



Karuah East Quarry - Community Consultative Committee

Meeting Minutes – 2 September 2019

Venue: Karuah East Quarry Office (Blue Rock Close, Karuah)

Time: CCC Meeting: Start 3.30pm
End 5.00pm

Minutes

Attendees: Michael Ulph (Chairperson), Wade Cameron (Community Representative), Goetz Schraer (Community Representative), Greg Dressler (Karuah East Quarry), Joel Fleming (Karuah East Quarry) and Mat Radnidge (ADW Johnson).

1) Welcome

- Michael Ulph paid respect to the traditional Aboriginal land owners of Karuah, past, present and future.
- Joel Fleming was welcomed to the CCC. Joel is employed as the Environmental Officer for the Karuah East Quarry.

2) Apologies / Absentees

- Tony Ebben (Community Representative) – Apology.
- Mat Bell (Mid Coast Council) – Absent.

3) Declaration of Pecuniary Interests

- Michael Ulph confirmed that KEQ Pty Ltd is paying GHD (his employer) a fee for Michael to act as the independent chairperson for the CCC.
- Mat Radnidge confirmed that KEQ Pty Ltd is paying ADW Johnson (his employer) a fee for Mat to be a member of the CCC.
- Greg Dressler & Joel Fleming are employees of Hunter Quarries / Karuah East Quarry Pty Ltd.

4) Acceptance of Previous Minutes

- Draft CCC meeting minutes dated 4 March 2019; and
- Draft site inspection record dated 4 March 2019.

Moved: Wade Cameron

Seconded: Goetz Schraer

5) Business Arising from Previous Minutes

- a) Mat Radnidge to advise Michael Ulph when the Section 4.55 Modification Application (acoustics) is placed on public exhibition. Michael Ulph to then advise the CCC members.

Completed. Michael Ulph supplied an email to all CCC members on 26/7/19 confirming that the Section 4.55 Modification application is on public exhibition for 14 days between the dates of 26/7/19 to 18/8/19 (inclusive). A link to the NSW DPIE's webpage was supplied.

- b) KEQ Pty Ltd is willing to allow the Great Lakes Wild Dog Control Group to undertake feral pig trapping on Lot 14 DP 1024564.

- c) Next CCC site inspection and meeting scheduled to occur on Monday 2 September 2019.

Each of the above was noted by all CCC members present.

Relevant to item 5(b), Joel Fleming advised that successful trapping on Lot 14 DP 1024564 (near the dam) had occurred.

6) Correspondence

- a) 26 March 2019 – Michael Ulph supplied the draft minutes of the 4 March 2019 CCC meeting and site inspection to all CCC members and invited comment.
- b) 3 July 2019 – Michael Ulph supplied to all CCC members an email from Mat Radnidge. The email provided an update on the status of the Section 4.55 Modification Application (acoustics), in particular:
- Confirmation that the application had been lodged with the NSW DPIE.
 - Reconfirmation of what the application was for (being improved acoustic mitigation measures and to update the currently approved Noise Impact Assessment (SLR, 2012) with a new Noise Impact Assessment (Thearle Acoustics, 2019) to consider current background data and facilitate operation in line with the current *NSW Noise Policy for Industry 2017* based on actual plant layout and equipment (rather than assumptions from 2012).
 - Confirmation that the CCC would be advised of exhibition details once available.
- c) 26 July 2019 – Michael Ulph confirmed exhibition details of the Section 4.55 Modification Application (acoustics).

Each of the above items were noted by the CCC members present.

Relevant to items 6(a) and 6(b), Michael Ulph indicated that he accidentally supplied the draft March 2019 CCC minutes twice. No comments on the draft minutes were received.

7) Company Report and Overview of Activities

The Company Report and Overview of Activities (see attached) was presented by Joel Fleming and Greg Dressler and included the following:

- Progress of the Karuah East Quarry
- Construction & Operation Schedule
- Monitoring and Environmental Performance
- Community Complaints
- Information Provided to the Community

Questions / discussions resulting from the above were as follows:

- Michael Ulph – How will dam levels go over summer with water for dust suppression?

Greg Dressler – Cannot confirm how dam levels will go however the quarry is not yet operating at full production (which is 1.5 million tonnes per annum) and dust suppression installed at the plant is sufficient to control dust, even on hot windy days. This includes a sprinkler system at the plant stockpile area (as viewed during the site inspection) and water cart use on internal haul roads. If ever necessary, water can be trucked in on an as needed basis.

- Greg Dressler – The next stage of clearing will require the removal of 2 – 3 habitat trees. In line with the development consent, an ecologist will be present during the clearing works.
- Wade Cameron – What are the fauna crossings for? (Fauna crossings were shown across the north south haulage road of Karuah East Quarry on Lot 13 DP 1024564 and across the haulage road of the Karuah Quarry on Lot 21 DP 1024341)

Joel Fleming – The crossings are for gliders.

Mat Radnidge – Explained that the background behind the fauna crossings was that during assessment of the original Karuah East Quarry application, NSW OEH sought to ensure that the vegetation at the southern end of Lots 11 & 12 DP 1024564 was not fragmented. KEQ Pty Ltd are currently in discussions with the NSW DPE regarding installation of the fauna crossings.

- Joel Fleming and Greg Dressler – Monitoring for air quality, noise, blasting and groundwater has been generally good.

There was one exceedance with air quality in February 2019 due to a region wide dust storm.

- Goetz Schraer – Confirmed that relevant to noise he doesn't hear the plant. Occasionally he can hear the rock breaker being used after a blast has occurred.

Greg Dressler – Indicated that as the quarry progresses and quarry depth is achieved, this creates a natural noise barrier around the quarry pit. Additionally, as the quarry gets deeper, 'cap rock' is reduced. Given that the quarry pit is new and is establishing, it is during this phase that the rock breaker will be at its noisiest until quarry pit depth is achieved. Notwithstanding this, acoustic monitoring is compliant with operational criteria.

Greg indicated that KEQ Pty Ltd will keep Goetz's comment in mind when targeting future blasts.

- Wade Cameron – Relevant to blasting, where is Location B?

Greg Dressler – On the opposite side of the Pacific Hwy, south west of the Karuah East Quarry (on Mr Bob Trotter's property). Greg confirmed that Mr Trotter has previously advised that he does not feel the blasts.

- Greg Dressler - Surface water has been good except for 1 incident on 24th, 25th and 26th June 2019. During a period of significant rainfall there was an uncontrolled discharge of water from Dam 1. The water discharged did not meet Environment Protection License (EPL) criteria for TSS (total suspended solids).

KEQ Pty Ltd self-reported this matter to the NSW EPA with a solution to resolve future occurrences. The solution is to implement a system at Dam 1 to control treatment of excess TSS in dam water. This system will be installed within the coming weeks.

Despite KEQ Pty Ltd self-reporting this matter as well as providing a solution, KEQ Pty Ltd received a penalty infringement notice.

Wade Cameron & Mat Radnidge – A penalty infringement notice appears excessive given that KEQ Pty Ltd self-reported with a solution to the problem.

- Wade Cameron – Why is there a difference in PH levels recorded?

Greg Dressler – At present Dam 1 captures all types of soil, clay and mineral run off. Greg is advised by his experts that given that the Karuah East Quarry is new, the results are expected to level out over time.

- Wade Cameron – How is the TJ translocation area going? Is irrigation being used?

Greg Dressler – Currently at about a 70% survival rate which is a good result to date. Yes irrigation is occurring.

Joel Fleming – He will be monitoring this area as part of his role with KEQ Pty Ltd.

- Joel Fleming – No complaints have been received.

Greg Dressler – Reconfirmed the complaint handling procedure. Refer to Item 4 of the attached Company Report and Overview of Activities.

8) CCC briefing on the status of Modification Applications lodged with the NSW Department of Planning & Environment by KEQ Pty Ltd.

- Mat Radnidge – MOD 1 and MOD 2 have been approved and previously discussed with the CCC.
- Mat Radnidge – As referenced in Item 6(b) and 6(c) of the agenda, a Section 4.55 modification is currently being assessed by the NSW Department of Planning & Industry (DPIE). This application is referred to as MOD 8. The purpose of the application is to:
 - Formalise improved acoustic mitigation measures including:
 - Enclosing the primary jaw crusher with concrete pre cast panel walls and ‘hush clad’ roofing;
 - Enclosing the secondary and tertiary crusher with ‘hush clad’ walls on the northern and eastern elevations; and
 - Use of acoustically treated generator sets.
 - To update the currently approved Noise Impact Assessment (SLR, 2012) with a new Noise Impact Assessment (Thearle Acoustics, 2019) to consider current background data and facilitate operations (including acoustic criteria) in line with the current *NSW Noise Policy for Industry 2017* based on actual plant layout and equipment (rather than assumptions from 2012).

Exhibition of the application occurred between 26 July 2019 and 8 August 2019. No public submissions were received by the NSW DPIE.

Assessment of the application is currently being progressed by the NSW DPE in consultation with the NSW EPA.

The CCC will be updated on the status of this application once a decision has been made by the NSW DPIE.

- Mat Radnidge – KEQ are currently considering a new s4.55 application, to be known as MOD 9. This application was previously flagged to the CCC at the March 2019 CCC meeting on a preliminary basis. The proposal is still very preliminary in nature. The following high level summary was provided:
 - The proposal involves extending the quarry footprint into the established offset area on Lot 13 DP 1024564 by approximately 5.3ha.
 - The additional disturbance area is essential to KEQ Pty Ltd because more stockpiling area is needed. The current situation is highly problematic for KEQ Management, because in tendering for key infrastructure projects (eg. Council and RMS projects), demonstrated stockpiles of certain size product are a mandatory tender requirement. The stockpiling areas currently available are too small and KEQ Pty Ltd management have identified that tenders will be lost.
 - The most logical position for the additional disturbance area is on Lot 13 DP 1024564 between the crushing plant and southern stockpile / weighbridge area.
 - Discussions have been held with the NSW DPIE; the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Division (BCD) (formerly NSW OEH); and the Federal Department of Environment and Energy (DoEE). The DPIE recommended early consultation with BCD and DoEE and advised that the appropriate pathway to progress will be another MOD application. BCD and DoEE advised that they could support the application provided that a suitable ecology outcome is achieved that includes (1) a replacement biodiversity offset (to replace the portion of the established offset area to be disturbed); plus (2) an offset of the impact of the proposed additional disturbance area.

Wade Cameron – Will the fauna crossing and a link to the fauna crossing be maintained? This is important.

Greg Dressler – Yes, it is the intention of KEQ Pty Ltd to maintain a link. Ecological advice will be sought to ensure that a suitably sized link will be maintained.

Mat Radnidge and Greg Dressler – Other than ecology, MOD 9 will be required to address a number of other key items including surface water management, groundwater, air quality, noise, visual impact, Aboriginal Archaeology and rehabilitation.

Mat Radnidge – As per previous MOD applications, the CCC will be kept up to date on MOD 9 as things progress (ie. such as lodgement, exhibition, etc).

9) General Business

- Wade Cameron – Does KEQ Pty Ltd have any concern with the proposed Karuah South Quarry?

Greg Dressler – No concern to the operation of the Karuah East Quarry. The proposed Karuah South quarry is an entirely separate application by another party. It is expected that the proposal will be assessed to the same extent as Karuah East.

- Joel Fleming – Advised CCC members that if any questions arise regarding the separate Hunter Quarries Pty Ltd Karuah Quarry operation he is happy to assist with any enquiries.

This was noted by all CCC members.

- Michael Ulph – Any feedback from the community?

Wade Cameron – He regularly informs members of the Karuah Motor Yacht Club on the status of Karuah East Quarry. Generally the feedback he receives is positive and evident that Karuah East Quarry Pty Ltd are trying to do the right thing.

- Michael Ulph – Thanked the community representatives for their participation on the CCC during 2019.

10) 2020 CCC meetings and site inspections to be scheduled.

Next meeting scheduled for Monday 2 March 2020. Details as follows:

- 3pm – Site Inspection (meet at Karuah East Quarry Office, Blue Rock Close, Karuah); and
- 4pm – CCC Meeting at Karuah East Quarry office.

Michael Ulph confirmed he would issue calendar invites to CCC members.

Meeting closed – 5.00pm.

Summary of Actions Arising from Meeting

- Mat Radnidge to advise Michael Ulph when a decision on MOD 8 (to address acoustics) is made by the NSW DPIE. Michael will then advise the CCC members.

- Mat Radnidge to advise Michael Ulph as any progress on MOD 9 (proposed additional disturbance area for stockpiling) is made. In particular when an application is lodged with NSW DPIE.
- Next CCC meeting is scheduled as follows:
 - Monday 2 March 2020:
 - 3pm – Site Inspection (meet at Karuah East Quarry Office, Blue Rock Close, Karuah); and
 - 4pm – CCC Meeting at Karuah East Quarry office.

Michael Ulph to issue calendar invites.

Enclosed:

- Site Inspection Minutes 2 September 2019; and
- Company Report & Overview 2 September 2019 (refer to Item 7 above).