



MINUTES OF MEETING

Held on
Tuesday 24 October 2006
2.00pm – 4.00pm
Kwinana Industries Council, 41 Hope Valley Road, Naval Base

Attendees

Roger Dean (DoIR) – Chair
Allan Gade (CIF Community Representative)
Cr. Anne Prince (City of Rockingham) part
Rod Fielding (City of Rockingham)
Cr. Rod Pattinson (Town of Kwinana)
Declan Morgan (Dept of Environment & Conservation)
Tonia Swetman (KIC)
Debbie Hoey (KIC)
Renaë Hibben (KIC)

Apologies

Craig Watts (City of Cockburn)
Linda Griffiths (BHP Billiton)
Cr. Julie Baker (City of Cockburn)
Peter Christian (Verve Energy)
Peter McKenzie (Town of Kwinana)
Sean Parker - Hismelt

Guests:

Lance Whitewood (Alcoa)

Observers:

Steve Hesse (community)

1. **Welcome and Introductions (Roger Dean, Chair)**

The Chair welcomed attendees to the meeting. Renaë Hibben, KIC Communications Officer, was introduced to members.

2. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting Held on 22 August 2006**

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

2.1 **Business Arising**

Tour of CSBP

At the last NRG meeting, members were offered a future tour of the CSBP site. Allan Gade reported that he and Albert Veal accepted the offer and attended the tour. Allan provided a brief report on the visit. A possible noise source was tracked to the nitrogen plant and Cameron Schuster undertook to investigate the issue with CSBP's noise consultant and report back to the NRG.

Noise from the Power Station

Following concerns raised at the last NRG meeting on a one-off high noise level at the power station, an email was circulated to members from Verve, explaining that the noise emission was due to a release of pressure from a faulty valve that was rectified.

3. Presentation – Australian Fused Materials

The Chair reported that a representative from AFM was unable to attend today's meeting.

4. Assigned Noise Levels in Hope Valley Wattleup

Awaiting clarification on the zoning of Hope Valley Wattleup. Under the master plan the area is classed as industrial land but this requires further clarification. Tonia to follow up with Landcorp and Dept of Environment & Conservation (DEC).

5. Noise Brochure Update

The brochure is still being drafted and input has been received from industry and the Dept of Conservation and Environment. A meeting has been arranged with DEC's noise experts to progress the content of the brochure.

6. Industrial Noise Issues (update from community members)

A question was raised regarding Noise Regulation 17 and exemptions. Tonia explained that KIC member companies strategy in dealing with noise was to manage it within regulations wherever possible. This is supported by the overall decrease in cumulative noise since 2001 research and the subsequent formation of the Noise Reference Group.

Action:

Declan to confirm with the DEC Noise Dept if there are any current exemptions.

Community members were asked to give their views on the progress of the NRG. It was felt that some improvements and developments were being made. The Chair commented that the group had verified that the noise model was accurate and although it indicates there are exceedances some of the time, efforts are clearly being made by industry to reduce noise as highlighted in their noise management plans presented to the NRG.

Community members expressed concerns of increased noise levels should new industries be established in the KIA. It was noted that the proposed ethanol plant had used the KIC model to add their data and from the results had committed to installing a significant noise barrier, thereby reducing the cumulative noise in neighbouring residential areas. Members were advised that prior to approaching the EPA with a referral, a pre-meeting is held with the DEC where the proponent is advised that the most important issue is noise. This is a direct outcome from the efforts of the NRG.

A request has been received from Grainol to present at the next NRG. They have held a pre-meeting with the DEC and were advised that the main issue is noise. Members agreed to the presentation.

7. Community Education Workshop

Members agreed that there is still a general lack of understanding in the community with regards to noise and assigned noise levels. Rod Fielding confirmed that he provides a report to the councillors at the City of Rockingham following each NRG. It was agreed that representatives from the NRG should make a presentation to councillors at future council meetings of the Town of Kwinana and the City of Rockingham. This would be a positive and effective way for councillors to raise questions and provide an opportunity for the NRG members to inform them of the progress that has been made to date.

Action:

Tonia and Roger to facilitate with Local Government representatives.

8. Presentation – Noise Management at Alcoa

Lance Whitewood gave a presentation on the noise management plans at Alcoa, Kwinana. Lance provided background information on the noise monitoring program and subsequent noise control work carried out including noise enclosures for blowers and fans. The presentation highlighted the noise reduction work carried out with a primary focus on occupational exposures and environmental noise.

9. Any Other Business

9.1 Proposed Increase of Membership of NRG

Declan Morgan proposed that the membership of the NRG be increased to include a member of the Noise Branch of the DEC. This additional resource would provide technical expertise. Members agreed to the additional member.

9.2 Ongoing Noise Management

It was suggested that further opportunities are explored for longer term monitoring with the purpose being to track ongoing, definable reduction/increase in noise. Members agreed to discuss at the next meeting. Declan to discuss with Noise Branch at DEC who may be able to advise on costs and report back at the next meeting.

9.3 Transport Noise

Roger Dean to draft a letter to the Department of Planning and Infrastructure regarding a whole of Government approach to the issue of transport noise.

10. Key Messages for Communication

- Presentation made by Alcoa on their noise management plan
- Grainol to present at the next meeting
- Council briefings
- Whole of Government approach

11. Close – Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 7 December 2006, 1.30pm at KIC.



ACTION PLAN

Updated 24 October 2006

Ref	Item	Action	By Whom
1.	Assigned noise levels - verification, understanding and methodology.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Declan Morgan to make a presentation at CIF meeting Feb 2006. COMPLETED. • DoE to present at KIC's EPC meeting on 14 February 2006 and provide a one page summary for distribution. COMPLETED. • Lynton Storer working with the Dept of Environment on the agreed assigned levels. • Declan and Tonia to met with Allan Gade and Ann Prince. COMPLETED. • Declan to make presentation at future CIF meeting on results of BarnOwl monitoring at Chalk Hill. COMPLETED. 	DM/LS
2.	Validation program (monitoring)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal to be circulated to members for discussion. COMPLETED. • It was agreed to proceed with monitoring at one location. COMPLETED. • Lynton to provide an update on the monitoring program. COMPLETED. • Lynton to provide draft written report. COMPLETED. • Report distributed to members, comments to DH by 28 July 2006. • Members to agree if further monitoring is required. AGREED no further monitoring is required at this stage. 	
3.	Road/rail transport and other noise prevailing issues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary discussion to be held. COMPLETED. 	

4.	Expert advice - Lynton Storer - Dept of Environment - Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advice to be made available as required. ONGOING. 	All
5.	Communications strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft Communications Strategy to be presented. COMPLETED & AGREED. Press release to be prepared. Press release AGREED and DISTRIBUTED. To be reviewed at next meeting in August 2006. REVIEWED, UPDATED, AGREED. 	TS TS
6.	CIF Feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update and key messages to be provided at the CIF on 6 December 2005. COMPLETED. Update and key messages to be provided at the CIF on 7 February 2006. COMPLETED. CBH to present at the CIF on 6 June 2006. ARG representatives to be in attendance. COMPLETED. Declan to provide NRG update including results of monitoring at October CIF meeting. COMPLETED. 	RD RD DM
7.	Local Governments representatives to consider contribution towards the NRG.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-kind support to be provided. 	LG reps
8.	Collation of industry noise reduction activity since 2001.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some information has been received. Tonia to collate and present at a future NRG. Template for future NRG presentations to be established. COMPLETED. All presentations to be collated and a document developed for reference. ONGOING. 	TS
9.	Noise Brochure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft produced. Meeting arranged with DEC noise experts. 	TS
10.	Noise Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend council meetings to make presentation on the achievements of the NRG and provide an open forum for discussion and education on noise issues. 	

