

# Remediation, Operation & Monitoring, Community Working Group AGENDA Meeting 5 – Ampol Kurnell Tour Site 25 November 2022



<b>Project</b>	Remediation, operation and monitoring, Community Working Group (CWG)	<b>Date</b>	25 November 2022
<b>Venue</b>	Ampol Fuel Terminal, 2 Solander Street, Kurnell Training Facility – SOB meeting room 7	<b>Time</b>	4:00pm – 6:30pm
<b>Purpose</b>	Meeting 5 CWG: Ampol Kurnell Tour Site		
<b>Attendees</b>	<i>Isabelle Moss, Chair (WSP)</i> <i>Robyn Heagney, resident</i> <i>Brett Lobwein, resident</i> <i>Sarah-Jo Lobwein, resident</i> <i>Joanne Oldfield, resident</i> <i>Rob Stanley-Jones, resident &amp; President, Kurnell Progress and Precinct Residents' Association</i> <i>David Peninton, National Operations Manager, Ampol</i> <i>Damien Davidson, Remediation Specialist, Ampol</i> <i>James Farhart, Project Manager, Ampol</i> <i>Daniel Scully, Community Relations, Ampol Kurnell</i> <i>Beatrice Hobson, CWG Secretariat (WSP)</i>	<b>Apologies</b>	<i>Cr Leanne Farmer, Sutherland Shire Council</i> <i>David Zaharija, resident</i> <i>Helen Stanley, Community Relations, Ampol</i> <i>Dr Nivari Jayasinghe, Principal Environmental Scientist, Contaminated Land Management (WSP)</i>
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<p><i>Stakeholders to receive minutes:</i>  <i>Leanne Mariani, Sutherland Shire Council</i></p>			
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**Tour handouts:** Tour overview pack, tour route map, wastewater treatment plant map, oily water system map, stormwater system map

Item	Notes/actions
<p>Welcome</p> <p><i>As CWG members arrived at the meeting room, they were provided with PPE equipment for the Site Tour.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The meeting commenced at 4:15pm at the meeting room.</li> <li>- The Chair welcomed all and gave an Acknowledgement of Country.</li> <li>- The Chair noted apologies from Leanne Farmer, David Zaharija, Helen Stanley and Nivari Jayasinghe.</li> <li>- The Chair provided an overview of the tour and the aim of the tour. The aim was to provide CWG members with an understanding of how the terminal operates. This included being able to identify the works linked to the remediation program (incident, refinery and ongoing) and differentiate between stormwater and oily water systems.</li> <li>- David provided a safety briefing specific to being on the terminal site, leaving the office environment.</li> </ul> <p><i>CWG members left the meeting room to board the bus before commencing the Site Tour at 4:40pm. CWG Secretariat provided a folder to the CWG members as they boarded the bus that included a tour overview pack, the tour route map, the wastewater treatment plant map, the oily water system map and the stormwater system map.</i></p>	

## Stop 1 – Waste Water Treatment Plant

*The bus stopped at Stop 1 where the CWG members exited the bus and followed the escorts David and Damien to the oily water separators.*

- Damien explained that the Waste Water Treatment Plant takes oily water from the tank bunds, it then separates the oily layer and sludge from the water. The water is then treated to remove any hydrocarbon. The water is then tested prior to being released into the ocean.
- A CWG member asked how many sets of separators Ampol has.
- Damien replied that the separators at the Waste Water Treatment Plant were the ones for oily water from the oily water sewer and there are other separators for stormwater.
- David explained that there is a bund which surrounds the Waste Water Treatment Plant to contain any water that overflows. The bund is made of compact road base.
- A CWG member asked whether the vents in the separators contain any residue which needs to be cleaned.
- David explained that the vents do not have any residue.
- Another CWG member asked if the pipes that exist on the site are temporary.
- David explained that the pipes are permanent and have always been used to remove water from the site. He explained that on the night of the incident, the pipes were overrun. David explained that Jim is currently adding pumps in other areas of the site to stop water from reaching the height it did on the night of the incident.
- Damien explained that Ampol is not relying on one solution to stop water from overflowing but a number of solutions.
- A CWG member asked if the pumps were a manual system.
- David explained that there are fixed pumps that are automated, with additional manual pumps to remove excess water if required.
- A CWG member asked if Ampol has had to manually pump water out since the event.
- David commented that they had not needed to manually pump water out since the event. As an example, Kurnell had experienced around 200mm in July on one weekend and Ampol had not needed to manually pump out water.

*The CWG members boarded the bus and the bus progressed to Stop 2.*

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## Stop 2 – Stormwater Retention Basin

*The bus stopped at Stop 2 where the CWG members exited the bus and followed the escorts Damien and David to the Stormwater Retention Basin.*

- Damien explained that the pond collects stormwater from the site, and from there a pipe drains the water and directs it to the stormwater separators. The separators remove any oil from the stormwater however as it is a standard stormwater drain, there is not any more oil than a normal roadway with oil from cars. Damien explained that on the 7<sup>th</sup> of April during the incident, the pond filled up.
  - David explained that since the incident, Ampol have put in a pump which will pump excess water into a tank that Ampol are not using.
  - A CWG member asked whether the depth marker signs measured the height of the water on the night of the event.
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- David replied that the signs measuring water level had been put in post the event. The signs can be used to trigger the pump once the water reaches a certain level.
- A CWG member asked whether Ampol's EPA license requires them to check the clean stormwater which is released.
- David replied that Ampol samples at the Stormwater Basin and at Gate 5 to ensure the water is free of hydrocarbons.
- A CWG member asked if the Stormwater Basin omits odour.
- Damien replied that the odour study sampled the Stormwater Basin and found it did not omit significant odour.

*The CWG members boarded the bus and the bus progressed to Stop 3.*

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### Stop 3 - Geobags

*The bus stopped at Stop 3 and the CWG members remained on the bus, observing the geobag area from the bus while David gave an overview of the area.*

- David explained how the geobags were used to store hydrocarbon wastes during the conversion of the refinery into a terminal. The geobags have now been removed leaving empty areas of land.
- A CWG member asked whether vegetation could be planted in the unused area.
- David explained that the masterplan is looking into the long-term use of this land but it requires careful consideration due to the potential increased risk of fire and snakes.

*The bus progressed to Stop 4.*

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### Stop 4 – Landfarm

*The bus stopped at Stop 4 where the CWG members exited the bus and followed the escorts David and Damien to the edge of the Landfarm.*

- Damien explained that the Landfarm was used to support the refinery operations and then supported the conversion of the site from a refinery to a terminal. The Landfarm is now no longer in use and Ampol are in the process of closing the Landfarm. Stage one of closing the Landfarm was removing all the waste material. This is classified by NSW EPA waste guidelines as hazardous waste – this relates to its suitability to be placed in landfill or reused, not the human health risk of the waste. The disposal process is slow because Ampol must ensure waste is transported to a facility that can manage the waste, without needing to stockpile the material for an extended time. The material must be treated before being reused. Ampol are planning to complete removal of the landfarm waste in the next year.
  - A CWG member asked if workers require PPE to work at the Landfarm.
  - Damien explained that the risk of exposure to chemicals is low because workers do not come into direct contact with the waste as they wear shoes and do not eat the soil. The PPE required is for the operation of machinery in this area.
  - A CWG member asked if the waste could become airborne when the material dries.
  - Damien explained that because of the waxy nature of the material we have not experienced any issues with dust.
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- A CWG member commented that Ampol should provide clearer information to the community about when odours may occur. For example, warning the community that if it rains the Landfarm may omit odour, this will allow the community to better understand why odour occurs on certain days.

*The CWG members boarded the bus and the bus progressed to Stops 5 and 6.*

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*The bus stopped at Stops 5 and 6 and the CWG members exited the bus and followed the escorts Damien and David to the National Park Inflow.*

#### Stop 5 and 6 – National Park Inflow

- Damien showed the CWG members where water from the national park flows onto Ampol's site. At the time of the tour, stormwater flow was very low.
- Damien explained how treated water from Ampol flows out into the ocean at Yena Gap.
- A CWG member asked at what depth the water flows out.
- The depth was unknown.
- A CWG member asked about the other pipes which flow out at Yena Gap.
- Damien commented that Ampol only has one outflow pipe, a second pipe previously existed at Tabbagai Gap but was decommissioned during site demolition works.
- A CWG member asked if the National Park has regulations for Ampol around this outflow pipe.
- David replied that the National Park requires a line walk every 6 months of the pipe.

*The CWG members boarded the bus and the bus progressed to Stop 7.*

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#### Stop 7 - Stormwater Drain

*The bus stopped at Stop 7 and the CWG members exited the bus and followed the escorts Damien and David to the Stormwater Drain.*

- Damien explained how the water captured in the Stormwater Drain is National Park water. There is a slight odour that comes from the drain from the National Park. Bacterial action creates hydrogen sulphide which has a 'rotten egg' like odour.
  - A CWG member commented that it would have been useful during the odour exercise to smell the stormwater drain odour compared to the sulphur odour.
  - Damien commented that they attempted to capture the stormwater odour however found it hard to capture. He explained that the Wharf Drain study sampled at the Stormwater Drain and the results will show what is present in the storm water. The study is ongoing and is expected to be finalised at the end of January.
  - A CWG member asked if a deodoriser could be used to minimise the odour of the Stormwater Drain.
  - Damien replied that hydrogen sulphide is a naturally occurring and widespread odour in Kurnell and covering such odours could be difficult.
  - A CWG member asked if the drain had been tested for the presence of hydrocarbons.
  - Damien replied that the drain had been tested as part of the ongoing Wharf Drain study.
  - A CWG member asked where the drain water comes from.
  - Damien replied that the drain comes from the National Park.
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- A CWG member observed that they could smell both a rotten vegetation smell and a diesel smell.
- Damien commented that the wharf drain study will confirm if there are any fuel contaminants in the water.
- Damien noted that at Gate 5 the Stormwater Drain, WSP have monitors for hydrocarbons and hydrogen sulphide as part of the Wharf Drain study.
- A CWG member asked whether you become unable to identify an odour if you are exposed to it often.
- Damien explained that the odour experts clarified that you become better at distinguishing and identifying smells when you are more familiar with them.
- A CWG member asked whether Ampol is confident that there is no contamination of the Stormwater Drain as there is no odour at the National Park Inflow.
- Damien replied that we will have to await the results from the Wharf Drain study.
- Jim explained how anything that leaks from the tanks is contained in the Bund which then drains to the oily water sewer system. Nothing contained in the Bund, by definition, can reach stormwater.
- David explained how you can test the efficacy of the Bund by sealing it and testing it to see if anything escapes. He explained that when it rains the bund valve is closed and the efficacy can be confirmed as the bund will hold water.
- A CWG member asked how much volume the Bund holds.
- Daniel replied that the Bund holds 120% of the volume of the tank.

*The CWG members boarded the bus and the bus progressed to Stop 8.*

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#### Stop 8 – Gate 5 Stormwater Separators

*The bus stopped at Stop 8 and the CWG members exited the bus and followed the escorts Damien and David to the Gate 5 Stormwater Separators.*

- Damien explained that the Stormwater Separators filter the water that comes through in the same way as the Stormwater Basin. He noted that the monitoring of odour as part of the Odour study is also occurring at Gate 5.
- A CWG member asked whether the complaints made about odour will be used to inform the study.
- Damien replied yes.
- A CWG member asked why there was odour even though the water was fast flowing.
- Damien replied that one of the theories regarding the odour is that during high tide, sand builds up and clogs the pipe causing a build-up of water and odour.
- Another CWG member noted that the odour is different to previous odours they have identified at the mangroves, they noted that their perception is that the smell is not purely sulphur.
- Daniel asked a CWG member if they have seen an oily water sheen at the wharf drain before.
- The CWG member replied that they have seen an oily water sheen at the drain once.

*The CWG members boarded the bus and the bus progressed back to the departure point.*

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Close: actions and next meeting – date/time

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- The Chair asked CWG members how they found the tour.
- The CWG members gave positive feedback about the tour noting that they thought it was a worthwhile exercise.
- The Chair noted that the next meeting will be on Tuesday the 6<sup>th</sup> of December for the Validation Report.
- The tour concluded at 6:42pm.

*The bus arrived back at the departure point at 6:42 when the tour concluded.*

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