

Port Augusta Community Reference Working Group Meeting Notes

Meeting Number	3
Date	Thursday 29 June 2017 at 5pm, The Standpipe Hotel, Charles Chappel Room
Attendees	Dan van Holst Pellekaan, Brian Reichelt, Brett Prentis, Michelle Coles, Emily Alchin (Centacare), John Banks (Port Augusta City Council), Robin Sharp (Coastal Homes Association SA Inc), John Miller, Ros McCrae (Country Health SA Local Health Network), Sophie Martin (EPA), Brad Williams (Flinders Power), Peter Georgaris (CEO, Flinders Power) Steve Dangerfield (communicate)
Visitors	Mark Hassam (EPA), Dr David Tully (Coffey), Steve Kirsanovs (Kirs Environmental – Independent Auditor), Rex Patrick (Nick Xenophon)
Apologies	Chris Kennett (Housing SA); Robin Harkin (DECD)

1. Welcome and introduction

Steve opened the meeting at 5.15pm and welcomed new member John Miller and the Member for Stuart Dan van Holst Pellekaan and Ros McCrae. Steve also welcomed the visitors for the meeting and noted the apologies.

It was noted that the EPA had not been included on the distribution list of minutes and meeting invites. This was an oversight and will be corrected. Sophie Martin will continue as the EPA representative.

2. Acceptance of minutes from last meeting and terms of reference

The group discussed the changes to the draft Terms of Reference and raised the following points:

- Reconciliation of copy with previous version.
- The need to consider inclusion of discussions with SA Water about use of re-use water.
- Reference to engaging with the group about the future of the site when appropriate, accounting for the fact that Flinders Power may enter commercial in confidence discussions with third parties and may therefore be restricted at times with regard to what can and cannot be said publicly.
- The inclusion of a statement that allows the group to consider other related items as they might arise.

With respect to the future of the site, the community have a keen interest in what the site might be used for. It was noted that the site where the power stations currently exist is zoned 'industry' which will enable future industrial development to take place. Flinders Power have a responsibility to demolish the infrastructure, undertake any relevant remediation in accordance with the requirements of the Site Contamination Auditor, before being given ownership of the site from the State Government. Once this occurs, Flinders Power will seek to sell the site for a use that is consistent with the current zoning.

The sale process will involve commercial in confidence negotiations and therefore may limit what can be said and when. However, it was agreed that the community reference group should be engaged in discussing future options as they emerge and in such a way that commercial confidentialities are not compromised.

The minutes from meetings 1 and 2 were confirmed by the group and can now be published on the Flinders Power website (action).

3. Current status – project update

Brad presented an update to the group on the following:

- The recent charge felling event on Saturday 17 June
- The progress of the Ash Storage Area (ASA) rehabilitation and seeding.
- The replacement of 3 dust monitors around the ASA
- The arrival of the PC4000 – the biggest shears in the world. The shears will be used to remove Playford power station

The group discussed the outfall channel and whether the community boat ramp could be reinstated. Brad stated that the outfall channel would remain and that the future of the boat ramp would depend on future land use. However, Flinders Power would note the community interest and take this into consideration when looking at future possible land use options. Future updates on this will be provided.

Brad informed the group the next charge felling event will occur in August 2017 with further information to be presented to the next Reference Group meeting.

4. Site contamination

Brad explained the process being undertaken with regard to identifying and managing remnant contamination on site.

Flinders Power have entered a Voluntary Site Contamination Assessment Proposal with the EPA to assess remnant site contamination and undertake relevant remediation works in accordance with the requirements of an appointed Site Contamination Auditor.

Brad explained the VSCAP process. Coffey have been engaged by Flinders Power to undertake the assessment work and recommend a remediation approach.

The group sought clarification as to the amount allocated to the assessment and remediation process. Brad informed the group that the budget for the assessment and remediation process is \$3 million. It should be noted that this relates to the industrial land only and not the Ash Storage area. However, it is important to note that any remediation strategy must be acceptable to the independent Site Contamination Auditor and must be undertaken to the standard appropriate for the zoning of the land (industrial). While the budget was set based on a broad understanding of the site, any contamination must be dealt with in accordance with the requirements of the independent Site Contamination Auditor and the EPA. The auditor must 'sign off' once any remediation work is completed and will not do so until they are fully satisfied that the requirements have been appropriately met.

Brad explained in his presentation that in phase one, fifty-two areas of interest were identified by Coffey. Of these 52 sites of interest, four required further investigation and nine required validation.

Brad emphasised that given the anticipated future land use under the industrial zoning, there are no known areas of the site that present an unacceptable risk to human or environmental receptors if appropriate management measures are adopted.

Flinders Power are now moving into phase three of the assessment program. This phase will involve further assessment and validation of the sites of interest and the development of a remediation plan. This phase is expected to be completed by the end of August 2018.

Brad noted that a fuel leak had been identified between Playford A and B stations. Investigations had concluded that the leak had not impacted the gulf – and that while a small plume had been found in the ground water it is localised, contained and contracting.

With respect to the fuel leak that has been identified between Playford A and B stations, Flinders Power noted that the intention is that the soil will be dug up and the site remediated.

Dr David Tully from Coffey spoke to the group about possible remediation options that could be considered. The two options of interest described by David were:

- Bio-remediation
- Off-site disposal

Further work is underway to determine the most appropriate approach to the on-site contamination and the preferred approach(s) will be identified in the remediation plan.

The group raised the issue of environmental contamination issues identified by members of the community at the EPA Open Day held earlier in the year and what was being done to address these. Steve Kirsanovs, Site contamination auditor, said he had received a list of the issues raised and will be cross checking these against the assessment report to ascertain whether they were being investigated and/or addressed. It was stated that this should be promoted to the community – that the issues they have raised are being considered through a due process. This could be done at the Open Day being planned for late July 2017.

A question was asked about the Ash Dam and whether there would be a monitoring regime put in place to ensure the rehabilitation work continues to be effective. The question focused on who will monitor the site in the future when Flinders Power leave and how will this occur.

Steve Kirsanovs responded by saying that this was an important question which would need to be answered in the Independent Auditor's report. The type of monitoring, extent of monitoring and by whom would need to be considered and clearly articulated. It would be appropriate for the Reference Group to be kept up to date with progress on this issue and be informed of the eventual outcome.

Finally it was noted by Flinders Power and endorsed by the Independent Auditor that site contamination assessment and remediation is a rigid process that is closely governed by the EPA in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act. A site contamination audit report will be developed and will be publicly available and this will articulate the nature of the contamination, the remediation approach relative to future land use and monitoring requirements. It is a live document that may need to be revisited at any time if the land use or zoning was to change.

5. Next steps and meeting close

Before closing, it was noted that a discussion about the sea walls should be had at an appropriate time. The group felt it was important to understand what was to be done with respect to the sea walls and whether the land would be returned to its 'natural state'. Brad pointed out that it may depend somewhat on the future land use, but that it was a relevant issue and would be placed on future meeting agendas and the group updated as opportunities for future land use are identified.

Clarification was sought as to who owned what land. Flinders Power stated that the majority of the land is currently leased by Flinders Power from the Government. However, once the remediation and demolition works have been completed to the required standards, land ownership will be transferred from the Government to Flinders Power. The State Government will therefore have no long term ownership of the former power station land. Flinders Power will look to sell the land to a third party.

The next meeting will focus on Air Quality Monitoring and the Open Day planned for late July 2017.

Steve thanked the group and closed the meeting at 7.00pm.

Actions

Item	Action	Who	When
1	Resolve queries raised by the group regarding the terms of reference and recirculate to the group	Flinders Power	Next meeting
2	Publish minutes for meetings 1 and 2 on the Flinders Power website	Flinders Power	Next meeting
3	Ongoing updates regarding remediation plans and protection of the marine environment	Flinders Power	Future meetings
4	Identify opportunities for local student involvement	Flinders Power and DECD	Throughout project
5	Updates to be provided on the future of the sea walls	Flinders Power	Next meeting
6	Look to provide broader community with an understanding of how their concerns about site contamination are being addressed	Flinders Power	Open Day
7	Consider future opportunity for re-opening the boat ramp (dependent upon future land use)	Flinders Power	Ongoing
8	Add air quality monitoring to the agenda for the next meeting	Flinders Power	Next meeting