

Minutes from Environmental committee meeting November 24, 2011.

Attending were Brian Stevenson, Darrell Booker, Helen Hannah, Blair Pommier, and alternates Ray Laboucane and Tony Parchomchuk.

Items for discussion:

Cattleguard to landfill... There is a quote from a company in Merritt for a double wide one which would be beefed up to support the D8 cat. The cost would be approximately \$20,000. Darrell will submit a P.O. to the mill manager for approval before next meeting.

Oil Storage Pit leak... There has not been any progress made here, other than a plan to clean it out, with a vacuum truck and inspect it to see whether or not a new liner is required, or if it can be repaired. Brian will be in contact with Tony Chilton to get a work order started.

Lac Marchand... Questions were raised about the substantial body of water between chip handling and the kiln extending south to the yard shack. This “puddle” is contaminated with ash and who knows what from under the kiln and recaust, and is obviously going to ground. A business improvement plan has identified the problem, and there is a significant amount of money involved to solve the drainage issues. Ray pointed the obvious safety issues, with the large potholes that are lurking under the surface, posing a hazard to forklift and bobcat traffic.

The southern most end of the lake has a sump pump draining the roadway beside the yard shack, to keep the scales from flooding. Ray questioned the process of draining the waste water into the chem plant sewers.... A safety issue allowing the wood waste from the puddle to mix with any potential peroxide spill. Apparently there is a gate on the acid sewer which separates acid and caustic sewer... but there were questions as to whether or not that is functional. Darrell will take it up with Power and Recovery and/or the yard supervisor to deal with. A suggestion was made to build a berm to keep the scales from flooding, or to pump the excess water somewhere else.

Ash and fines Spills. Blair questioned the practices of over filling the dump truck and loader when hauling to the landfill.... This is an ongoing problem which does not seem to have a solution. The biggest contributing factor seems to be a lack of manpower, so there is not time to make extra trips with not such full loads, and nobody to hose down the area as was done in the past. Darrell will take it up with Gavin Baxter to see if more clean up can be done.

Pile of excess lime. There is a mountain of spent lime to the north of the ash bunker which needs to be disposed of. It is stored there until there is machinery available to move it, and this pile accumulated there when the kiln was down. Worksafe B.C. ensures that Tembec manage it, due to the increased amount of foreign bodies in eyes.

Emission permits. Ray questioned where or not we are within our limits. He asked to see some of the figures, which Brian assured us are available to us at any time. Our test results are submitted to Ministry of Environment on a regular basis, and we are in compliance.

Invasive plants on site. We have spent \$6000 on weed control this year. The biggest contributor is the railway, and the area is sprayed regularly. There were questions raised as to the identification of some of the grasses which have taken hold on the old landfill site. B.C. Environment has taken a sample of the different grass which appears to have come with the sludge from Celgar, to categorize the species either as a grass or a weed.

Hayfield duck pond. Questions were raised as to how much more topsoil will be removed to finish the reclamation of the old landfill. B.C. Environment and Ducks Unlimited have been involved in the construction so far... and any commitments required have been fulfilled. The mixture of sludge and topsoil has proved to be substantially more successful than the past practice of trying to seed forage on composted wood chips. The biologist, Peter Davidson, indicates that we are making positive progress. Brian will investigate whether or not we need further permission for Lands and Forest Ministry to continue the excavations.

NCG Gas Alarm. Earlier this week there was a malfunction of a valve in the NCG building which caused an evacuation. There will be a review to that procedure as per Gavin Baxter's notification.

Meeting was adjourned, and there will not be one in December, we will resume in the new year.

Anyone with any concerns should bring them to Helen or Blair's attention and we will follow up.