we have also received the submissions for the main EIS and we can address those as part of that EIS. We are hopeful that we will address all the issues as part of the EIS. **Toby Thomas:** Where does the demolition of the SPL sheds sit? In Stage 1 or Stage 2? **Shaun Taylor:** Stage 2. Recognising the fact that we need to retain those buildings. One of the conditions for Stage 1 demolition is that prior to demolishing the pot rooms we had to get independent certification that all the SPL had been removed. We would be proposing much the same for the sheds. We would have to get independent certification that all that material is removed from those buildings. **Rod Doherty:** Could they be put to reuse? **Richard Brown:** Yes, possibly.	

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Shaun Taylor: The thing is, we can get development consent for the demolition, it doesn't mean we have to act on it. If someone comes along and has a great idea for re use – great. **Richard Brown:** That stands for everything on site now. Until it's gone there is a possibility it can be retained. That flexibility is built into the contract. **Michael Ulph:** You had a detailed quote. **Richard Brown:** Yes.	

7 Questions and Answers from the CRG / General Business

Richard Brown: You can see it with the lights off (fires in background of photograph).

Ian Shillington: Did the fires have much of an impact on the site?

Kerry McNaughton: Just the ecology, it has really flattened about 75 percent of the bushland, it was hit very very hard. I was talking to David Goley who was a botanist here, now at the University of QLD and he is confident it will regenerate to its former glory.

Rod Doherty: They will come back.

Michael Ulph: What about fauna in that area?

Kerry McNaughton: It has been hit hard, we can't measure it but there are a lot less kangaroos for example, the numbers are a lot lower than they were before the fire.

Rod Doherty: I have been approached by a family at Gillieston Heights, on the swamp, in relation to their property being surrounded by the Hydro redevelopment. Town planners doing the investigation have agreed to look at that 100 acres as part of the investigation for the residential zoning.

Richard Brown: Is that Norms place?

Rod Doherty: Yes. I think they have three sites. The only concern I have is that I think we should have a declaration of conflicts of interest on the table at every meeting and that should be part of your agenda. As we move forward, there will be commercial stuff that starts to be discussed here.

Kerry Hallett: Rod and I have had chats about this after meeting at different times. It is a good idea to have that declaration so I agree.

Michael Ulph: The reason we haven't had that declaration is because this isn't a decision making body but to avoid that perception of conflict of interest we can add that.

Declaration of conflict of interest statement to be developed and added as an agenda item at future CRG meetings.

Toby Thomas: That will relate to agenda items then wouldn't it?

Michael Ulph: Generally it is around this project, the Regrowth Kurri Kurri Project. So I will add that as an action for the next meeting unless anyone has any issue.

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no objections

Michael Ulph: To provide a mural update. We have had a few meetings of a mural committee. At the last CRG meeting we discussed that there had been a draft costing given to Hydro for their consideration. That is still with Hydro.

Since the last meeting there has been another document developed, that is a draft Expression of Interest document for artists to consider. Towns With Heart has kindly developed that document. Hydro has looked at it and made amendments, which has since been actioned. That document has been sent out to the mural committee. I've had a couple of comments already. That EOI document when finalised will go to artists for them to respond to.

Rod Doherty: With the TWH the way they normally operate, the mural design will go up to a mural committee and be approved by the mural committee. I believe the ultimate say and sign off should be by Hydro in conjunction with TWH. They are putting 30-40 thousand dollars into this project so they should have final say on the artist.

Toby Thomas: That is written in the EOI document I think.

Michael Ulph: It talks about a few different items and elements to the mural. Hydro is happy for the community to drive it but looking for something that is "quality".

Richard Brown: We must understand the costs and agree on that, and that it is a quality job, but it's the community's project.

Toby Thomas: I have put pegs in the ground, as to my memory of what the committee decided is the best location. That is subject to minor alterations because there is a water line running through there. That needs to be looked at by the committee and a decision made because the next step in this process is to get it through council. That location needs to be firmed up because we need a survey drawing put together to accompany the application.

Alan Gray: Roughly, where is the location?

Rod Doherty: 200 metres left of the Hunter Expressway.

Toby Thomas: It is on the Southern side. If you go and have a look there are four white pegs in the ground with tape. It is a very wide road reserve there. (Hart Rd)

Rod Doherty: Who owns the land? Is it RMS or us?

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Toby Thomas: It's road reserve so Council.	
8 Meeting close *Meeting closed: 7:12 pm* Next meeting: Thursday 20 April 2017 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm *Ian Shillington noted he will be an apology for next CRG meeting*	

Alexandra Parker

GHD – Stakeholder Engagement and Social Sustainability