

## MINUTES

### Lower Maribyrnong Audit Reference Group (LMARG) Meeting No 2

**Held:** 5.00pm Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2005, Maribyrnong City Council Offices, Napier Street Footscray.

**Present:** Prof. John Cary, Chairman  
Prof. Ian Rae - Technical Adviser  
Ray Cranke - Albright & Wilson  
Linden Birch - CSR  
David Prismall – Sugar Australia  
James Hadwen - Mobil  
Bill Crowe, James Fairweather- Orica  
Janelle Donnelly, Mick Lobianco - PoMC  
Peter Kemp - Parks Victoria  
Eric Braslis - Hobsons Bay CC  
Adrian Havryluk - Maribyrnong CC  
Andrew Clifton, Colleen Hartland, Michael Isaachsen, Peter Somerville - river users/community  
Peter Nadebaum, Venetia Stewart + 3 – GHD  
Stuart McConnell, Diane Rose, Alex Leonard, Quentin Cooke, Gary Laidlaw, Doug Knight - EPA

#### **1. Apologies** nil

First time meeting attendees Linden Birch, David Prismall, Eric Braslis and Ian Rae were introduced.

#### **2. Minutes**

Meeting #1 minutes accepted as presented (*Somerville/ Fairweather*). All outstanding issues from minutes actioned.

#### **3. Auditor**

Peter Nadebaum (GHD) was introduced as the EPA appointed Environmental Auditor. His previous experience with Shell Refinery/Corio Bay and Newcastle Steelworks was highlighted.

Peter gave an outline of the approach he and his team will be taking in regards to the section 53V risk-based audit for the Lower Maribyrnong River and its environs. There was significant discussion of the scope of the work including Stony Creek Backwash (included) and stormwater (excluded), Yarra River and tidal effects (to be identified), and complementarity with individual site audits (develop an overall picture of factors impacting the river rather than initiate specific action against sites).

Detailed discussion between Peter and LMARG members followed.

#### **4. EPA Update**

Stuart McConnell tabled copies of Diane Rose's preliminary fish analysis data (Meeting 1), and advised that possible conclusions previously outlined were premature given the small study they were based on.

Alex Leonard outlined the next phase of the proposed Fish Study in the Maribyrnong, looking at 3 species (bream, mullet, eels). The objectives of the study are:

- Determine whether fish from the lower Yarra and Maribyrnong rivers are safe for human consumption;
- Obtain baseline data to enable us to, in any future studies, determine whether contaminant levels in fish are changing with time; and
- Assist in the identification of popular recreational fishing locations that may exceed food consumption standards.

*Action: EPA to publicise details of the proposed fish study.*

Diane Rose outlined the third round of sediment sampling that was about to take place and tabled the sampling locations and previous results. One sample at Holden Dock showed what appeared to be anomalous results.

*Action: Carry out sediment sampling, interpret results and publicise.*

In response to a question from Colleen Hartland as to the likely risk to fishers Diane indicated that there was a need for better information and that this would take 2-3 months to complete.

#### **5. Selection of Community Representatives**

Colleen Hartland advised that she was no longer a council representative, and Chairman John welcomed her continuation as a community member.

Stuart McConnell outlined the potential for an Environment Victoria (Healthy Rivers) member.

*Action: EPA to follow up*

Diane Rose indicated that establishment of the fish study would provide a contact with, and potential interest from local fishing clubs.

#### **6a. Draft Terms of Reference**

Gary Laidlaw tabled the amended draft TOR with two modifications:

- The need for draft documents to be confidential (work in progress), but the final report would be a public document; and

- Meetings 3 & 4 would need to be rescheduled about one month behind the original suggestions.

*The chair moved a motion to endorse the revised Terms of Reference – carried.*

*Action: EPA to publish TOR on EPA's LMARG web page.*

## **6b. Draft Communications Strategy**

Gary Laidlaw outlined a revised Communications Strategy document and sought comment. Content of the strategy was discussed by LMARG. Chairman John reminded members that their role was to provide advice to the EPA. Community member Andrew Clifton asked to see some action in regard to improving community awareness on this project.

*Actions: Gary Laidlaw to meet with Bill Crowe, Maribyrnong City Council and Colleen Hartland to improve the draft communication strategy and discuss effectively getting information out into the community. EPA also to liaise with MCC on advertising for community members.*

*Action: Gary Laidlaw to follow up Andrew Clifton suggestion of an interview on local radio 94.7FM.*

## **7. Other Business**

Bill Crowe gave a brief overview of Orica's cleanup activities.

Linden Birch outlined CSR's ongoing environmental activities.

Ray Cranke outlined A&W's early response to the Clean Up Notice.

Janelle Donnelly outlined PoMC's ongoing auditing/planning.

Peter Kemp (Parks Vic) outlined land lease discussions with Mobil.

James Hadwen gave an overview of Mobil's cleanup activities.

## **8. Next Meeting**

The next meeting was agreed to be held at 5.00pm Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2006 at Maribyrnong City Council offices, Footscray.

Meeting closed at 7.30pm

## **Summary of Action Items**

1. Publish details of the proposed fish study – **EPA.**

2. Carry out sediment sampling, interpret results and publish – **EPA**.
3. Contact Environment Victoria about a rep for LMARG – **EPA**.
4. Publish TOR on EPA's LMARG web page – **EPA**.
5. Meet with Bill Crowe, Maribyrnong City Council and Colleen Hartland to improve the draft communication strategy and discuss effectively getting information out into the community. EPA also to liaise with MCC on advertising for community members. – **EPA**.
6. Follow up with Andrew Clifton the suggestion of an interview on local radio 94.7FM – **EPA**.

### **Meeting handouts**

Agreed LMARG Terms of Reference  
Revised Preliminary Fish Sampling Presentation  
Sediment Sampling Map  
Table of Sediment Results