

## **COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION & REVIEW COMMITTEE (CPRC)**

### **Briefing Paper for Meeting on Tuesday, 11 May 2010**

This paper aims to provide an update on the topics that are normally discussed at CPRC meetings, as well as addressing actions and other items.

The matters covered in this briefing paper are:

1. Hexachlorobenzene (HCB) Waste Update
  - Export Application
  - HCB Waste Repackaging Plant
2. Car Park Waste Encapsulation (CPWE) Update
  - Approvals and Licensing
  - Project Progress
  - Community Consultation
  - Independent Expert Panel
3. Other HCB Related Waste at Botany
4. Community Consultation

#### **1. HCB WASTE UPDATE**

Orica continues to store HCB waste in accordance with licensing requirements to ensure that there are no unacceptable risks to human health and the environment.

##### **1.1. Export Application**

As the CPRC is aware, Orica lodged applications to export HCB waste to Denmark in November 2008 and the Danish Government has not yet completed its review. Whilst the progress of processing the application is slow, Orica remains confident of a positive outcome.

Damien Hall sends his apologies. He will be overseas attending a meeting of the Open-ended Working Group of the Basel Convention.

Bill Crowe also sends his apologies as he will also be overseas on business. Orica is still awaiting a decision by the Danish EPA on approval to import the HCB Waste to Denmark for treatment.

## 1.2. HCB Waste Repackaging Plant

Orica continues to repackage HCB waste and stores repackaged waste in licensed stores and shipping containers at the Botany Industrial Park (BIP). To date 78% of the waste has been repackaged. Repackaging will be undertaken at three locations at BIP. The table on the following page provides information about the current status of repackaging activities.

Repackaging Location	Waste	Operations Commenced
HCB Waste Repackaging Plant (known as Store J)	The bulk of the HCB waste stored on site will be repackaged here.	June 2007 Ongoing operations.
Stores G & H	Stores G and H primarily contain polymerised EDC plant waste materials and sludges.	March 2009. Ongoing operations.
Store E	Six vertical storage tanks filled with material from the demolition of the Solvents Plant and the Hexa Store at the Chlorine Plant. They contain low-level HCB contaminated waste.	Not yet operational

The HCB waste is repackaged in accordance with stringent operating conditions outlined in the Project Approval issued by the NSW Department of Planning (DoP) and Orica's Environment Protection Licence (EPL2148) issued by the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECCW).

Orica is awaiting feedback from DoP on its proposal to treat other materials at the Groundwater Treatment Plant (i.e. the regeneration of used carbon beds, treatment of contaminated waste waters from Stores G & H and the treatment of drainage collected at the CPWE).

## 2. CAR PARK WASTE ENCAPSULATION (CPWE) REMEDIATION PROJECT

### 2.1. Approvals and Licensing

Orica received conditional approval from the DoP to remediate the CPWE using Directly-heated Thermal Desorption (DTD) technology on 12 November 2009.

Since the last CPRC meeting, Orica has applied for an extension to the Exemption from the Clean Air Regulation granted by DECCW for this project. This was necessary as the granted Exemption will expire at the end of December 2010 and remediation works will continue into 2011.

The draft EPL for the CPWE Remediation Project is being finalised between Orica and the DECCW.

### 2.2. Project Progress

Final civil designing for the Excavation Soil Building, Feed Soil Building and DTD Plant foundations has commenced. HAZOP (Hazard and Operability) Studies for the project are being conducted.

Decommissioning of the DTD plant at the Lednez site at Rhodes (which will be used for the remediation of the CPWE) is about to commence before transfer of the plant to Botany.

Thiess Services has moved into its site office at BIP. Shade cloth has been placed around the CPWE boundary fence.

Project construction is scheduled to commence in late May 2010.

### **2.3. Community Consultation**

Project briefings for BIP stakeholders, mainly Qenos and Transfield, are to commence in late May. Orica plans to communicate with neighbouring businesses and residents regarding meeting time preferences once a site mobilisation commencement date is confirmed.

### **2.4. Independent Expert Panel (IEP)**

IEP members will be visiting the BIP on 11 May for a project briefing. Members will be given presentations on the project with discussion time and will have an opportunity to tour the CPWE project site. IEP members will then attend the CPRC meeting to introduce themselves to the committee and address any questions the committee may have.

## **3. OTHER POTENTIAL HCB CONTAMINATED SOILS**

As regularly reported, Orica is investigating treatment options for areas of known or suspected soil contamination related to past storage of HCB waste. These areas are:

- *Pacific National Stockpile*<sup>1</sup>
- *Denison Street Landscaping Mound*<sup>1</sup>
- *Soil beneath the existing HCB Stores/other HCB contaminated waste at BIP*

The appropriate treatment option for the Pacific National stockpile material is yet to be confirmed. Orica has recently received and is reviewing up-to-date data on the stockpile.

As advised at the last CPRC meeting, Orica is yet to undertake further investigations on demolition waste stored in HCB Waste Store E and HCB contaminated soil that has been found on site, including some in the proposed area for mercury soil remediation. If this waste proves to be similar to the CPWE soil, it could be treated at the DTD Plant. If this is the case, Orica will discuss proposals with DECCW, DoP and the CPRC.

## **4. COMMUNITY CONSULTATION ACTIVITY**

Since the March 2010 CPRC meeting, the following community consultation has been undertaken:

- Documents from March 2010 Meeting and the minutes from the November 2009 Meeting were uploaded onto the website. Of the 1,713 visits to the Botany Transformation Projects website from 8 March to 2 May 2010, 370 visits were to HCB and CPRC related pages;
- Orica published a monthly column in the *Southern Courier* and a quarterly column in the *St George and Sutherland Shire Leader*. March and April columns provided information on the replacement of the CPRC Chair and stakeholder consultation for the CPWE Remediation Project;
- Inaugural combined CPRC/CLC newsletter drafted for review by members;
- No emails have been received through the CPRC community feedback webpage; and
- No 1800 phone calls relating to HCB matters have been received.
- CPWE Remediation Project:
  - Progressed planning for BIP employees briefings – scheduled for late May 2010
  - Database updated (e.g. Hensley users group changed)

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<sup>1</sup> Soil previously identified for treatment in the proposed Geomelt Plant - URS Australia Pty Ltd (2001), *Environmental Impact Statement: Proposed HCB Waste Destruction Facility at Botany, July 2001*.