

# COMMUNITIES AND INDUSTRIES FORUM (CIF)

A forum for communication between industry and the community -all welcome

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## Minutes of the Meeting Held Tuesday 6 October 2009 5.30 pm – 7.20 pm at the Kwinana Recquatic, Gilmore Avenue, Kwinana

### PRESENT

Carol	Adams	Town of Kwinana
Don	Allanach	Homestead Ridge Progress Association
Mariette	Bylsma	BHP Billiton KNR
Bruce	Cadee	Kwinana Chlor Alkali
Kim	Calver	Thomson Environmental Systems
Patrick	Coffey	Alcoa
Bob	Cooper	CIF Executive/Rotary Wellard
Graham	Davey	Kwinana Progress Association
Erin	Davey	BP Refinery
Stephanie	Felstead	CSBP
Maurice	Ferialdi	Town of Kwinana
Allan	Gade	Conservation of Rockingham Environment
Annette	Gade	Conservation of Rockingham Environment
Gerard	Healy	GH Associates
Steve	Hesse	Kwinana Progress Association & Kwinana Watchdog Group
Debbie	Hoey	Kwinana Industries Council
Ivan	Kelly	Global Security Management
Mitch	Little	Tiwest
Kateryna	Longley	Cockburn Sound Management Council
Rod	Lukatelich	BP Refinery
Peter	McCarthy	FESA Fire Services
Scott	McFarlane	Dept of Environment & Conservation
Anita	McInnes	Sound Telegraph
Peter	McRae	Dept of Mines & Petroleum
Frank	Mofflin	BHP Billiton
Patricia	Moreton	Kwinana Progress Association
Barry	Nelson	Community
Chris	Oughton	Kwinana Industries Council
Lorne	Petchell	BHP Billiton
Max	Pitt	Coogee Chemicals
Janine	Prosser	Tiwest
Tom	Rose	Cockburn Sound Management Council
Darren	Salamon	Terminals West
Shoba	Senasinghe	Coogee Chemicals
Ivan	Unkovich	Water Corporation
Les	Vogiatzakis	Coogee Chemicals
Adam	West	Dept of Environment & Conservation
John	Wilks	Hismelt

### APOLOGIES

Glen	Bersan	Town of Kwinana
Karen	Boyce	Tiwest
Thys	Heyns	BP
Rod	Mapstone	Alcoa
Patrick	Peake	Western Energy

## **1. OPENING AND WELCOME**

Ron Kemp (Facilitator) opened the meeting and requested all attendees sign the attendance register to ensure an accurate record of attendees was maintained.

The Facilitator advised attendees of the emergency evacuation procedure for the building and the location of exit doors and muster points. The meeting was advised of the need for people to register so there is a true and accurate record of attendees.

People must have attended at least three meetings during the last twelve months to be eligible to vote at each AGM.

## **2. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION**

### **Report from the CIF Exec Meeting Held 1 September 2009**

**Chris Oughton, CIF Executive**

The CIF Executive met on 1 September 2009 to consider the requests to make presentations at tonight's meeting. Tonight's presentations include:

- ◆ Expansion of the Tiwest Titanium Dioxide Plant & the Coogee Chlor Alkali Plant
- ◆ An overview and update on the KIA landscape project
- ◆ Update on historic groundwater contamination

Tonight we also have a guest speaker – Prof Kateryna Longley – Chair of the Cockburn Sound Management Council.

At the last CIF Executive meeting Tony Wynne from DEC advised that he has recruited the team leader for the Kwinana team within his Swan Region Industry Regulation section. Scott McFarlane recently commenced with the DEC and will be the DEC representative on the CIF Executive. Tony advised that he will remain heavily involved with KIC and member companies.

If attendees have any suggestions for future presentations or guest speakers, please advise the CIF Coordinator (Debbie Hoey) or complete one of the forms at the back of the room.

The next CIF meeting will be held on 1 December.

## **3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

There were no matters arising from previous meeting.

## **4. PRESENTATIONS**

### **4.1 Expansion of the Tiwest Titanium Dioxide Plant & the Coogee Chlor Alkali Plant**

**Mitch Little representing Tiwest and Max Pitt, representing Coogee Chemicals**

Mitch Little explained what the expansion work will cover, the environment approvals required and in place, Twist's consideration of concerns that the community may have and some information about Tiwest.

Tiwest commenced operating in 1991 and to date has produced 1.5m tonnes of titanium oxide. This pigment is used in production of paints, plastics, paper, sunscreens. The process is a three stage complex process: chlorination, oxidation and finishing.

The plant is located on Mason Road with borders to the BP refinery and CSBP. In 1991 production was around 56K tpa and since 1997 Tiwest has been reviewing a strategic expansion from 80 to 180km tpa. It is currently producing 110K tpa. This is the first major expansion in 10 years with the aim to expand the plant to 153k tpa. A list of the equipment that will form part of the expansion was presented. All of the proposed equipment is superior to what is currently in place and will allow a lot of improvements to be made to the existing plant. A fifth chlorinator will be added as well as improved purification equipment. The chlorine recycling capacity will be improved. Two new dryers will be added in the finishing sector which will be far more energy efficient than those currently in place. Tiwest will also be adding expanded utilities, cooling towers, vent stack and water treatment plants.

The construction phase will employ 150 workers at its peak. It commenced in April 2009 and is expected to be fully commissioned in April 2010. It is being constructed within the company's 22ha site and all expansion will be within or immediately adjacent to the existing plant. There have been no significant incidents as part of the construction. Ministerial Statements are in place for the expansion. Works approval amendments are being sought and Tiwest is awaiting other approvals prior to full commissioning.

Mitch explained how the company is addressing issues of noise, traffic, emissions, energy efficiency and GHG and dust.

Max Pitt then addressed the meeting. He explained the history of Coogee Chemicals (formerly Nufarm) and the processes undertaken to produce three primary products, chlorine gas, hydrogen gas and caustic soda and a number of other products. The processing is done through a small plant within the Tiwest plant. There is no direct access to the road. It is fully integrated into the Tiwest process and can make on demand the products required by Tiwest without having to have any product shipped.

The expanded plant will triple what is currently produced and will feed the existing operation and the new plant. The equipment in the new plant will be more energy efficient with electrical power consumption reduced considerably. The nameplate capacity for the new plant will double capacity of the existing plant and this enable future growth as required. The chlorine is exported as a dry cell gas to the Tiwest process. The production of caustic soda is a very energy intensive process and produces a lot of steam. This process is being replaced to make it more energy efficient. A larger hydrochloric acid burner will be installed and will supply hydrochloric acid to the Boddington goldmine. An explanation of where the extensions will be built on the site as provided.

### **Questions and Answers**

(All questions were answered by the presenters unless otherwise stated)

#### **Alan Gade, CORE**

**Q:** You mentioned 85db level for the noise. Do you have any idea what the boundary will be?

**A:** We have done some modeling, which I don't have with me. We have also done some work with the existing plant to see which equipment is having the biggest impact on the community. Silencers have been put on equipment recently. I don't have full answers but I can get further information for you but I do know we are a very small noise contributor.

#### **Steve Hesse, KPA**

**Q:** Mitch mentioned about dust monitoring on the bag houses. What does that entail?

**A:** We have on-line monitoring which indicate any losses of dust from bags.

**Q:** Will it indicate where the dust is coming from?

**A:** The monitor is sufficient for it to be able to pick up any loss from the bags – it is more of a broken bag detector rather than a dust detector.

**Annette Gade, CORE**

**Q:** Is the SO<sub>2</sub> for determination or for monitoring?

**A:** We have been going through a re-determination of the SO<sub>2</sub>. This is required under legislation and we are waiting final sign-off for it. All industries within the area to submit SO<sub>2</sub> information to the EPA.

There were no further questions. The Facilitator thanked Mitch and Max for their presentation and invited them and all following presenters to stay behind at the conclusion of the meeting to answer any questions that attendees might have then.

## **4.2 KIA Landscape Update**

**Gerard Healy, Healy & Associates**

Presenter Gerard Healy gave information on the planned improvements to Paterson and Rockingham Roads, starting at the northern end by Hope Valley Road, and then going down to the southern area of Office Road.

The TOK has awarded a landscape contract to build the areas. There will be disruption to the applicable roads for a period of around six months, which will be controlled by Main Roads.

The contractor's program was explained. The process has commenced. All approvals will be provided to Main Roads in relation to plans, under-road boring, the two bores that will be installed and the approvals process will take up most of October. The first month of the program will involve necessary manufacture off site.

In November the approvals will proceed to bores and headworks which will mean drilling rigs will be on site. The will be followed by demolition and clearing of verges to remove dead trees and trees that have to be removed prior to replantings.

There is an issue in the northern end in relation to traffic management which will mean contractors will operate at night to ease traffic disruptions. The overall works will be concentrated on Hope Valley Road and Cockburn Road junctions which will have maintenance strips, upgrading paths etc. New concrete paths will be created with new landscaping which will include irrigation installation.

Up to the Christmas period the contractor will complete the concreting paths, which will be followed by the irrigation system installation continuing to mid February. When underground works are completed the landscaping will be undertaken throughout February. The project is due to be signed off around March 2009.

### **Questions and Answers**

(All questions were answered by the presenter unless otherwise stated)

**Tom Rose, Cockburn Sound Management Council**

**Q:** It is a great idea but I wondered if you have a water budget to keep the landscaping alive?

**A:** We have done a survey to see if water from industry can be used in the area. We are planting mostly native drought tolerant plants and have taken a very conservative approach to water usage.

**Q:** Have your groundwater bores gone deep.

A: No, we're not allowed to go deep in this area. Well licenses are very restricted in this area and they are basically shallow aquifers.

**Steve Hesse, KPA**

Q: Is it necessary to have bores if you use water-wise plants and I also question why the landscaping is due to start in February. Isn't this a bad time of year to be planting?

A: Unlike the landscaping that has happened before which has been generally native non-irrigated, we are looking to irrigate to make sure the establishment goes well and the growth is luxuriant and the dying off is not so much of an issue. In terms of the irrigation, planting in February is an issue as you mention and the specification for the contractor notes that planting cannot happen on days with a certain high temperature. Generally landscaping does happen in Perth in the summer months, if there is irrigation. For the grass areas it is the ideal time to be planting. Main Roads are very particular about their view lines so we were unable to put in shrubs all over the areas so we have scheduled grass, then lower shrubs, then taller shrubs. The grass that comes to the edge of the bitumen will be irrigated to keep it alive.

**Bob Cooper**

Q: Watering grass in winter is not an idea scenario so I presume you're going to have rain sensors so we don't have sprinklers on while it's raining?

A: We will have rain sensors on the controllers but we have an establishment period where we will have to water until all plants are established. To improve the image we have isolated the grass areas and they are not extensive, mostly at the junctions only. Coogee Chemicals do a fantastic job of looking after their own verge and to match that standard it is necessary to have some irrigation.

**Tom Rose**

Q: You're talking about cleaning up some of the old vegetation. What about the fauna, like snakes, small lizards etc? Is there any capacity to better control wildlife from getting slaughtered during the construction period and as the landscaping matures.

A: In terms of the planning we looked at corridors of green coming through from Beeliar Regional Park. This road is seen as a corridor and that is why a lot of the plantings are native. We're trying to go away from a lot of the short lived native plants. Generally we want to keep the road as native as possible. In the nodal sections the maintenance could be a bit higher so it may be in a smaller area native wildlife would be expected to be further back.

Q: I'm just worried about the annual slaughter of bandicoots that used to be on the other side as they cross over the roads during summer.

A: We looked at those things and Mains Roads have been very particular about us trying to slow cars down so it was a battle to achieve what we've got.

**Ivan Unkovich**

Q: What are your maintenance plans for the first year and then thereafter?

A: The contract has a 13 week establishment maintenance period to ensure it all gets established. At the moment Main Roads maintain the road and the TOK assists with that maintenance. Because we were upgrading the road naturally maintenance has to be upgraded as part of the overall plan. In terms of the long term maintenance, the TOK will put a plan together for this.

Q: If we spend a lot of money installing plants and landscaping but if we don't do the maintenance we will see it all degenerate.

A: (Answered by an Engineer, Town of Kwinana). The town has a maintenance plan which will be in place board from January.

There were no further questions and the facilitator thanked Gerard Healy for his presentation.

### 4.3 Update of Historic Groundwater Contamination

Frank Mofflin, Environment and Community Superintendent at BHP Billiton's Kwinana Nickel Refinery (KNR) provided an update on historic groundwater contamination at the Kwinana site and the Baldivis facility. The presentation did not cover the leak that occurred in June 2008 as this has previously been reported on.

KNF was established in 1970. It processes nickel from Kalgoorlie nickel smelter to produce premium briquettes and powder which is sold on international markets. A tailings pile was established at the corner of Miller and Old Mandurah roads and the facility was used for disposal of liquid and solid waste from the refinery operation. It was decommissioned in mid 1990s, being de-watered and capped and is still in that current state. The practices in place at that time meant that ground water was contaminated by ammonium sulphate which is a byproduct of the nickel refining process. It is extracted and sold as a fertilizer component. Ground water recovered from the Kwinana site was processed through the water treatment plant and this recovery was completed around 2001, in agreement with DEC. At the time improvements were made in terms of materials handling so that future risks of ground water contamination were decreased.

In May 2002 it was discovered through monitoring there was a localised area of arsenic contamination near the hydrogen plant in the south west corner of the refinery site. Since the establishment of the ground water recovery system in 2003 approx 87000 KL of ground water has been recovered by this system. Large quantities of arsenic have been recovered but the amounts recovered have decreased over time. Monitoring indicates that arsenic is still present at that site.

A tailing facility was established at Baldivis. This is a dual pump recovery system. The ammonium sulphate contamination sinks in the aquifer. The initial recovery system was to sink a bore and recover the material from the base of that bore. A dual pump recovery system enables a greater and faster recovery of contaminates. The recovered ground water is pumped back to the KNR and processed through the reverse osmosis water treatment plant. The clean stream produced from the water treatment plant is then used as process water in the refinery and allows us to reduce our use of scheme water. The clean stream water is also sent to Baldivis to the evaporation cells. The water treatment plant also processes refinery process and waste water from the evaporation cells located at Baldivis.

KNR conducts ongoing monitoring and reporting of ground water. There are 68 bores on the Kwinana site and more than 100 on the Baldivis site. The results are reported annually to DEC and monitored by KNR. KNR also conducts ongoing monitoring of the tailings facilities.

#### Questions and Answers

(All questions were answered by the presenter unless otherwise stated)

#### Alan Gade, CORE

**Q:** You mentioned the waste stream that's not suitable for re-use in the refinery which is going back out to the ponds. What's in it?

**A:** It has a high concentration of chlorides which prohibits it from being used as a water stream. It's highly salty water.

**Q:** There's got to be something else in it apart from salt.

**A:** Not from that water treatment plant.

**Q:** Do you know exactly what's in those ponds?

**A:** Yes we certainly do. We conduct regular analysis of those ponds to know what's in them.

**Q:** Could I have a list of them please?

**A:** We can certainly go through that and maybe we can look at that as part of an improvement plan.

**Annette Gade, CORE**

**Q:** Frank you explained everything about Baldivis but we still don't have an answer as to what killed the last lot of trees. We're not getting answers from you as to what actually caused it at the central pond Baldivis.

**A:** We've done a preliminary investigations and engaged a consultant who's going to be doing some further work later this month to investigate what has been happening to that vegetation.

**Q:** Have you checked to see if there's any more dead trees since it was first reported?

**A:** Yes we've been out there regularly to have a look around.

**Q:** You're saying that you regularly report to the DEC. If you regularly report, how is it it wasn't picked up in the first place, around the settling ponds, the dead trees.

**A:** Our preliminary investigations suggest that there isn't an issue associated with ground water which has had an impact on that vegetation.

**Q:** So even though there's dead trees there, they can't be connected to you, even though they're on your land?

**A:** There are trees both on our land and on the landfill site as well and we're investigating to try to determine the cause of this. At this stage we are not aware of the cause but there was both shallow and deep rooted trees that were affected at the time which suggests to us that it wasn't necessarily just a ground-water related issue.

**A:** (Mariette Bylsma – BHP Billiton responded) - I want to reiterate to both Annette and Alan that we have advised the DEC that we will be engaging vegetation consultants and are hoping to get information from that preliminary study on what has affected the trees.

**Steve Hesse**

**Q:** How many hectares all up have been contaminated at Baldivis?

**A:** Off the top of my head I can't say but I will chase that up for you.

**Q:** Thank you, and with the ground water recovery system at Baldivis where the tuart trees were killed, at least five members of the community have been keeping an eye on that and every time I've been in the area I've never seen it operating and neither have the other four people who keep an eye on it. One person reported that they stopped recently and the bores weren't operating so they rang KNR and asked why it was not operating. Within 15 minutes a KNR employee came out and started the generator but the bores were not running because the block valves were closed and pressure gauges were reading zero. It seems to us that the generator was there to make it look good. Can we see the ongoing data sheets of how much bore water's been recovered on a day-to-day basis from that ground water recovery plant.

**A:** Regarding the recovery: since our recovery system has been installed we have recovered greater than 40,000 KI from that site. Over the last two months there have been issues at the Kwinana refinery site which has meant that the ground water hasn't been able to be recovered and pumped back to site for processing. I can't make a comment in regard to what you've seen on the site but we have been recovering in an ongoing fashion. We will look to discuss how and what we have been recovering from that site.

**A:** (Mariette Bylsma – BHP Billiton responded) I need to add one point to what Frank has mentioned. Over the last few months we have shut down the refinery for a number of days because of a machinery shutdown that we do every six months. We also had an issue with one of our plants and didn't have hydrogen for 10-12 days which resulted in the refinery being completely off line. The

water system's is a closed loop water system so if the refinery is not operational we physically cannot continue with water recovery. We don't discharge any waste water into the system. We don't discharge into Cockburn Sound and we don't put any water into the eco system. Whatever we take from the Baldivis site we take back to the refinery and the waste water that we can't use is properly disposed of. Water management is a big issue for the refinery. If the refinery is not operating to its optimum we may have instances where the pumps are not running because we can't simply continue to bring water back to the refinery if the refinery is not processing or using the water.

There were no further questions and the facilitator thanked Frank Mofflin for his presentation.

## 5. GENERAL BUSINESS

### **Toxfree**

Steve Hesse reported that he had heard of some significant incidents in Kwinana industry. One was a recent fire at Toxfree. He expressed surprise that the industry had not let the community know about this. Chris Oughton, KIC, reported that information had been placed on the KIC Community Information Service. Annette Gade asked if anyone representing DEC could comment. Adam West, DEC advised that DEC is notified by companies of any emissions or discharges and this incident is currently under investigation by one of their officers.

### **BP Refinery**

Steve Hesse reported that there was a major incident at BP with their heat exchanger failing which resulted in excess flaring and excess pollution. It also resulted in the shut down of most of the BP refinery. He said that the community had not been updated on this and in his opinion it raises safety issues. He requested an update from BP.

Rod Lukatelich, BP responded that he **CAT reformer** was unplanned but controlled shutdown and generally when we shut down there is some de-pressuring of gases to flare but the amount of flaring was certainly nothing out of the usual for that particular process. It is expected to start up towards the end of this week. Steve Hesse asked BP to follow up and advise the community on the safety of the heat exchanges.

Rod Lukatelich advised that while not being a process engineer, he believed this referred to the rating of the heat exchanges. His understanding was there are ratings for temperatures and pressures and BP operate within those designed limits. He offered to get someone from BP to advise of the rates etc.

There was no further general business.

## 6. GUEST SPEAKER

### **Prof Kateryna Longley, Chair Cockburn Sound Management Committee**

Facilitator Ron Kemp introduced Dr Kateryna Longley, chair of Cockburn Sound Management Council. He noted it was a privilege to have Dr Longley address the meeting.

Dr Longley addressed the forum some years ago when she first became CSMC chair and was Chancellor for Regional Development for Murdoch University. She is now an emeritus professor at Murdoch and is an independent chair of CSCM.

The Cockburn Sound is an extremely important embayment, in economic, environmental and in recreation terms. It is the largest snapper spawning ground outside Shark Bay and an incredibly important area for many fish.

Multiple uses mean multiple pressures and there the Sound is under pressure. Eighty percent of all the sea grasses were lost by 1990, which meant a whole ecology as well and the sea grasses will not come back. There are other pressures, such as increasing population, development, industry, recreational uses. People often think that the pressures come mainly from industry or things that are visible next to the Sound but of course suburban growth also affects the Sound.

How can Cockburn Sound remain healthy under those circumstances? That's what the community asked ten years ago and in so doing they put pressure on government to create the CSCM to protect the Sound's health. CSCM is unique. It was Western Australia's first effort at creating a state environmental policy to cover a stretch of water. It's the first and only SEP in WA. It set strict guidelines to tell if the water is healthy and how that can continue. I would like to acknowledge the work done by Rod Lukatelich and Tom Rose for the work they put into the SET. A framework was established to keep all the uses and the water healthy.

The CSCM monitors, advises, researches and communicates. It reports annually to the Minister for Environment and Parliament and the Minister is required to table annual reports within ten days of receipt. The monitoring aspects are reported with a "traffic light" red, green and amber system. These colours flag actions that may need to be taken – amber needs investigation, red needs action. CSCM is charged with the responsibility of advising relevant parties to take action and sometimes works with them to find solutions. The reports are freely available from the CSCM office and feedback and comments are welcomed and valued.

A management plan has been prepared to facilitate multiple use, integrate management, coordinate research and investigations, protect environmental values and monitor and report. Few people realise that the CSCM coordinates the multiple uses and users in the Sound, i.e. industry, community, small business, tourist operators, mussel farmers, the Australian Navy. The CSCM protects the waters of Cockburn Sound, regardless of uses, so that all users can have the quality of water into the future.

Cockburn Sound has lots of challenges and threats. There are also threats to CSCM.

Current projects include investigation, research and annual monitoring. We're currently investigating why the sands are grey. We're working on a multiple use framework and are looking for partners for a decision support software tool to map the Sound and arrive at values for various activities and conflicting interests. The State of the Sound report preparation is ongoing and there will be a forum in November to announce the results of this monitoring.

There are other happenings such as the sculpture projects which will have a series of sculptures and eco signage to let people know about Cockburn Sound. We are grateful to our supporters, particularly the three local governments for their support and investment in this project, and also to the KIC, and many other bodies including the Navy and Fremantle Ports for their support.

We recently held a strategic planning workshop to determine our future direction. We will increasingly look to partners to continue our good works. We have a bold but achievable vision – *The Council will be recognised as a world leader in coordinating successful, multiple use coastal marine management.* I believe we are a world leader. Our challenge is to become recognised as that. You won't find a model that's better anywhere else. Our purpose is *to keep Cockburn Sound and*

*Owen Anchorage healthy and sustainable for the Western Australian community into the future. We coordinate, liaise, and facilitate in partnering with other agencies. Our aim is to become one fantastic repository of information and use that to predict the future of the waters of the Sound. We are only as good as our partnerships and as effective as its community support.*

Since the CSCM has been working in this area things have improved and stabilized. We now need the community to take us to the next stage of foreseeing and preventing incidents.

Top of our aims list is funding via partnerships for research, monitoring and direct support. We need to use my regular meetings with the Minister to keep her in touch with what is happening in the Sound. We need to develop an Owen Anchorage Environmental Management Plan and for that we need partners. We need to increase our monitoring program and we need partners for that. Cockburn Sound's uses are extremely diverse – everything from tourism to some of the biggest industrial activities in the state. Within the CSCM our members sit around a table with one aim of keeping the multiple uses successfully without contaminating or reducing the quality of the water.

We will be having a community forum in November to which you are all invited. If any people would like to be part of the sculpture programs please let CSCM know. We also need partners for new research projects to use the great capacity we have in our office and I pay tribute to our staff in what they achieve. The universities are looking for projects to research with industry and they are prepared in some cases to fund PhD students over three years on approved projects. I urge you to include CSCM in your environmental scoping and strategic plans.

### **Questions and Answers**

(All questions were answered by the presenter unless otherwise stated)

#### **Alan Gade - CORE**

**Q:** We have heard you might be shifting to Kwinana. We hope not.

**A:** We are working on that issue and it is a strong possibility. Because we are in the middle of negotiations with government and potential supporters, we will leave that on hold for the moment. We believe we need to be located near the water in a populous and busy site. Our current location is fantastic and we're trying to keep it but we need community and industry support to do that.

#### **Chris Oughton**

**Q:** KIC is aware of your potential move and has written a very strong letter to government asking them to reconsider. I think it is probably best now to leave it in the hands of DEC to come to resolution but KIC takes the view that moving the CSMC from its existing location would be very negative.

#### **Steve Hesse**

**Q:** The groups I'm involved with support the CSCM but as we'd like to see CSCM backed up with legislative powers. We don't like the fact that CSCM is a toothless tiger and relies on volunteers. I think to claim that CSCM protects Cockburn Sound with no power to do so is in dispute.

**A:** I'm glad you have asked this question Steve, because I respect greatly the position you speak from on environmental matters. However, I think it's wrong to call us a toothless tiger. I agree that there are times when we would like to have been established with legislative powers. However I've come to learn that the powers we have are extensive and run deep. The power that the policy bestows upon us is to report any problems that occur to the Minister and Parliament. We are required to report if anyone that we have asked to fix a problem has not done so. The fear of naming and shaming in Parliament is

strong. Every group that we identify as having a role in causing a red light on our maps is contacted with a formal letter, is followed up with a request for action to be taken and resolutions worked on. We have examples of working with culprits and turning "red lights" in to green on report cards were cited. Other groups are looking at the CSCM model because it is based on an excellent policy.

**Ivan Unkovich**

**Q:** You mentioned that 80% of the sea grasses in Cockburn Sound have disappeared. You also said that there were important ecological systems around the sea grasses that were lost. Ten years ago there were some trials done on re-generation of sea grasses. What is your council's thinking in resurrecting the sea grasses?

**A:** We had a recent presentation by an expert in sea grass rehabilitation. The results were very helpful but it's very, very slow to rehabilitate. It is unlikely we will get 80% rehabilitated but we can increase and are already increasing the amount of sea grass in Cockburn Sound. The CSCM has a policy of absolutely no net reduction in sea grass in Cockburn Sound.

**Q:** Is it possible that the Council consider increasing the sea grass areas rather than maintaining.

**A:** We'd certainly like to. The only opportunities we have to do that would be with partners. We have developed an policy which we can ask for those kinds of environmental offsets to be taken very seriously.

The facilitator thanked Kateryna for her presentation.

**7. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

People were asked to complete the attendance register prior to leaving the meeting. The meeting concluded at 7.15pm.

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday December 1 2009**, 5.30pm at Kwinana Recquatic, Gilmore Avenue, Kwinana.