

Remediation, Operation & Monitoring, Community Working Group

Meeting Minutes – meeting 2

3 August 2022



Project	Remediation, operation and monitoring, Community Working Group (CWG)	Date	3 August 2022
Venue	Ampol Fuel Terminal, 2 Solander Street, Kurnell Training Facility – SOB meeting room 7	Time	6.30pm-8.00pm
Purpose	Meeting 2 CWG		
Attendees	<i>Isabelle Moss, Chair (WSP)</i> <i>Robyn Heagney, resident</i> <i>Sarah-Jo Lobwein, resident</i> <i>Brett Lobwein, resident</i> <i>Joanne Oldfield, resident</i> <i>Rob Stanley-Jones, resident & President, Kurnell Progress and Precinct Residents' Association</i> <i>David Zaharija, resident</i> <i>Cr Leanne Farmer, Sutherland Shire Council</i> <i>David Peninton, National Operations Manager, Ampol</i> <i>Damien Davidson, Remediation Specialist, Ampol</i> <i>James Farhart, Project Manager, Ampol</i> <i>Ella Burgess, CWG secretariat (WSP)</i>	Apologies	<i>Dr Nivari Jayasinghe, Principal Environment Scientist, Contaminated Land Management (WSP)</i>
	<p>-----</p> <p><i>Observers</i> <i>Helen Stanley, Community Relations – Ampol</i> <i>Daniel Scully, Community Relations - Ampol</i> <i>Stakeholders to receive minutes/agenda:</i> <i>Leanne Mariani, Sutherland Shire Council</i></p>		

Item	Actions/Notes
Welcome	
- The meeting commenced at 6:31pm.	
- The Chair welcomed all and gave an Acknowledgement of Country.	
- The Chair noted apologies from Dr Nivari Jayasinghe, and welcomed new CWG members.	
- The Chair noted the newly appointed community relations manager for Kurnell, Daniel Scully as an observer.	
- David Peninton outlined the safety procedure on site in case of an emergency.	
- The Chair outlined the agenda of the meeting and provided a recap of the Inaugural Remediation CWG meeting.	
- The Chair outlined the structured pathway for the CWG. For each meeting, the CWG may wish to email questions or issues prior to the meeting to be included for the planned meeting topic.	
- The Chair reminded the CWG group of the importance to stay on topic and address topics within Ampol's scope.	
An overview of the proposed CWG pathway is provided below:	
- CWG 1: establishing the CWG – has occurred	
- CWG 2: Ampol Kurnell operations – today (3 August 2022)	

- CWG 3: Odour (part 1): broad study, initial outcomes of the broader odour study – 6 September 2022
 - CWG 4: Odour (part 2): Wharf drain study – 5 October 2022
 - CWG 5: Validation Report – 1 November 2022
 - CWG 6: Ecological Risk Assessment and Ecological Study – 29 November 2022.
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Main highlights of existing operations and set up of terminal

David gave an overview of the history of Ampol in Kurnell and noted the primary purpose of Ampol's presence in Kurnell is to import, quality check and distribute oil around Australia.

- 1936 – Australian Motorists Petrol Company (AMP) was incorporated
- 1956 – Kurnell Refinery site was opened
- 2013 – Kurnell Refinery site commences conversion to an import terminal, this was a \$250 million project
- 2014 – Ampol Kurnell Refinery closes
- 2019 – Kurnell Refinery demolition completed. Two pieces of the plant remain in order to treat jet fuel and wastewater in the treatment plant
- 2030 – Estimated completion of Refinery remediation “heavy lifting”
- 2030 onwards - Remediation monitoring & management program

David gave an overview of the Kurnell terminal impact

- Ampol Kurnell is one of the largest fuel import terminals in Australia
- Ampol Kurnell supply 35% of retail fuel in NSW
- 200m litres of fuel is sent to QLD and SA
- 73% of fuel received at the terminal is supplied to Sydney Airport
- Fuel received at Ampol Kurnell refuels 125,000 cars and 15,000 semi-trailers per day

David outlined the process of receiving and distributing fuel at the terminal

- Likely fuel demand is predicted, and traders source supply from markets in Singapore
- Fuel is transferred from ships to one of 35 dedicated tanks which are dedicated to a specific product eg. gasoline, diesel or jet fuel.
- Water draws are completed, which are needed due to condensation, rainwater etc.
- When the water has been drawn off, it is then sent to the wastewater treatment plant
- The oil will then undergo multiple quality checks to make sure its appearance and density are correct
- The oil then receives schedule planning to plan where it will be sent to eg. Banksmeadow etc.

David gave an overview of the wastewater treatment process

- The wastewater treatment plan on site treats the majority of wastewater drawn from the tanks.
 - The wastewater is then treated.
 - The treated water is closely monitored and must meet strict EPA license criteria prior to being released into the ocean.
 - Quality tests are taken of the water as per the license criteria. These tests are completed by an independent laboratory.
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Areas of interest – terminal and operations in more detail

Damien gave an overview of the stormwater system onsite

- There are two systems that drain rainwater at the Kurnell terminal

Ampol to provide the CWG with a more recent image of the landfarm.

1. Oily water sewer that drains tank bunds and waste areas
 2. Stormwater system
- The Kurnell terminal stormwater system drains rainwater from areas of the site and national park, excluding tank bunds and waste storage areas. The stormwater is directed to:
 - o North – wharf drain
 - o Central – Quibray Bay/ Morton Park
 - o South – Sir Joseph Banks Drive stormwater channel then Quibray
 - Stormwater from residential areas is directed to Morton Park, Quibray Bay and Botany Bay.

Damien gave an overview of the catchments on site at the Kurnell terminal.

Northern and eastern catchments

- Receive significant water from the national park
- Stormwater is directed north then west to gate 5 separators
- Water discharge at wharf stormwater outlet
- A CWG member asked if Polo Street in Kurnell would receive any runoff from Ampol.
- Damien confirmed that Polo Street does not receive any runoff from Ampol.
- Damien confirmed that the tank bund areas drain to the oily water system which is separate to the stormwater system.

Central catchments

- Drains former office and process unit areas.
- Stormwater is directed west into a stormwater retention basin, then to separators and finally to Quibray Bay.

The southern catchment area is located in a redundant area of the site.

Damien gave an overview of the tank contents in the Kurnell terminal

- The tanks on site separately store fire water, unleaded petrol, jet fuel and diesel.
- The oily water system is separate from the stormwater system.
- Water captured in the bunds goes to the oily water system.
- Damien confirmed to a CWG member that Ampol did increase the size of the bunds around the separators following the April flood event

Damien provided an overview of the geobags onsite.

- Damien noted that the geobags are often referred to as black bags by local residents.
- They are used for dewatering, removing the water out of the sludge-like material within the geobags. The geobags are used widely throughout numerous industries.
- During the conversion of the terminal from a refinery, there was significant use on site in specially prepared bunded areas to dewater tank bottom contents,
- Damien noted the geobags were put in place in phases to complete the dewatering process. When the water has been removed from the geobags the bags are split and the material inside the bags is removed and processed.
- David confirmed to the CWG that the bunds surrounding the area are there to drain oily water.

Damien gave an overview of what the landfarm is

- The landfarm is designed to bioremediate contaminated soil which can be reused or to provide better disposal options if the material needs to be taken off site.
- Bioremediation is a process where naturally occurring micro-bacteria in the soil are used to break down contaminants.

- The process of landfarming is: 1. Soils are placed in thin layers and regularly turned, 2. Nutrients may be added to aid bacterial processes.
- The process of landfarming reduced hydrocarbon concentrations in soils so they can be disposed of off-site.
- Damien responded to a question from the CWG that the materials found in the landfarm are a mixture of refined and unrefined materials.
- A CWG member asked if there are still hard metals from the refinery on site.
- Damien responded that there are not hard metals from the refinery still on site, they were sold and taken off site.
- ACTION: Ampol to provide the CWG with a more recent image of the landfarm.
- A CWG member asked if anything from the landfarm leached out during the night of 7 April
- Damien confirmed that because they always have the drain from the landfarm shut, it was not possible for anything to escape. The drain is only opened when specialist supervision is there to oversee the drain. Damien also noted that the team onsite are confident it will not overflow with regular checking, maintenance and supervision.
- A CWG member asked how the team would know the state of the liner under the landfarm.
- Damien responded that adjacent groundwater testing was undertaken and that following removal of the landfarm material, testing would be done beneath the liner.
- A CWG member asked how the landfarm previously worked without the geobags. They asked how long the material took to dry out.
- Damien noted that the material was mounded up, hence this was not an efficient process as it took between 6 months to a year to dry out. Coconut coir is used to enhance the drying process.
- A CWG member asked if it is possible for community members to go on a tour of the landfarm. They also noted that it is concerning the landfarm has not been managed well in past.
- Damien noted that past management of the landfarm allowed for drying / mounding of the material. This allowed rainwater to fall on the landfarm and keep the material wet. The wet material cannot be readily disposed off-site until it is dry.
- A CWG member asked if the landfarm was just used for the decommissioning of the refinery.
- Damien noted that the landfarm had been on the site since 1996 and supported refinery operation as well as conversion.
- David commented that there cannot be any leakage from the landfarm as one of the first actions Ampol takes when there is wet weather is to close all the bunds to store the water and control the release of the water post the wet weather event.
- A CWG member asked which separator caused the incident on 7 April.
- David noted it was the oily water separator. David also confirmed that the two different separators are located in different locations on the site.
- A CWG member asked how many booms interact with the stormwater
- David responded that 1 boom interacts with the stormwater.
- A CWG member asked what is left in the separators after the refined product was splits.
- David responded that when you do a water draw, the youngest sediment is mixed with the product that is being extracted. The tanks on site are free venting, anything that is in the air will get sucked in and will settle in the tank. It is what is getting sucked in that is ending up in the separators that the processing process is trying to treat.
- A CWG member commented that when the bunds are opened after wet weather events, they often smell even when it has not been raining. The odour is seemingly random and what the odour study will be aiming to find out.
- A CWG member asked if there is any way to control the seepage from the landfarm.

- Damien noted that it is controlled via the clay liner and the regular testing.
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Close

- The next meeting is tentatively set for 6 September 2022.
 - The meeting closed at 7:56pm.
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