



Manildra Group

100% Australian Owned

Postal Address:
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SHOALHAVEN MILLING COMPANY - MANILDRA MILLS PTY. LTD - MANILDRA STARCHES PTY. LTD. - MANILDRA SUGARS
SHOALHAVEN STARCHES PTY. LTD. - TASMAN STARCHES PTY. LTD. MANILDRA STOCKFEEDS PTY. LIMITED
NAMOI FLOUR MILLS PTY. LIMITED - HOOKERS MILK PRODUCTS PTY. LTD. - MANILDRA MILLING
CORPORATION U.S.A.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION COMMITTEE

MEETING 10.00AM

WEDNESDAY, 3 MAY 2006

MANILDRA ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING CONFERENCE ROOM

BOLONG ROAD, BOMADERRY

AGENDA

1. Apologies.
2. Business Arising from Previous Minutes.
3. Progress Report on the Wastewater and Solids Removal from the Ponds.
4. Review of Community Complaints.
5. Quarterly VOC and Odour Monitoring.
6. Comments and suggestions from the Community on the environmental performance.
7. General Business.



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MINUTES

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD IN THE MANILDRA GROUP ADMINISTRATION MEETING ROOM

WEDNESDAY, 3 MAY 2006

Present

Peter Courtney	Chairperson
Phil McKenzie	Community Representative Backforest Road
Peter Watts	Community Representative Backforest Road
Col Shepherd	Community Representative Terara
Julian Shepherd	Community Representative Terara
----- Rod McGhee -----	----- Community Representative ----- Terara -----
Fred Mance	Community Representative Nowra
Pam Mance	Community Representative Nowra
Janette Apperley	Community Representative Bomaderry
Tom Geczy	Consultant Manildra Group
Brian Hanley	Manildra Group Manager
Stephen Thompson	Manildra Group Farm Manager
Scott Foggo	Manildra Group Environment and Technical Manager
Glenys Lugg	Manildra Group Environmental Scientist

1. Apologies

Peter Tallent	Manildra Group Chief Chemist
Ian Chalmers	Community Representative Terara Area
Alf Taylor	Community Representative Meroo Meadow

MEETING

1. The Chairperson advised the meeting that he had received a letter from Phil McKenzie raising points which would be discussed under General Business.

The Chairperson asked for additional items to be added to the agenda:

Phil McKenzie advised he had a statement prepared that he wished to present to the meeting.

Julian Shepherd advised that she had a noise issue she would like investigated.

- The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true and correct record.

2. **Business Arising from Previous Minutes.**

There were no action items identified from the previous meeting.

Reports would be required from Manildra in relation to the DDGS Cooling System and the final Manly Hydraulics Laboratory Report for river release of reclaimed water.

3. **Progress Report on the Wastewater and Solids Removal from the Ponds.**

Manildra advised that the weather had been very dry, irrigation was continuing and the ponds were lower than last April 2005 due to the continuing dry weather.

The content of the ponds was described to the new members and advised that Pond 4 was being irrigated at a ratio of about 30% washdown water to 70% condensate.

4. **Review of Community Complaints**

Manildra advised that complaints from DEC are now received on a monthly basis rather than every day. It is important for complainants to describe the odour characteristic being observed. No noise complaints have been received this year and there were only one or two received last year.

5. Quarterly VOC and Odour Monitoring

Manildra advised that the Stephenson Environmental Management Australia monitors potential odour sources from the factory and pond area on a quarterly basis. Each graph shows the number of odour units. The odour units are usually higher in the summer months. The latest report from Stephenson Environmental Management Australia was presented to the meeting.

Phil McKenzie asked if any monitoring was performed around the perimeter of the farm.

Manildra advised that monitoring took place at the point sources.

Warren Priest asked if Manildra had notification when the monitoring would take place and if the odour levels are falling according to the graphs why are the odours so frequent in the area.

Manildra advised that they are advised when the monitoring is going to take place.

Janette Apperley asked why do odours start quickly and stop. She advised that the smell lingers in the house and is gone by the time it is investigated.

Manildra advised that irrigators are running 6-10 hours and advised that the reason odours don't last could be due to wind direction. Odour clouds form in still conditions and are moved by the wind.

There are several potential odour sources in the Nowra/Bomaderry area which come and go.

6. Comments and suggestions from the Community of the environmental performance of the development.

Col Shepherd advised that there had been extremely bad odours over the weekend and asked if it was coming from the storage of the product or from the making of the product

Manildra advised that the odour could come from the shed containing the stock pile of DDGS. The stock pile is emptied on a daily basis and the cooled product will not have an odour and the shed doors will be shut.

Janette Apperley commented that her understanding is that the only thing that produces odour is bacteria. She asked that if the odours are being caused by bad bacteria are there any known health implications.

Manildra advised that tests had been conducted which showed there was no harm to people. Manildra advised that the wastestreams have a lower pH with the condensate being sterile. The pH is dropped so that it can be stored to stop

bacterial growth and the pH is increased for irrigation. Hydrated lime is used to correct the pH.

Peter Watts commented that if the protein has been taken out of the water the irrigation system is supposed to be non-smelling.

Manildra advised that the condensate water cannot be reused in the plant because it has a small amount of alcohol in it. Manildra advised that they have been looking at various ways of using the water one being on the Nowra Golf Course. Surveys for this option have been completed by the Company. Meetings have also taken place with the owner of Pig Island Farm and the farmers on Bolong Road with the idea that a pipeline could be run down Bolong Road and the reclaimed water could be used for dairy washdowns and cattle. This would also reduce the water used through the Council system.

Warren Priest asked why previous methods of scraping the bottom of the pond to get rid of the solids could not be used and why were solids still being sent to the farm.

Manildra advised that the removal of solids is the final process when the pond is empty. Approximately ½ ML of washdown waters, approximately 5 tonnes per day of dry solids are sent to the farm.

Phil McKenzie advised that health issues had resulted with neighbours who have a young child who had suffered an asthma attack which was triggered as a result of the pollution. He advised that this was not acceptable.

Peter Courtney asked if there had been a shift in the nature of the odour.

Manildra advised that Pond No 4 was covered and the washdown waters are always put into the covered pond to keep the other ponds clean .

Phil McKenzie advised that the above was not acceptable and suggested that the washdown waters be added to an empty pond to stop the water going to Pond 4.

Manildra advised that the pond would have to be covered.

Statement presented by Phil McKenzie

Phil McKenzie advised that odours had increased prior to the meeting in February and a number of odour emissions had come across to his property which was definitely from Sopers. These odours had been investigated. Phil advised that he had been very conciliatory and had tried to work with Manildra and the community will not accept it.

Phil McKenzie presented a statement to the meeting (copy Attached).

Manildra advised that the points raised in the Statement would be considered.

Col Shepherd requested that an independent person be engaged to check that odours are not detrimental to anyone's health.

Action items out of Statement

- Terms of Conduct of meeting
- 1. EPA to attend future meetings – EPA has advised that it is their policy not to attend meetings. Ian Chalmers spoke to Craig Jones EPA Queanbeyan.

Phil McKenzie advised that the EPA are the holders of the licence and they have a duty to answer to the Community.

Community members to follow up on EPA attending future meetings.

- 2. Dick Honan to attend future meetings.-

Brian Hanley will follow up with Dick Honan

Noise Pollution

Julian Shepherd advised that the noise had been increasing with a roar coming from the Factory over the past few weeks. Julian agreed to keep a log of noises.

Manildra advised that steam is used on the site and pressure relief valves when activated will cause a loud noise when venting. This usually happens when there is a power outage and Manildra has experienced quite a few outages over the past weeks due to Integral Energy system faults.

Warren Priest presented copies of complaints that Sue Chalmers had put together totalling 31 from December to April.

Community members advised to contact Manildra or ring the EPA with complaints. They advised that it was not always possible to complain and got sick of continually ringing the EPA.

Manildra advised there are other odour sources in the area including the sewerage treatment works. The Dairy CoOp had closed and the Paper Mill has cut back but their water treatment plant is still operating.

Rod McGhee advised that prior to September 2001 he had never complained and since then had complained 81 times.

Phil McKenzie advised that a result was needed, nothing has progressed and they are still in the same vicious cycle. The end result is still the same.

7. General Business

DDGS Cooling System

The Manildra Group has spent approximately \$1.6M to address the situation of the dried DDGS sold as high protein cattle food. Manildra advised that when the Plant was built a cooling system was not installed. The cooling system is being installed and commissioned. The first dryer using ambient air will reduce the odours significantly. The next two dryers using ambient air will then be transferred over. The plant should be fully commissioned and all product will be cooled by the end of May.

Phil McKenzie asked if the EPA would sign off on the project and would there be further monitoring of the farm once the DDGS were under control.

Manildra advised that it is part of its commitment and EPA Licence to control offensive odours beyond the boundary. Prior to the commissioning starting a survey was done to measure the odours and another one will be done after the commissioning to see how effective the new Plant is. Quarterly monitoring will continue to be done at the farm.

The Meeting closed at 11.40am.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 14th 2006, 10.00am.

All Agenda items to be given to Wendy Reader – 02 44 238 201 – wendy.reader@manildra.com.au before 4th June 2006. The Agenda will be posted on the Manildra website prior to the next meeting.

The Agenda and Minutes are available on the Manildra Group web site www.manildra.com.au under the heading Community.

Chairperson