

**Port Botany Expansion  
Community Consultative Committee**

**Date:** 19 August, 2008

**Meeting number:** 16

**Attendees:**

Paul Pickering (PP) – Community Representative  
 John Burgess (JB) - Community Representative  
 Nancy Hillier (NH) – Community Representative  
 Neil Melvin (NM) - Community Representative  
 Neil Brener (NB) – Business Representative  
 Bronwyn Englaro (BE) – Randwick City Council  
 Paul Shepherd (PS) – City of Botany Bay Council  
 Sandra Spate (SS) – Minutetaker  
 Roberta Ryan - Chairperson  
 Peter O’Leary (PO) – Sydney Ports Corporation  
 Kamini Parashar (KP) – Sydney Ports Corporation  
 Marika Calfas (MC) – Sydney Ports Corporation  
 Linda Coburn (LC) – Baulderstone Hornibrook  
 Vince Newton (VN) – Baulderstone Hornibrook  
 Peter O’Leary (PO) – Bovis Lend Lease  
 Margaret Harvie (MH) – Baulderstone Hornibrook  
 Quentin Pitts (QP) – Baulderstone Hornibrook

**Apologies:** Paul Jerogin

**Not present:**

Item	Issue	Action	By whom	When
<b>1</b>	<b>Minutes of the last meeting</b>			
1.1	No changes were sought to the previous minutes			
1.2	<u>Matters arising from the last meeting</u> KP provided PP with a copy of the landscaping plan for the Foreshore Beach works as requested at the previous meeting.			
<b>2</b>	<b>Update on construction activities - BHJDN</b>			
2.1	<u>Presentation by BH-JDN (VN)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The site facilities are nearing completion, construction staff have moved to site with the Project office due to move in early September</li> <li>• Clearing of vegetation on Foreshore Rd has been taking place</li> <li>• Currently in the process of mobilising plant and equipment,</li> </ul>			

	<p>in particular the dredging plant. By the end of the month the first of the small dredges should be in the water.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dredging of the temporary boating channel will commence in about 3 weeks.</li> <li>• The crane barge has arrived.</li> <li>• Piling for the silt screen will commence tomorrow, weather permitting. Nightworks will be involved.</li> <li>• Installation of the silt screen will follow on the southern boundary. This will take 2 to 3 weeks.</li> </ul>			
	Questions and discussion			
2.2	<p>JB noted that an area on the right side has been cleared in a rectangular shape. He asked whether this had been designated for other use e.g. for parking.</p> <p>PO responded that it was to remove weeds, there was no other purpose.</p> <p>JB suggested that in other areas members were told bitou bush couldn't be removed. He questioned the priorities in the timing for clearing areas.</p> <p>VN replied that progressively clearing was taking place. In some areas it was 100% clearing as in the area cited by JB and others were selectively cleared for weed removal.</p>			
<b>3</b>	<b>Update on communication activities including complaints</b>			
3.1	<p><u>Communications update presentation – BH-JDN ( LC)</u></p> <p>Items sent to members included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update regarding Foreshore Beach advertising</li> <li>• Stage 2 comments and responses</li> <li>• A copy of a community notification</li> <li>• A dredging community notification</li> <li>• The latest Q&amp;A regarding noise monitoring</li> </ul> <p>LC reported that the community information board at the boat ramp is</p>			

	<p>now fully operational. The Project Information Line has now been handed over to BH-JDN.</p>			
3.2	<p><u>Presentation on complaints – BH-JDN (MH)</u> The complaints report for the period from the last meeting was distributed to the meeting as well as Stakeholder Statistics Report for July 8 to August 18. In the period since the last meeting there were three events formalized as complaints. One related to the boat ramp including; work boats being moored there for long periods. Staff have spoken to workers and there is agreement that boats will be moored for short periods only to unload and load during construction hours.  Others were in relation to service works in Tupia St where jackhammering and noisy works during the day occurred to locate existing services. The resident in question had not received notification about this.  There was also an enquiry regarding staff engaged in noise monitoring occurring at night.</p>			
	<p>Questions and discussion</p>			
3.3	<p>PS asked whether any areas of enquiry were cause for particular concern. MH replied that they weren't at the moment, but comparisons would be easier over time as trends emerged.</p>			
<b>4</b>	<p><b>Environmental monitoring update</b></p>			
4.1	<p><u>Presentation by BHJDN (QP)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Included in the monitoring update were:</li> <li>• Bird hazard – no increase in target species was reported.</li> <li>• Dust – there were elevated readings at Australia Ave but these were unrelated to the project. A high volume sampler and dust deposition gauge has</li> </ul>			

	<p>been installed at the golf course</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Noise – at all locations monitored, elevated noise levels occurred, but none of these were related to Port construction activities. The noise was identified as traffic and other miscellaneous noise. The monitoring was attended by a noise specialist and measured in accordance with Australian Standards.</li> <li>• Night time noise monitoring will continue monthly and as needed during significant work activities that may impact the community..</li> <li>• Saltmarsh and mangrove habitat monitoring should commence in August and seagrass monitoring has begun.</li> <li>• Sediment deposition monitoring. Sediment gauges were installed in Penrhyn Estuary in July. Recent installation of a silt curtain caused monitoring locations to be disturbed. The silt curtain will be removed and monitoring will continue as required.</li> <li>• Shorebird feeding and roosting monitoring was conducted in July and a summary presented to the meeting</li> <li>• Waste and recycling monitoring is being undertaken and all recycled and waste materials are being tracked in an electronic database system.</li> <li>• Water quality monitoring has taken place for two months. Dredging will begin in September, the silt curtain will be in place near the runway and at seagrass location. Monitoring will continue and be reported to SPC, CCC and EPA monthly.</li> </ul>			
	Questions and discussion			
4.2	JB suggested that from his observations, the number of shorebirds			

	has declined dramatically.			
4.3	<p>JB reported that after the minister's media release regarding dredging, he was contacted by the ABC seeking an interview. He reported that he simply outlined procedures as presented to the CCC. He suggested his main concern was with possible impacts of acid sulphate soils. He outlined what acid sulphate soil was and BHs proposed management procedures. He reported that the ABC then contacted Lee Rhiannon.</p> <p>KP reported that the interview with Lee Rhiannon had been run this morning. QP indicated that initial staff training on acid sulphate soil handling has gone well and a Project Acid Sulphate Soil Management Plan is in place. The NSW DOP complimented this plan.</p>	KP to email the transcript of Lee Rhiannon's interview and the minister's response to CCC members	SPC	
4.4	<p>KP noted the requirement to place the environmental monitoring report on the website and asked the meeting if they agreed the report as presented be used.</p> <p>PS suggested that water quality be graphed as this is the easiest way to track trends.</p> <p>QP indicated BH would do this.</p>	BH to present water quality monitoring in graph form.	BH-JDN	
<b>5</b>	<b>Monitoring as indicated in PEHEP</b>			
5.1	<p><u>Presentation by SPC (MC)</u> Part of Penrhyn Estuary Habitat Enhancement Plan included monitoring.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-construction monitoring has been completed and reports are being finalized.</li> <li>• Preliminary results of saltmarsh mapping in 2006, 2007 and 2008 indicate the area of saltmarsh has remained fairly consistent.</li> <li>• Study of seagrasses in 2002 indicate 9.7 hectares, in 2006 4.7 hectares, in 2007 365 sq m and 2008 352 sq m. What remains is of extremely poor quality. The exact causes of the decline aren't known.</li> </ul> <p>PP suggested that regular</p>			

	<p>releases of sewage below the Mill Pond weir into Botany Bay would have a big impact on the health of the sea grasses along Foreshore Beach.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shorebird numbers have shown a decline and this has continued into construction. It is still the off-peak season, and they should start coming to the area in September.</li> <li>• Benthos has been consistent over the last 18 months.</li> <li>• Continuous monitoring of groundwater levels is occurring.</li> <li>• Transplanting of Posedonia has taken place with 100 sq m transplanted. However, much is of poor quality.</li> </ul>			
5.2	<p>MC reported that minor modifications to project conditions were required, and as agreed, these were being brought to the CCC before being submitted for approval.</p> <p>1. Condition B, 2.46 regarding Obstacle Limitation Surface. Some of dredge plant will breach the OLS. An amendment to the condition proposes it read “unless stated otherwise under the Airports Act”.</p> <p>2. Condition C, 2.25. Prior to operation the applicant shall develop a bird hazard management plan to be approved before construction – to be amended to read “prior to operation the applicant shall develop a bird hazard management plan to be approved before operation”.</p> <p>3. Navigation lead light markers. In the EIS they are located in the water and on the beach. The water location would pose safety hazards. It is proposed the beach be the front lead and the rear lead be moved to Sir Joseph Banks Park, towards the rear boundary.</p>			
	Questions and discussion			
5.3	JB reported that at a recent meeting the Airport Corporation was still voicing concerns regarding bird hazards,			

	<p>navigation hazards and the current distance of the no go area from the navigation area. If the no go zone is expanded as they have suggested the recreational boating and shipping channels will be impacted.</p> <p>JB suggested that SPC needed to maintain a close dialogue with Airport Corp to keep abreast of any relevant activities</p> <p>JB's information was noted by SPC. MC noted that SPC appreciated concerns around bird hazards, which was why the boat ramp area had no taps or external fish cleaning areas.</p>			
5.4	<p>PS reported that in discussions with council the airport had expressed concerns over the radar issue. When the port is operational existing radar has difficulty detecting the difference between plane and ship. A new system was reportedly being put in place. PO replied that ASA was expediting the new system with SPC. It was to be completed before operation.</p> <p>KP noted that no ship can berth till this is sorted out.</p> <p>NH asked whether this committee would get regular reports.</p> <p>KP responded it a verbal update could be provided at regular intervals or when there was some progress to report.</p>			
5.5	<p>PS asked whether SPC had OK'd the size of the lead light markers to be located in Sir Joseph Banks Park with council's park staff.</p>	<p>MC to follow up on negotiations with Council regarding the lead light markers located in the park and contact PS with this information.</p>		
<b>6</b>	<p><b>Update on new Port Neighbourhood Liaison Group</b></p>			
	<p><u>Presentation by SPC (KP)</u></p> <p>The new group held its first meeting last Monday.</p> <p>Two items arising from the meeting</p>			

	<p>were:  Cycling tracks around the port.  Ongoing maintenance of Foreshore Beach post construction.  KP asked whether the group would like the minutes from the meeting circulated to the group or would members obtain them from the website.  Members indicated they would access them from the website</p>			
<b>7</b>	<b>Orica workshop - all</b>			
7.1	<p>Orica committee has forwarded a list of questions to be raised at the workshop to PS. This has been circulated to the group.  SPC is of the view that many of the questions have been answered at the EIS stage and it will only be meaningful if DoP and DECC attend.  The meeting was asked if there were any additional questions.  PP requested that Sydney Water be asked what stage are they up to in relining sewerage channels and how often can overflows be expected into the Foreshore Beach area and why?  PS suggested that he will now begin contacting other departments to get the process started.  PS suggested members also comment on who should be asked the list of questions.  KP would like to put on record that SPC feels they have answered the questions. They have nothing further to present other than what has been presented previously.  The meeting agreed that DoP, DECC, Health and Sydney Water should be invited to attend as well as members of the two community groups.</p>	<p>PP to email the wording of his question to Sydney Water to PS for inclusion.</p>		
<b>8</b>	<b>Other Matters/next meeting</b>			
8.1	<p>PP asked for clarification regarding an apparent resumption of a section of the nature strip on Botany Rd. Botany Rd between gates B1 and B2.  KP replied that this was due to Sydney</p>			

	Ports works and of a temporary nature. Trees were on top of high pressure pipeline and this was incompatible with pipeline. The fence is temporary while work is being carried out. It is purely maintenance work. The Council land alongside hasn't been touched. Fence will come down after works and landscaping completed.			
	<b>Next meeting Tuesday 23 September</b>			

These minutes have been endorsed by the Chair, Roberta Ryan.

