

NSW Ports Cargo Facilitation Committee



NSW Ports

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
NSW PORTS CARGO FACILITATION COMMITTEE
(No. 7/2013)
Lakes Business Park
Conference Centre
Wednesday, 9 October, 2013
(11:00-12:04)**

PRESENT:

Mr Steve Gunn	Sydney Ports Corporation PBLIS (Chairman)
Mr Hart Krtschil	Australian Industry Working Group on Biosecurity (AIWGB)
Mr Jo Jo Pangan	Australian Customs and Border Protection Service
Mr Steve Drury	Australian Customs and Border Protection Service
Mrs Jodie Broadbent	Australian Trucking Association NSW (ATA NSW)
Mr Greg Lawson	Australian Trucking Association NSW (ATA NSW)
Mr Stephen Ironside	Hutchison Port Holdings (HPH)
Michael Bloom	Maritime Container Services (MCS)
Mr Mark Leach	RMS
Ms Kirsty Blair	Department of Agriculture
Mr Mohammad Hamid	Department of Agriculture
Mr Claude Varnier	Patrick - Empty Container Parks Representative
Mr Craig McKay	Rail Representative - QUBE Logistics
Mr David Scott	CBFCA
Mr Tony Nikro	CBFCA
Mr Adem Long	NSW Ports
Mrs Sandra Spate	Minute taker

APOLOGIES AND MEMBERSHIP

Apologies were received from:

Mr Neil Truskett	Patrick Terminals
Mr Michael Moylan	Australian Trucking Association NSW (ATA NSW)
Mr Michael Wills	RMS
Mr Andrew Waterworth	AFIF
Mr Brian Lovell	AFIF
Mr Allan Flynn	Hutchison Port Holdings (HPH)

1. APOLOGIES AND MEMBERSHIP

Apologies as listed above. Adem introduced Michael Bloom from Maritime Container Services (MCS).

2. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes from the last meeting were accepted.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Height Sensors

- Hutchison now has height sensors operating.
- Jodie B asked that these be set at 4.6m instead of 4.3m.
- Mark replied that 4.3m is set as a warning to drivers not to turn left at Foreshore Road. Once trucks are over 4.3 they need to understand there is restricted access to the Port.
- Hart K asked what the impact of this will be on Port traffic. In excess of 50% of trucks will not be able to turn left, but will have to turn right if sensors are set at 4.3m. This will be a major issue regarding routes.
- Steve G reported there will be a meeting with Paul Endicott (RMS) on Friday. A working group has been established by RMS to look at the road transport industry, including looking at incidents in tunnels.

Super B Review

- The final report issued last night, unlike the first draft, is positive. This follows further feedback, with the recommendations for 84T and 109T.
- Steve G noted problems with the 109 state rollover thresholds (SRT). They can operate in the Port precinct with speed restricted to 50km. This will be revisited before the next meeting and run on a trial basis.
- Jodie B asked whether it is currently under NHVS. It was confirmed it is.
- Mark Leach (RMS) asked if the report is public, it is not but Michael Wills from RMS has a copy.

Enfield

- Enfield ILC will be handed over by November.
- Port Botany Terminal 3 is expected to be operational mid-November.

Department of Agriculture opening hours

- Hart K reported meeting with terminals. There are moves to look at centralising operations long term. Hart has met with the Assistant Secretary in Canberra to raise issues from the CFC meeting.
- Adem L reported no impacts from the CFS operations of ACFS, Patricks and QUBE.
- Hart K suggests impacts are on carriers. There are moves for more targeted inspections, directing carriers to a central facility. Hart K is drafting a paper for Department of Agriculture.

Road Safety Remuneration Tribunal

- Jodie B reported a hearing due next week at which the TWU want to admit more evidence despite this not being allowed for other stakeholders. A follow hearing will be held at the end of October. The new government has flagged a review but it has not at this stage been disbanded.
- Steve G noted a call for additional submission. A detrimental result to industry may occur with legal standing over and above the state regulator.

4. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

A. Port Update

- Statistics will go onto the website when released. Volumes are steady..
- At Terminal 3 the stockpiles are gone and most of the site is now sealed.
- Orica is seeking to make temporary safety barriers in the middle of Foreshore Road more permanent. NSW Ports' submission doesn't oppose this at this stage, but flags issues around future expansion of Foreshore Road as well as potential Truck Marshalling Area as suggested by TfNSW under the Draft Freight and Port Strategy.

B. Department of Agriculture

- Kirsty introduced Mohammed Hamid who is undertaking Hana Hamdan's role for the next month. The department is now called the Department of Agriculture since September 18. The new secretary is Dr Paul Grimes.

- Planned initiatives to expedite movement of cargo includes an upcoming trial to move away from fumigants for treatment of oversize tyres, trialling hot water and steam. 90-95% of oversized tyre failures are for water marks.
- The Department is looking at implementing a smarter permit system for used machinery. Currently blanket permits last 2 years and each machine is inspected. The new system will be one permit per consignment and require evidence that the machine is clean when leaving its port of origin. The bulk will move off the wharf more quickly. Consultation will occur till December with a trial in January 2014 and the system commencing in February.
- Stephen I asked whether new participants in 1.1 and 1.3 will have to resubmit documentation. It is not expected that this will be the case.
- The last CFC heard of a focus on improving productivity and efficiency with changes at the depot in fresh produce inspection to improve consistency. Inspections are largely being done by appointments.

D. Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS)

- Steve D reported increased presence of customs and border protection. New legislation will impact on industry. Steve D will email links to relevant information to the Chair for distribution to the CFC.
- Hart K raised problems of containers moved from Section 17 to Section 78. Does permission to move stipulate the move has to be from 17B to 77G? Is it permissible to park overnight and deliver next morning?
- Jo Jo noted strict rules for handling regarding 77 premises. Timeline reporting is stricter e.g. if permission is to pick up on Monday but is not delivered till Wednesday the reason for the delay needs to be given. Accurate reporting is required regarding when it departed the wharf, a report by the 77 premises, where the cargo was meantime and if the transport company didn't give the direction for this where that direction came from. The most direct route takes into consideration moves to avoid traffic or unavoidable moves, but not with the intent to stage in non licensed premises. Parking overnight will put it on a breach.

E. Road Transport

- ATANSW reiterated fitting into Department of Agriculture windows problematic with other pre- existing parameters.
- Steve reported issues raised at PBLIS with DP World and the VBS system restructure causing difficulties for smaller carriers. Prior to the change slots released by the stevedore would go within 26 seconds. The new system was taking up to 4

minutes for small carriers. SPC was inundated with phone calls. 1-Stop has addressed issue.

- There are issues with a number of carriers booking slots then sitting on them to just prior to penalties. DP World had 30% booked then not used and thrown back. 1-Stop is looking to restrict this. Stevedores and PBLIS are looking at the issue. If resolved more carriers can get slots. This is a huge issue that needs to be discussed and improved. It is also a drain on carriers resources, as some have people on the keyboard all day.
- Jodie B suggested that the slots wanted are not available so carriers book what they can.
- Greg L reported Hutchison is trialling a 15 second delay before a slot is booked.
- Hart K asked whether slots are booked for particular containers. Greg L replied carriers book slots based on the rough volume of work for a day.
- Jodie B noted ATANSW had suggested that once a slot is booked it should be visible it is yours and that slots could be traded. It was suggested by some CFC members this could lead to attempts to profit by selling slots, which had been a long standing issue within Port Botany.
- Steve G reported proposed changes are in abeyance as the slot booking process requires further attention. There will be further meetings of stakeholders before final changes are recommended to the Port Road Taskforce, as it is important to get it right.
- There was a question about weight declarations in relation to empty containers. Greg L replied that drivers carry blank paperwork. Weight can be overstated without penalty.

G. Rail Transport

- Rural trains were expected to pick up in September but no peak has been shown. There have been no incidents.
- Steve reported Patrick is looking at a number of options for what will happen with rail during their redevelopment. There will be a rail closure of 6 to 8 weeks during the first quarter of next year. The guiding factor will be as long as the rail operator uses options provided there will be no additional costs.

H. Empty Container Parks (ECPs)

- Claude reported there are no issues with capacity. A survey on September 17 indicated parks are consistently at around 60% capacity.
- With regard to truck arrivals one park reported 39 % early arrivals and 40% on time. One transport company had 80% of the early arrivals.
- Patrick advised that during the terminal redevelopment period CargoLink operations would be split to include the PN Marshalling Yard as a temporary facility. Notices have gone out and will be posted 1-Stop about which containers will be diverted.
- Regarding Empty Stack Runs into the terminal, there were issues with window tightness and availability. Also previously where there was some flexibility allowed to extend the window to complete the run this flexibility was no longer available.
- ECPs offering extended hours advised that there has been little support of extended hours by industry. Parks continue to encourage carriers to contact them if they wish to bring containers in outside of hours.
- Adem reported there was a meeting of Park operators this morning. There will be regular meetings with ECPs to drive knowledge around empty parks to industry. Ongoing information will be provided to the CFC.
- Mark Leach (RMS) asked whether there is a shortage of 20ft flat racks as he had received a report that none were available so divisible loads were being put on 40' flat racks.. There was agreement that there was not a shortage of 20 footers. Hart will email contact details for Shipping Australia to Mark

5. REPORTS BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- It was noted that DP World increased import storage rates citing as the reason terminal occupancy costs. Will Patrick also do this? Steve G replied Patricks have already done so.
- Tony N noted that at Patricks with side loader day shifts there are notices saying they won't accept delivery but no reason is given. Steve G replied that this is when one person is on the truck rank as a side loader requires that there be someone to supervise. If there is no one else on duty they won't service.
- Hart K informed the CFC that the Industry Working Group on Quarantine is now named the Australian Industry Working Group on Biosecurity (AIWGB).

- Mark reported that piers 1 and 4 have been completed on the Rickety Street Bridge and it is on track to be completed within the timeframe. Adem and Jodie confirmed there has been no negative feedback.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

- Stephen Cleary has been appointed CEO of NSW Ports.

7. COMMITTEE MEMBERS – Required Actions by next meeting

- Steve Drury to email links to relevant information about new legislation regarding Customs and Border Protection to the Chair for distribution to the CFC.
- Hart K will email contact details for Shipping Australia to Mark.

7. NEXT MEETING

- The meeting closed at 12.04pm. The next meeting will be Wednesday 11 December.