BCRG
BROOKLYN COMMUNITY
REPRESENTATIVE GROUP

BCRG COMMUNITY FORUM 3/2016

MEETING NOTES

WEDNESDAY

16 NOVEMBER, 2016

6:00pm for 6:30 – 8:50pm

Brooklyn Community Centre, Cypress Avenue, Brooklyn

Chair: Jen Lilburn **Notetaker**: Andrea Mason

MEETING PURPOSE

To provide an update on progress towards resolution of dust, noise and odour issues

1	**BCRG Welcome, Jen Lilburn** **Welcome, Damian Wells, EPA Victoria**
2	**Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP (Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change and Minister for Suburban Development) and Hon Wade Noonan MP (Member for Williamstown)**
3	***Living in Brooklyn*** **(Reflections by community members, introduced by Bert Boere, President Brooklyn Residents Action Group)**
4	**EPA Victoria Update on dust, noise and odour program** **(Daniel Hunt, Unit Manager Metro)**
5	**Response to Community Concerns (Ministers D'Ambrosio and Noonan)**
6	**Wrap up & Close**

The intent of these meeting notes is to promote open communication between local business, local and state government, community and EPA Victoria (EPA). They are not to be used in a manner that compromises this objective.

Notes from this meeting will be posted on the Brooklyn Industrial Precinct website and will be available to the public. Meeting participants should advise Andrea Mason or Jen Lilburn if they would like their name removed from this public document.

ACTIONS FROM THE MEETING

Action 161116_1:
EPA Victoria to confirm the dates when the air monitor failed for four days in 2015.

Action 161116_2:
Community members to approach EPA Victoria to discuss other options for dust monitoring closer to the industrial precinct.

ITEM 1.
WELCOME, (JEN LILBURN AND DAMIAN WELLS)

Jen Lilburn (Convenor) welcomed everyone to the BCRG forum, including Mayor John Hedditch, Cr Kim Thien Truong and Cr Sam David (Brimbank City Council), Cr Sandra Wilson, (Hobsons Bay CC), Cr Mia McGregor, (Maribyrnong City Council) and community representatives from Yarraville on the Nose and Brooklyn Residents Action Group, industry representatives and new meeting attendees.

Apologies included Nial Finegan, CEO EPA Victoria, and Mayor Catherine Cumming and Stephen Wall, CEO (Maribyrnong City Council).

Damian Wells, Executive Director Regional Services, EPA Victoria (EPA), welcomed Hon Wade Noonan and Hon Lily D'Ambrosio to the forum. He acknowledged Minister D'Ambrosio as being the first Minister of the Environment to attend BCRG in its eight years. He acknowledged Wade's long term commitment to Brooklyn and BCRG as the local Member for Williamstown and for enabling discussions between the many interested parties.

He stated that EPA has put a lot of resources since 2008 into the Brooklyn area in collaboration with the local councils and VicRoads. The story of Brooklyn is inspirational in terms of the extraordinary efforts of community members and the combined effort of agencies. However, there is still a lot more work to do.

The final notes from the July 2016 meeting are available from the Brooklynip website.

ITEM 2.
HON WADE NOONAN MP (MEMBER FOR WILLIAMSTOWN) AND HON LILY D'AMBROSIO MP (MINISTER FOR ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE AND MINISTER FOR SUBURBAN DEVELOPMENT)

Minister Noonan began by thanking Minister D'Ambrosio for attending the forum and welcomed the representatives from the 3 councils, EPA and VicRoads.

He spoke of the improvements he has seen since 2008 but agreed that there was still a lot to do. He noted that much of the successes were due to the BCRG model of engagement which provides a safe place for community, industry and governments to come together to receive reports, listen to concerns and develop plans together to address these long standing and unacceptable environmental and amenity issues in Brooklyn. He thanked Jen Lilburn and Andrea Mason for their efforts in supporting BCRG. He thanked the three councils for being part of this journey from the beginning and acknowledged the ongoing commitment and important work that EPA Victoria does.

In closing Minister Noonan thanked the enormous contributions from the community members who are the champions of this change process. Their resolve and ongoing commitment to future generations is outstanding.

Minister D'Ambrosio thanked everyone for the invitation to attend the BCRG forum and giving her the opportunity to hear to listen to and learn from the community regarding the impacts of dust, odour and noise in the area. The community expects further action and this information will help governments and their agencies plan to continue to improve the quality of life for residents and businesses in Brooklyn.

ITEM 3.
LIVING IN BROOKLYN (REFLECTIONS BY COMMUNITY MEMBERS, INTRODUCED BY BERT BOERE, PRESIDENT BROOKLYN RESIDENTS ACTION GROUP)

Bert Boere, President of Brooklyn Residents Action Group (BRAG), introduced three members of the community to provide first-hand accounts of the continued impacts these issues were having on those who live and work in the Brooklyn area.

Carmen Largaiolli, is a second-generation local resident whose family has lived in the area for over 60 years. Carmen described the issues as follows:

Pollution has been an issue in Brooklyn for decades. The EPA complaint register and all the other adopted avenues of objection are testament to the degree of impact this issue has had on community. The pollution that we've had to endure has come at an enormous cost to our community in terms of the affect it has had on our personal health, wellbeing and amenity.

Our voices weren't being heard when we complained through single channels, so we demanded that all stakeholders should meet at the same table for discussion. Hence the birth of BCRG back in 2007. Finally, there was formal acknowledgement that a significant problem existed in Brooklyn.

Whilst organisations promote their community engagement efforts, the community participation in this activity doesn't receive the recognition it deserves. The community has been the driver behind this effort towards stopping the pollution. We are essentially pseudo officers of the law, and an enormous strain has been placed on our personal lives.

There have been some achievements along the way. BCRG provided a pathway of hope for us: Local and state government authorities were finally collaborating with each other, with community and with industry. We made industry accountable – but this has been a long hard slog for the majority of issues.

The things that stand out the most are:

- Some businesses have been reluctant partners, making this journey more difficult for the remaining stakeholders.
- There seems to be a standard practice in the Brooklyn industrial zone where existing and incoming businesses appear to be ill prepared for the intended process, as made evident by the many Pollution Abatement Notices (PANs) and fines issued. Some operators just blatantly disregard the law.
- We've been victimised by unscrupulous planning practices of the past, and we need current authorities to step up to the mark and make amends.
- Also, the burden of proof has been an overwhelming hurdle, for both the community and authorities.
- Progress has been slowed by litigation and lengthy court cases.
- Community health and wellbeing has taken a back seat because planning legislation is given priority (a good example of this is existing use rights and the protection this provides to polluters) and issues take months or years to resolve. In the meantime, the community continues to be exposed and our health is further compromised.
- I'm not convinced there has been sufficient focus on health impacts to the community. The health department has merely provided data based on the whole of local government area and not honed in on Brooklyn.
- The pollution is still ever-present – dust, odour and noise. I don't want to know about PM10 exceedences averaged over 24 hours, because that covers a multitude of sins. I need to know how many times the standard is breached during the course of the day (hourly) and whether businesses are ceasing operations when that happens.
- The community is exhausted and many of us can't be bothered reporting issues to the authorities any longer.

- I wasn't expecting to be still attending BCRG meetings 9 years after its formation, but this is just a reflection that pollution is still a problem.
- We have a triangle of industrial activity that is very much incompatible to its surroundings, just 7.5kms from a major Australian capital city, smack bang in the middle of residential areas.

This is not the image I want or expect to see in 2016 Australia.

Figure 1 Brooklyn Oct 2016

Brian Long, local resident, conducted a survey within the residential area in Brooklyn. He randomly selected sixteen homes and asked the occupants the following six questions:

1. *Do you have any issues with odours and/or dust?*
2. *How does it affect you?*
3. *Have you ever expressed your concerns/complained?*
4. *Do you think the responsible authorities are doing enough (local council, State government, EPA)?*
5. *What would you like to see happen in the near future?*
6. *What action do you think should be taken to clean up the odours and the dust in the area?*

He received many 'colourful' responses which he has censored for presentation at the forum:

1. You're joking, right? Do you live here? Would you like to live in a shit hole? Ask our Council whether they would. They are doing nothing except talking – what a joke!
2. Why should the council or politicians care – they don't live here.
3. The industry should be made to toe the line and get their act together. The smells have dropped off a little bit. The dust and dirt is the worst. You can't leave windows open on windy days or leave washing out. Cars constantly need to be washed and there is more household cleaning. No-one cares -especially the council.
4. Given up complaining. EPA should start waving a big stick. Council only worry about rates, not residents. Politicians have no back bone. It's a case of Residents vs Big Business.

5. Given up complaining – a waste of time. No-one has been doing anything for years. Our rates remain high but our standards in the area re low. Road need to be repaired, foot paths etc.
6. The council should be supporting residents but all they seem to want is our money (rates). They are weak like the politicians. At least the EPA are trying.
7. I used to complain but for how long do you keep it up? The companies polluting should be told to abide by the law – or get out. The community health should be a major priority. In the near future, I would like to see the polluters gone.
8. The odours aren't so bad at the moment but the dust and dirt form the quarries is a big problem.
9. The dust seems to settle everywhere and we're always cleaning, especially the cars and house windows. I don't think the responsible authorities care because they don't live here and it's not affecting them.
10. I'm renting but looking for another place. We don't like the smells and the dust. It's annoying -especially in summer.
11. Always cleaning, always complaining. It's a smelly area – makes me sick. I have to close the window or go out. No-one takes any notice. I hope they go – they don't care about the law or the people. They ruin the area.
12. Huge issues with dust and odours. The affect it has is enormous day to day – it impacts on my health. I have continuously complained to the EPA and have become so tired and disillusioned with the whole process. The EPA trace the problems to the source but one large fine does not seem to deter the culprits.
13. These offenders should not be operating here – they should be gone. Our health is suffering – absolutely. Health is worse – I am an asthmatic. The smell is absolutely terrible. The only thing that has been achieved in 10 years or more is that I have gotten older.

Summary

- All the residents are affected by the dust and odours.
- All are disillusioned with the progress and believe that more should be done.
- All believe that the blame lies with the responsible authorities – EPA, councils and State government should be doing more to support the community and improve the amenity of the area.
- Everyone would like to see the businesses comply with modern day standards and conditions – or simply get out.
- These conditions should be enforced.

Figure 2 Ministers D'Ambrosio and Noonan listen to community concerns

Heather Humphreys, is a local resident has lived opposite the huge stockpiles in Brooklyn for twelve years. Heather used the images in Figure 3 to illustrate the impacts that dust is having on her personally.

- Health impacts particularly respiratory from the dust annually from September to November.
- Lifestyle impacts as residents should stay inside and keep windows closed from dust and odour.

- Damage to houses, windows and cars from dust which damages the duco on cars, ruins guttering and increases need to clean to protect assets from dust damage.
- Noise, vibrations, dust and fumes beginning at 3am from surrounding truck depots beginning their daily runs.
- Noise and odour from cattle fidgeting all night in trucks parked opposite residential areas.
- Noise from trucks speeding along Geelong Rd, doing U turns and changing gears. The speed limit should be reduced from 80 to 60km/h in the residential zones.
- Odour from industrial areas still has an impact.
- There is some improvement in air quality – we no longer get a sooty film over (e.g.) water bowls left outside.

Overall there are lots of little things that compound to a big issue.

At the July BCRG Tim Watts MP pointed out that the issue is related to larger PM10 particles and not the finer PM2.5 particles. Personally, the effects from dust are overwhelming and there has been no change.

Figure 3 Stockpiles visible from Geelong Rd and dirt accumulating around the house

Other community members supported Heather's comments regarding the amount and impacts of dust on their homes and lives.

COMMENT: ***New houses and units are being built in the area and councils are not informing the new residents of the issues. Units are being built so close to neighbours' fences that dust is washing off into their yards.***

QUESTION: It is common in the area for houses to be demolished to make way for new developments and in one case in Primula Ave the house was demolished in a single day using heavy equipment and no apparent care or regard for the removal of the asbestos sheeting. What are the rules for such demolitions and asbestos removal? The load was taken away in an open truck container.

STUART MENZIES, BCC Generally a building permit is required, which may be issued by a private consultant or council services. If it is a commercial job, then Worksafe is responsible for worker safety. If it is for an individual and there are offsite effects noticed, then it should be followed up with the Environmental Health office at council. Removal of asbestos over 10m2 in area requires engaging an approved asbestos removalist and notification of neighbours. Any breach should be reported.

MINISTER D'AMBROSIO There are further requirements regarding transportation of asbestos and it must be taken to a licenced receival site.

QUESTION: I have seen examples of heater removals which involve blue asbestos not being handled safely. Who do you ring immediately in these cases?

STUART MENZIES Contact your local council.

DANIEL HUNT, EPA Contact EPA if asbestos is not transported properly.

QUESTION: Is the demolition waste going to Sunshine Groupe landfill?

CHRISTIAN BUXTON, Sunshine Groupe: The waste should be going to a licenced landfill. There are four sites in the precinct who have together developed load inspection criteria to ensure asbestos is not being hidden in loads. The Sunshine Groupe landfill is not licenced to receive asbestos. We have strict processes in place to

monitor loads that come into the site and Workcover has been onsite to monitor our Construction & Demolition processes as this is an important issue for us.

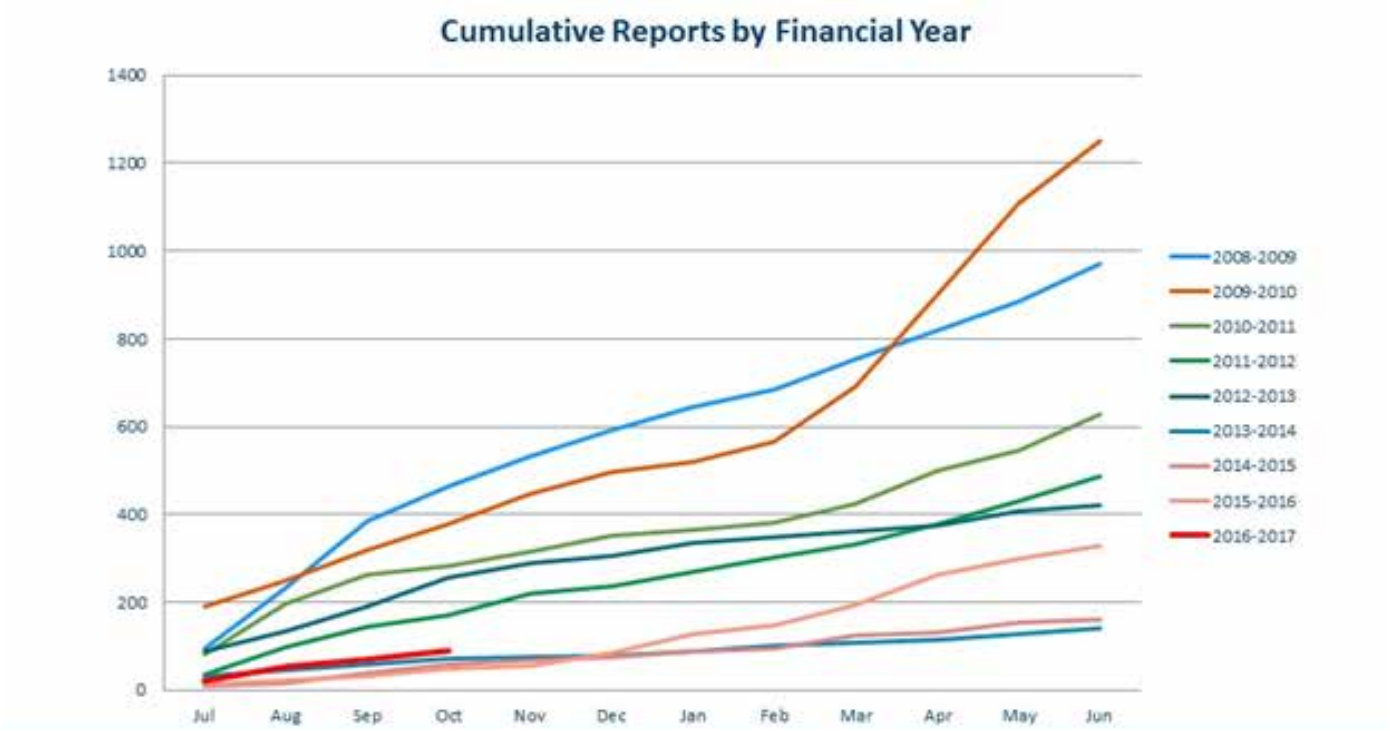
> ***After the meeting*** *EPA Victoria provided a study on the dust in the Brooklyn area from November 2010 to October 2011, published in two publications:*
>
> *http://www.epa.vic.gov.au/~/media/Publications/1443.pdf*
>
> *http://www.epa.vic.gov.au/~/media/Publications/1444.pdf*

ITEM 4.
EPA VICTORIA UPDATE ON DUST, NOISE AND ODOUR PROGRAM (DANIEL HUNT, UNIT MANAGER METRO)

The presentation can be seen in full in **Attachment 4**.

Daniel gave an update on odour, dust, and air quality monitoring for Brooklyn.

Odour Reports 2015/16

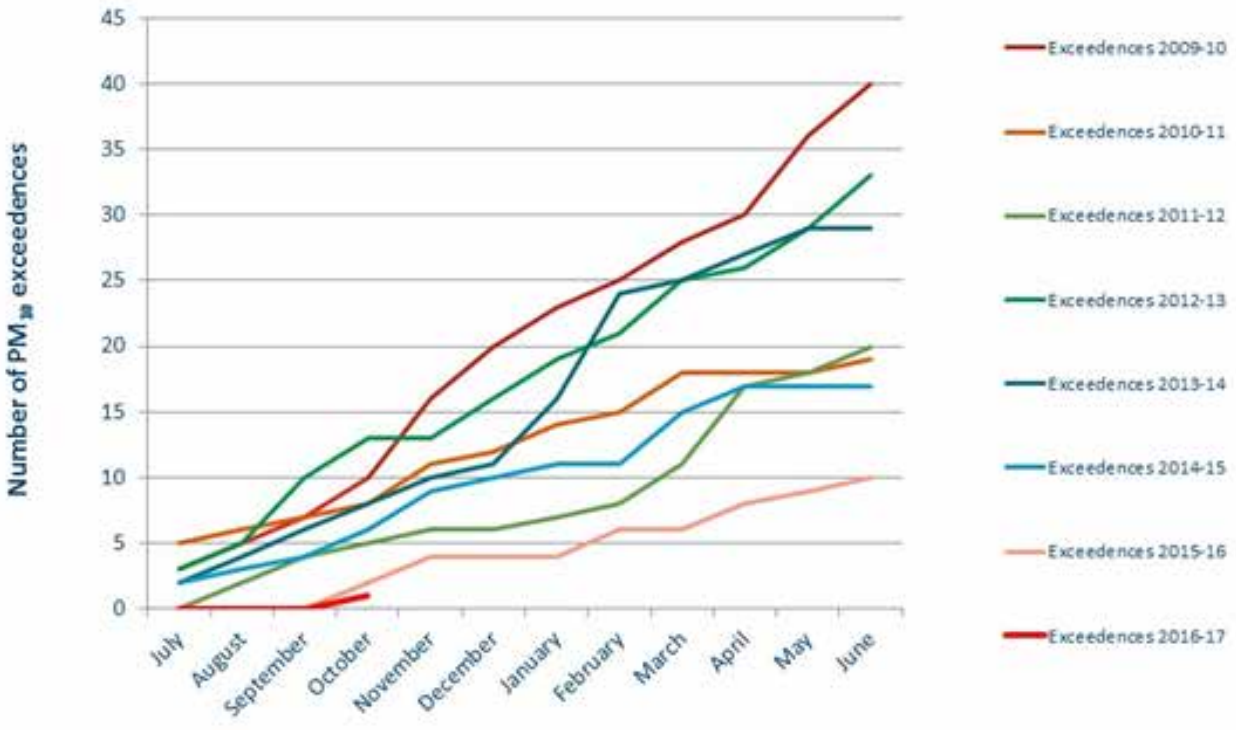


Actions on Odour

- One returning source: **JBS Australia** – Main odour sources confirmed by EPA officers are from cattle pen management. A new notice will be issued to have JBS explore options for odour management

- Two new sources:
  - **Western Land Reclamation**, source of odour hotspots in the waste mass (linked to general lack of rehabilitation), notices to be issued to address this issue.
  - **Alleged** new fertiliser source, previously had notices for stormwater management but EPA has identified a recent rise in reports of fertilizer odour in West Footscray.
- Works are continuing at Australian Tallow in a major upgrade of their premises

Dust Update



QUESTION: Wasn't there a period of four days including a bad wind day when the air monitor in Brooklyn wasn't working – this would affect the results shown?

EMMA ROPER, EPA That was over a year ago and that has been acknowledged in all reports to BCRG.

Action 161116_1: *EPA Victoria to confirm the dates when the air monitor failed for four days in 2015.*

Air Quality Update

- One exceedence so far this financial year occurred on Sunday (which is unusual) 9 October. It was a result of an extreme weather event where wind speeds reached up to 100 km across Melbourne. This is the only exceedence since May
- Rolling annual average is 9 exceedences, the lowest in a 12 month period since monitoring began.

COMMENT: ***Geelong Rd is the worst affected area and the residents there are on the front line of the dust. We are getting snowed in from dust coming from the stockpiles and from inside the sites due to the operations. EPA is not getting proper readings –the air monitor should be put on Federation Trail where it can measure the dust properly. The graphs presented at BCRG do not reflect reality.***

COMMENT: ***The community wants to know what dust is coming from the offending properties and have been asking for this for years. The businesses should keep the pollutants within their sites and it is the role of EPA and local government to enforce this.***

DANIEL HUNT There are various regulations available to EPA and council to have a role in enforcement. EPA needs sufficient evidence to make a legal argument for prosecution and the focus is on getting this data. Industry can appeal these actions any which is time consuming and costly.

COMMENT: ***To get the required proof the monitors need to be outside the offending properties now. One of the best locations is the Annunciation Primary School. Another is Federation Trail.***

DANIEL HUNT In 2008 EPA set up multiple monitors to test and decide where the best site for a permanent monitor would be. Community concerns were focussed on health impacts so it was decided to measure the dust impact in the residential area i.e. Brooklyn Reserve.

QUESTION: If the community can provide a sample of the dust from our gutters, can EPA analyse it?

DANIEL HUNT Yes, EPA can analyse the dust.

JEN LILBURN While the current monitoring station at Brooklyn Reserve has provided good results there are residents closer to the industrial area whose experience do not reflect the reports from the monitoring station as they are presented at BCRG.

DANIEL HUNT My team must continue to listen to the community and if the community feels there needs to be changes to the monitoring then we are prepared to discuss other options. We do acknowledge the ongoing difficulties with dust issues.

Action 161116_2: *Community members to approach EPA Victoria to discuss other options for dust monitoring closer to the industrial precinct.*

QUESTION: Where is the mobile monitoring unit? Can it be parked on Geelong Rd?

DANIEL HUNT The mobile monitoring unit was last used in early 2016 and the results were presented at the March 2016 BCRG forum.

DAMIAN WELLS The mobile unit isn't ideal for that type of monitoring. EPA needs to have a look at other options including multiple monitoring sites. In discussion with the scientists, we can consider the options using the Hazelwood fire experience as an example and make appropriate changes. There have been some wins in the area e.g. Jones Rd and Bunting Rd but we must continue the hard work to resolve this.

COMMENT: ***The local school has reduced student numbers. As you get closer to the monitoring station the dust quantity is less. The graphs presented at BCRG don't relate to reality for some of the community and they are feeling helpless.***

COMMENT: ***People are dying, moving away, their health has suffered -these are real stories of people on the front line.***

MATT WALSH, VicRoads The difficult question to resolve is how to determine what is a fair and reasonable for the whole community when there are extremes in individual experiences.

QUESTION: There is very obvious dust coming from stockpiles sites near Geelong Rd. Is it possible to enforce operators to install monitors on their own boundaries for dust - as seen in other areas of Melbourne?

DANIEL HUNT Yes, this can be done where the operation has a licence that can be enforced. Those with existing use rights are more challenging for EPA and councils to regulate.

COMMENT: ***BRAG has raised some of these issues through the EPA review.***

DANIEL HUNT It is important that the community knows that EPA staff are not giving ourselves a pat on the back. There have been many improvements but we come to these meetings to listen and discuss the issues and we judge our performance against the community's response. The scale of the issue in 2008 was huge. The data is still showing that there is an issue. Reporting events is essential to ongoing data collection and enforcement.

Air Quality Actions

- EPA dust operation in August 2016; Surveillance and inspection of dust controls of industrial sites in the precinct.
- Targeted inspections of 4 major sites: Chalmers (Francis Street), Hanson (Jones Road), Western Land Reclamation, Sims Metal Management (McDonald Rd)

16 Notices are currently in force for dust issues in Brooklyn.

2016 Inspections

EPA conducted 75 inspections in Brooklyn in 2016 including;

- Pollution Response: 18 Incidents, including dust, odour, fires, water and dumping
- Fire Sites Campaign: 14 inspections focussing on high risk fire sites (stockpiles and waste management)
- Odour Surveillance Campaign: 23 odour surveillance rounds focussing on identifying current odour sources in Brooklyn
- Dust inspections campaign: 12 inspections of dust sites including 3 surveillance operations

(EPA conducted approx. 1800 - 1900 inspections in the whole of Victoria)

2016 Notices

- EPA issued 16 Pollution Abatement Notices in Brooklyn in 2016 including 5 New Dust Notices, 3 New Odour Notices, 4 Relating to liquid containment, 4 Related solid waste management on fire sites

2016 Sanctions

- Two Official Warnings for dust related issues
- Two Penalty Infringement Notices: One related to odour and one related to dust
- Investigation current for a further odour event.

Collaboration with Council

- EPA continues to meet every 6 weeks with Brimbank to coordinate our compliance efforts.
- EPA provided technical advice for new planning controls on 3 high risk sites in Brooklyn, Sunshine Groupe, Delta and City Circle who are progressing with upgrading their sites.
- Conducted the high-risk fire sites campaigns with Council and MFB
- EPA is planning a further operation in 2017 focussing on the high-risk dust sites on Bunting Road.

QUESTION: Are any of the four major sites being targeted currently monitoring their boundaries or is that part of the discussion that EPA is having with the operators?

DANIEL HUNT The difficulty is with the licensing laws and so the discussions vary. EPA can ask anyone to monitor their boundaries 'with just cause' but without appropriate regulation and auditing it isn't necessarily effective. If the site is licenced, then proper regulation can be enforced. Councils can regulate sites if there is a permit but those with existing use rights are more difficult to enforce.

DAMIAN WELLS There are restrictions on what actions EPA can take. On licenced sites Pollution Abatement Notices are used to enforce action but less is possible on unlicensed sites.

COMMENT: ***How can it happen in these modern times that companies can pollute a whole suburb? The law must be changed. Residents are tired and EPA needs to 'get off your bums' and walk around where we live to see what is happening.***

DANIEL HUNT There are two tools for managing sites. An EPA license is required for industries with a high risk of creating an environmental impact e.g. landfills and abattoirs. The other is a council permit for other industries. However, there are still a few sites that do not a have a permit as they have been in operation for many years and have existing use rights.

The best results in enforcement have been when EPA has worked in collaboration with council and VicRoads. EPA does monitor these companies but to take action there needs to be sufficient proof of impacts in the residential areas. Where possible notices have been issued and companies have been force to seal their sites.

COMMENT: ***The existing use rights law is stopping action but these companies simply shouldn't be allowed to operate. Other sites with permits are also not complying and council is not enforcing these enough. Brooklyn needs all its sites sealed and the law changed to allow EPA to act.***

EMMA ROPER EPA has been investigating the best monitoring equipment to use but this is not all that is being done. It is understood that the dust is worse on Geelong Road. A lot of industries now have management plans in place and will stop work on windy days. EPA needs to continue to promote these strategies.

QUESTION: There have been dramatic improvements since Jones Rd and Bunting Rd have been sealed. Do we have goals for EPA to achieve?

DANIEL HUNT The EPA goal is for Brooklyn residents to enjoy the same quality air as the rest of Melbourne.

After the meeting: *During the first BCRG meeting of 2016 participants put together some targets for Brooklyn, which will help to reach that goal. The first progress report can be seen in* ***Appendix 1****.*

COMMENT: ***Two weeks ago, Brooklyn was featured on 3AW. The presenter stopped in Brooklyn and noticed a pervading smell of rubbish. A resident told the reporter that they live with this smell from the abattoir and tallow operation. None of the good things about Brooklyn were reported as the phones ran hot with complaints. New residents are not staying in Brooklyn!!***

After the meeting: *The link to the 3AW drive story on October 19 is as follows: http://m.3aw.com.au/news/your-town-3aw-drive-visits-brooklyn-20161019-gs5xt5.html*

1300 EPA VIC (1300 372 842) contact@epa.vic.gov.au

ITEM 5.
RESPONSE TO COMMUNITY CONCERNS (MINISTERS D'AMBROSIO AND NOONAN)

Minister Noonan acknowledged that there is still a lot more work to do in Brooklyn. However, he said that it is also important to recognise the improvements that have been achieved since 2008. When BCRG began, he had not envisaged that the number of exceedences would have been reduced as much as they have. In 2011, the State Government recognised the EPA Victoria report that stated that 23% of the dust was coming from unsealed roads – particularly Jones Rd and Bunting Rd. This was addressed with the $1.85M of State funding and $750,000 of Brimbank CC funding to seal those roads.

If there is a way to change the existing use rights issue, then we should try to fix it.

The evidence supports that improvements in conditions have been made, however there is an ongoing commitment from EPA and State Government to continue to address the issues in Brooklyn.

Minister D'Ambrosio thanked all the presenters for bringing these issues to her attention. She acknowledged the big gulf in trust that the community has with the government agencies despite the significant change. This change has come from the significant community drive. It is also fortunate that there is a very receptive local member in Wade who has enabled some changes through his role in government.

The community's anger, frustration and anxiety is understandable and the continued concerns are why BCRG is still well attended. Further detailed discussions are required with EPA about the issues and the EPA review should help guide significant changes that may be possible with a new EPA approach. It is acknowledged that EPA is working under laws that are no longer fit for purpose, no longer meet community expectations and that they are under resourced. The review of the EPA Act will help address these issues.

Brooklyn community members obviously care for their area and are committed to staying where they love. The government's role is to help achieve the necessary changes to improve the amenity of the area.

Although there are no answers that can be provided at the forum now, the government is working to produce the best modern laws to fill the gaps in the current system so that Brooklyn has air quality the same as others in the state.

JEN LILBURN The objective for inviting Minister D'Ambrosio was to ensure Brooklyn is high on the government's radar - not just that of EPA, and to drive changes to the constraints currently being experienced by EPA and councils.

BRUCE LIGHT (Yarraville on the Nose) thanked Minister D'Ambrosio for attending this BCRG forum and listening to the community presentations. He hoped she will come back again in the future. He also thanked Wade for being part of the long journey since BCRG began and his ongoing support.

CR MIA MCGREGOR (Yarraville Ward, Maribyrnong CC) has been appointed to represent council at BCRG. She lives on Francis St and welcomed the chance to meet with community on this issue.

MAYOR JOHN HEDDITCH (Brimbank CC) welcomed the chance to hear the community concerns and is keen to see EPA powers strengthened and changes to the existing use rights law. He confirmed council's commitment to working with the EPA.

MAYOR SANDRA WILSON (Cherry lake Ward, Hobson Bay CC) reminded the Ministers of the long-term impact that the Western Distributor may also have on this neighbourhood. HBCC is continuing discussions with Transurban and state government regarding this issue.

COMMENT: ***I am a younger resident and am here to stay. I am excited about the future and want to get involved in community projects.***

BCRG meeting dates for next year are Wednesday March 8, July 26 and November 15, 2017.

Meeting closed 8.25pm

Meeting Attendance Record – 16 November, 2016

36 people registered their attendance.

Name	Organisation	Name	Organisation
Andrea Mason	Executive Officer, BCRG	John Hedditch, Mayor	Brimbank City Council
Annette Patrick	BRAG	Kim Thien Truong, Cr	Brimbank City Council
Bert Boere	BRAG	Kristin Gilbert	Brimbank City Council
Bill Cole	Resident	Lily D'Ambrosio MP	Minister for Energy & Resources
Brian Long	BRAG	Malcolm Ramsay	Hobsons Bay City Council
Bruce Light	Yarraville On The Nose	Marg Scanlon	Hobsons Bay City Council
Carmen Largaiolli	Resident	Matt Walsh	VicRoads
Christian Buxton	Sunshine Groupe	Mia McGregor, Cr	Maribyrnong City Council
Daniel Hunt	EPA Victoria	Olga Ghiri	Cleanaway
Emma Roper	EPA Victoria	Ryan Thistlethwaite	Resident
Emily Wraight	Resident	Sam David, Cr	Brimbank City Council
Geoff Mitchelmore	Resident Altona North	Sandra Wilson Cr	Hobsons Bay City Council
Greg Murray	Cargill	Simon Vittorio	Brimbank City Council
Hannah Brown	Electoral Officer to Wade Noonan MP	Steven Fox	JBS Australia
Heather Humphreys	BRAG	Stuart Menzies	Brimbank City Council
Jan Cole	Resident	Tim Jessop	Cleanaway
Jen Lilburn	BCRG Chair	Tony Kairouz	Cedar Meats
Joe Coleiro	Cargill	Wade Noonan MP	Member for Williamstown

APOLOGIES	
Catherine Cumming, Mayor	Maribyrnong City Council
Chris Bydder	EPA Victoria
Helen Paterson	Containerspace
Nial Finegan	EPA Victoria
Stephen Wall	Maribyrnong City Council

APPENDIX 1 GOALS AND TARGETS 2016-2018

Theme What goal would you like to us (collectively) to work towards? Regarding this goal, what do you think can be achieved by the end of:

Theme	What goal would you like to us (collectively) to work towards?	Regarding this goal, what do you think can be achieved by the end of:		
		2016?	2017?	2018?
ODOUR	Odour sources within Brooklyn Industrial Precinct are minimised. Community members are more satisfied that EPA effectively responds to all odour complaints	1. EPA conducts a survey of odour sources. 2. 50% reduction in odour complaints compared with 2015. 3. EPA responds within 3 business days to reports. 4. Offending industries brought to compliance.	70% reduction in odour complaints compared with 2015. EPA responds within 3 business days to reports. Offending industries brought to compliance.	90% reduction in odour complaints compared with 2015. EPA responds within 3 business days to reports. Offending industries brought to compliance.
DUST	Dust levels are consistent with that for the rest of Melbourne and meeting National standards. Businesses operate according to modern-day standards.	5. Less than 5 dust exceedences. 6. Total compliance with EPA & Council permits & notices. 7. Discuss impediments in legislations with the Minister for Environment.	Less than 5 dust exceedences. Total compliance with EPA & Council permits & notices. New sites identified & targeted (for improvement). Commitments with timelines from Sunshine Groupe as to when stockpiles will be brought to contour levels.	Less than 5 dust exceedences. Total compliance with EPA & Council permits & notices. New sites identified & targeted (for improvement). Old Geelong Rd fully sealed (all the way) All verges maintained and vegetated throughout BIP.
BCRG MEETINGS	BCRG effectively operates as a collaborative forum bringing together government, industry and community to highlight air quality issues and discuss their minimisation.	8. Continued senior representation from Councils, EPA, VicRoads and industry. 9. Make efforts to encourage greater community participation. 10. Invite Lead West to attend BCRG.	Continued senior representation from Councils, EPA, VicRoads and industry. Make efforts to encourage greater community participation.	Continued senior representation from Councils, EPA, VicRoads and industry. Make efforts to encourage greater community participation.

Progress towards goals at November 2016

Goals (odour):

Odour sources within Brooklyn Industrial Precinct are minimised.

Community members are more satisfied that EPA effectively responds to all odour complaints

Targets	Progress at 2016 (provided by EPA Victoria)
1. EPA conducts a survey of odour sources.	1. EPA conducted a survey of odour sources from May-June 2016.
2. 50% reduction in odour complaints compared with 2015.	2. Odour reports increased, in 2015 we had 169, this year (to October) we've had 312.
3. EPA responds within 3 business days to reports.	3. Latest result showed that for 93% of all pollution reports received by EPA in the month of October were responded to within three days.
4. Offending industries brought to compliance.	4. Notices were issued to Australian Tallow, Western Land and JBS for odour issues in 2016.

Goals (dust):

Dust levels are consistent with that for the rest of Melbourne and meeting National standards.

Businesses operate according to modern-day standards.

Targets	Progress at 2016 (provided by EPA Victoria)
5. Less than 5 dust exceedences.	5. Dust exceedences in 2015 were 11; we have had 7 so far this year.
6. Total compliance with EPA & Council permits & notices.	6. We have had non-compliances with EPA notices and licences this year which resulted in the issue of 2 official warnings and 2 PINs in 2016.
7. Discuss impediments in legislations with the Minister for Environment.	7. Review of Environment Protection Act will address flaws in current legislation.

Goals (BCRG)

BCRG effectively operates as a collaborative forum bringing together government, industry and community to highlight air quality issues and discuss their minimisation.

Targets	Progress at 2016 (incorporating 3 BCRG meetings)
8. Continued senior representation from Councils, EPA, VicRoads and industry.	8. **March, July and November 2016** • 3 EPA Update Presentations on Dust, Noise and Odour Program. Representation from CEO, Managers and staff. • 2 Brimbank City Council presentations regarding works program. Representation from Administrator, Directors and Managers. New Mayor and 2 Councillors attended November. • 1 Hobsons Bay City Council presentation on Brooklyn Reserve upgrade. Representation from 2 Councillors and Coordinators. • Maribyrnong City Council representation from CEO and Councillors • 1 Sustainability Victoria Update (Statewide Waste and Resource Recovery Infrastructure Plan) • 2 Industry Group Presentations: Sunshine Groupe • 2 Panel sessions – including EPA, BCC, HBCC, MCC and industry representatives
9. Make efforts to encourage greater community participation.	9. The BCRG Facebook page was launched in July 2015 and has slowly but steadily grown in popularity. It has 105 likes (at 3/11/16), and posts regularly achieve more than 150 reaches, peaking at 740 for a post relating to an EPA report on dust in June 2016. New faces have begun to attend BCRG as a result. There are now 253 people on the BCRG database, receiving an update on average every 2 weeks. Community participants at BCRG meetings totalled 9 in March, 15 in July and 11 in Nov.
10. Invite Lead West to attend BCRG.	10. Craig Rowley (CEO LeadWest) has been on the database for several years and has observed BCRG achievements. Neither Craig nor his sole employee have been able to attend meetings due to clashes.

KISMET FORWARD

FACILITATING BETTER DECISIONS