

MINUTES

Clean TeQ Syerston Project
Community Consultative Committee



	Community Consultative Committee	Meeting Date: Commenced:	10 October 2017 1:34pm
Independent Chairperson:	Lisa Andrews (LA)		
Member Attendees:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Laurie Hutchison, Wiradjuri Condobolin Corporation (LH)• Mayor John Medcalf, Lachlan Shire Council (JM) [alternate delegate]• Deputy Mayor Barbara Newton, Parkes Shire Council (BN) [alternate delegate]• Cr Steve Karaitiana, Forbes Shire Council (SK)• Geoff Rice, Parkes Chamber of Commerce (GR) [<i>joined at 2:26pm</i>]• David Rees, Condobolin Chamber of Commerce (DR)• John Lagerlow, Trundle Community Consultative Committee (JL)• Des Ward, Community Representative (DW)• Narelle Sunderland, Community Representative (NS)• Helen Quade – Alternate Community Representative and Alternate Trundle Community Consultative Committee delegate (HQ)• Scott Magee, Clean TeQ Syerston Project Director (SM)• James Fisher, Clean TeQ Syerston NSW Manager (JF) [<i>left at 3.44pm</i>]• Justine Fisher, Clean TeQ GM Government & External Relations (JuF) [<i>left at 3.44pm</i>]		
Invited Guests:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sam Riggall, Clean TeQ Managing Director (SR) [<i>left at 3.44pm</i>]• Tim Berry, Clean TeQ GM Health, Safety Environment & Community (TB)• John Hanrahan Clean TeQ, Approvals Manager (JH)• Briony Ferguson, Clean TeQ Community Relations Officer (BF)• Ally Coe, WCC Chairperson – alternate delegate (AC) [<i>left at 2.56pm</i>]		
Venue:	Lachlan Shire Council Committee Room, Condobolin		
Minute taker:	Karen Worthington, Clean TeQ Community Relations Officer (KW)		

1. Welcome & Introductions

Independent Chairperson, Lisa Andrews welcomed all members to the inaugural Community Consultative Committee (CCC) meeting and provided an overview of the committee's purpose and role. LA declared that she is an Independent Chairperson, appointment by the Secretary of the Department of Planning and Environment and engaged by Clean TeQ to establish and chair this CCC meeting.

Members and invited guests were asked to introduce themselves and state their position on the CCC.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cr Mark Hall (Lachlan Shire Council) and Mayor Ken Keith (Parkes Shire Council). It was noted that Geoff Rice (Parkes Chamber of Commerce) advised that he would be arriving late.

3. Briefing on Community Consultative Committee Guidelines; Meeting Procedures; Code of Conduct & Pecuniary/Non-Pecuniary Interest Declarations (LA)

LA provided an overview of the CCC Guidelines and advised all members that hardcopies were available for each member. LA reminded members that a signed Code of Conduct and Pecuniary/Non-Pecuniary Interest Declaration was required from each member and copies were provided to members for completion.

LA advised the committee that Karen Worthington from Clean TeQ was undertaking the role of minute taker and asked if there was any objection to KW taking the minutes. No objections were recorded.

LA **moved** that KW be appointed to the role of Minute Taker for CCC meetings. **Seconded:** SM

4. Correspondence

LA provided a report on incoming and outgoing correspondence, as per the below:

- 30/6/17 - Email from Secretary - DP&E appointing LA as chair of this CCC
- Various emails to and from the company's representative, Tim Berry, arranging for the advertising for nominations for the CCC
- Various emails with enquiries and applications for nominating onto the CCC
- 7/9/17 - Report to DP&E with the list of nominations
- 29/9/17 - Email/Letter from DP&E with the composition of the committee
- 29/9/17 – Email to local government authorities and stakeholders advising of the proposed date for the first meeting of the CCC
- 2/10/17 - Emails to all nominees with advice regarding their application as Community Representatives on the CCC
- 3/10/17 – Email to all CCC members with the Meeting Notice & Agenda this meeting
- 4/10/17 – Email from Lachlan Shire Council advising that Cr Mark Hall would be an apology and Mayor John Medcalf would be attending as Council's delegate
- 9/10/17 – Email from Helen Quade with questions for this meeting
- 9/10/17 – Email from John Lagerlow with a question regarding transportation of lime through Trundle
- 9/10/17 – Email from Scott Magee providing a part response advising that hard copies of the EIS would be available, most probably after the meeting
- 10/10/17 – Email from Geoff Rice advising that he will be running late today, however, would be in attendance.

LA **moved** that the correspondence report be accepted.

Seconded: LH

5. Reports from Clean TeQ

Sam Riggall Clean TeQ Managing Director

SR welcomed all members and thanked them for their interest in the project. Sam commented on the long history that the Syerston project has and provided context on why the project today is very different to that of 20 years ago.

SR informed the committee that the Syerston Project was being recognised in the global market, describing Syerston's unique mineral resource and Clean TeQ's complex processing technology as having the potential to meet a portion of the global demand to expand the lithium-ion battery industry.

SR informed the committee that there was still work being completed on permitting, offtake agreements, the Definitive Feasibility Study and financing ahead of the Project proceeding. SR informed the committee that Clean TeQ was also committed to continuing to build and enhance its 'Social Licence to Operate'.

SR continued in saying that the Syerston resource is expected to provide a 20 plus year mine life and anticipated that in the future additional long-term investment opportunities may present through downstream battery cathode production.

Scott Magee Clean TeQ Project Director

SM provided an overview of the main aspects of the project. He informed the committee that the project was located on slightly undulating farmland with a simple mine process due to the limited amount of hard rock. SM described the material as being approximately 1% large rocks at a depth and 99% fine materials and for this reason blasting wouldn't be required. It was noted that blasting in the later years may be required and for this reason the Company is seeking approval for blasting through the MOD 4 application.

SM continued by providing details on how once mined, the ore would be processed. Below are the steps as described;

- a. Ore is mixed with acid at 250°C to dissolve the metals
- b. Lime is added to raise the pH level of the slurry
- c. Resin beads are added to the slurry. This is Clean TeQ's proprietary ion-exchange extraction and purification processing technology, known as Clean-iX® technology.
- d. The resin beads attract the metals that have been dissolved in the acid.
- e. The residue is transferred to the Tailings Storage Facility after being further neutralised with lime.
- f. The loaded resin beads go through an acid / reagent strip process to remove the metals from the beads.
- g. Resin beads are recirculated and reused in the above process

In addition, SM provided an overview of the below;

Water

Once in operation, the project has a ground water extraction licence for 3,154 Megalitres per year, when broken down to a 24hrs/day rate this equates to 100L/sec; however, the actual licence is based on the ML/annum figure. The approved borefield site is located approximately 60kms from the project and approximately 15kms west of Bedgerebong. The water will be transferred to the project site via an underground 18-inch* pipe (*quoted in the meeting as 12-14 inch, but later clarified). At this point the committee was informed that the company was also seeking approval to access surface water from the Lachlan River through the MOD 4 application. If approval is granted the company is required to obtain relevant licensing through NSW Water and would purchase water through the open market.

Sulphur

Sulphur is required to produce sulphuric acid. 800 tonnes of sulphur is required per day and this will be railed from either Port Kembla or Newcastle to the rail siding and trucked to the project site.

Power

The project requires 25MW of power, the acid plant generates energy and will produce approximately 22 MW of power. Scott informed the committee that while a gas pipeline had previously been approved to provide power to the project site; the Company had also completed an investigation on providing a 40 km tie-line from Trundle to the Project site to provide an additional 10 MW of electricity. SM informed the committee that consultation with relevant landholders had taken place and was ongoing and that at this stage a route couldn't be confirmed as consultation and negotiations were ongoing, though further detail would be provided in the coming months. The committee was also informed that the 40 km tie-line would not form part of the MOD 4 as the approval process is through Essential Energy.

Limestone

The committee was informed that the project is approved to extract 790,000 tonnes of limestone from the Westella Limestone Quarry per year; though the project requires a total of 950,000 tonnes per year. More work is required to prove the quality and extent of the Westella limestone resource. Due to this the company is investigating opportunities to acquire limestone through other suppliers. It is proposed that the additional limestone will be trucked to site through Trundle. This would result in approximately 30 deliveries per day if 50 tonne trucks are used.

John Hanrahan Clean TeQ Approvals Lead

JH provided a detailed presentation to the Committee that covered the currently approved project, what modifications were being submitted in the MOD 4 and the recommencement of construction and approvals.

The committee were informed that the MOD 4 application would be submitted towards the end of October to the Department of Planning and Environment (DP&E). Following this the application and relevant supplementary documents would be placed on public exhibition for a minimum of two weeks.

A copy of the full presentation is included as attachment 1.

6. Questions and Answers

Prior to the meeting a range of questions were provided to the Chair for inclusion in the meetings Q&A. Additional questions from members were asked during the process of the meeting. Details have been provided below;

1. HQ: The website says that the definitive (bankable) feasibility study is due for completion in Q4 2017. Is that on track? What steps are outstanding?

SR answered this question stating that the Definitive Feasibility Study (DFS) was now due for completion during the first quarter of 2018. He stated that recent drilling results have shown a 30% increase in cobalt and some platinum resources. The DFS needs to reflect this and will also evaluate more selective mining approaches to the mine plan. This work is underway and the anticipated timing of completion of the DFS is now Q1 2018.

2. HQ: The Scandium Modification enables Clean TeQ to operate a smaller scale scandium mine, while “preserving the approval for a larger nickel/cobalt operation which may be considered in the future”. Which project/phase is Clean TeQ currently pursuing? The smaller scale initial phase of the Scandium Modification, or the full production phase?

SR answered this question stating that Clean TeQ is committed to developing a cobalt-nickel-scandium operation. Clean TeQ is currently pursuing the full production phase however, maintains approval for the smaller scale production if required.

3. HQ: The Scandium Modification states that power for the project will be supplied by natural gas. Is that still the proposal?

James Fisher and Scott Magee both provided details regarding the projects power supply during SM's overview of the project. SM reported that the project had completed an investigation in installing a 40km electricity tie-line from Trundle to the project site to supply 10MW of electricity. JL commented that Essential Energy have moved out of Trundle. Committee members were informed that consultation and negotiations were ongoing and for this reason a route was not able to be confirmed at this stage, though would be provided in the coming months. A description of the powerline was provided noting poles would be set at approximately 200-250 metres apart, running three wires. It was also advised that the height of each pole would be higher than the standard distribution lines providing power to farms. A discussion was also held regarding the possibility of future use of renewable energy and battery power. **Action: LH to discuss opportunities with SM.**

4. HQ: There was a traffic safety audit undertaken in August 2017. What was the purpose of that audit? Are the results available for our perusal?

JH answered this question informing the committee that the initial Traffic Safety Audit was completed in 2016, though some roads were not included in the audit. JH noted that the audit looks at the safety aspects of the road network such as intersections, road width and surface, railway crossings and traffic types and volumes. He informed the committee that a draft of the new road transport assessment had been circulated to the three Local Government authorities, as any identified road upgrades noted within the assessment form part of the Voluntary Planning Agreements. The committee was further advised that the Road Transport Assessment would form part of the Environmental Assessment that will be submitted with the MOD4.

5. JL: Is it correct that Clean TeQ will transport lime from Ezy Lime near Gunningbland and not Westella as previously planned? This would mean 90 tonne trucks every 15 minutes through Trundle. 650 tonne per day, 24 hrs per day. If this were to happen roads wouldn't cope and it would also be dangerous and disruptive?

JF answered this question commenting that the project required 950,000 tonnes of limestone per year though was only licenced to extract 790,000 tonnes of Limestone from Westella. Due to the shortfall the company had commenced investigations at the Ezy Lime site to supply additional lime. JF informed the committee that any limestone supplied from Ezy Lime would require truck transport through Trundle and that it was expected that 30 x 50 tonne truck deliveries would be required over a 24-hour period to supply the additional limestone.

6. DR asked if the company had considered building a purpose-built rail link to transport limestone. JF answered by saying that the cost of building a rail link was not a viable option for the project due to the financial investment that would be required.
7. HQ informed the committee that during high rain falls water flows through the project site to the North into Dam 22 and further along. HQ asked if this water flow would be affected by the project. JH displayed a diagram of the project site showing a range of diversion drains that would be constructed to divert rainfall runoff from outside the project area around the operation to join back with the natural water course.
8. HQ asked what was happening with the workers accommodation proposal on "Sunrise" and was informed that the current zoning of the property did not permit the development; Lachlan Shire Council were currently considering an amendment to its Local Environmental Plan (LEP). However, the Mining SEPP (State Environmental Planning Policy (Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries) 2007) provides that the consent authority may approve ancillary development (accommodation) as part of the overall approval. **Action: Link to SEPP**
9. Prior to the meeting HQ had requested that hardcopies of the Scandium Oxide Modification Environmental Assessment and a copy of the Development Consent showing changes made at each modification in different colours. Hardcopies of the below documents were provided:
- Scandium Oxide Modification Environmental Assessment
 - Statement of Environment Effects – May 2005
 - CCC Guidelines
 - Development Consent
 - Power point presentation as presented by John Hanrahan

7. General Business

JuF provided the committee members with a copy of the first Clean TeQ Syerston Community Newsletter. JuF informed the committee that the newsletter aimed to provide an update on the project to the broader community and that it would be distributed as an insert through the Parkes, Forbes and Condobolin newspapers and that the Project's near neighbours and other stakeholders would receive a copy through the mail. **Action: Distribute electronic version to CCC members.**

DW asked when the road upgrades will commence and will the company work with the farming community to reduce disruption to seasonal movements. SM answered saying that this was a useful question as seasonal movements wasn't something he had considered in detail and confirmed that the Company would work with the farming community to limit disruption during these times.

LA suggested that the next meeting be held following the MOD4 being submitted and on public exhibition. The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Thursday 23 November 2017 at the Lachlan Shire Council Committee room, to commence at 1pm.

8. Next meeting

Thursday 23 November 2017, Lachlan Shire Council Committee room, 1pm.

The meeting closed at 3:52pm

ACTION ITEMS

ITEM	ISSUE	RESPONSIBILITY
1	LH & JM to discuss alternate energy resources for project	LH & JM
2	Send link to Mining SEPP (see below)	LA
3	Distribute electronic version of company newsletter to CCC	LA

Item 2:

STATE ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING POLICY (MINING, PETROLEUM PRODUCTION AND EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES) 2007

http://www.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/viewdb/au/legis/nsw/consol_reg/seppppaei2007924/