

Minutes

Browns Plains Landfill Community Consultative Group Meeting on 14 March 2024 at 9am

ATTENDEES

R Oakley (Waste and Resource Recovery Branch)
L Buffett (Waste and Resource Recovery Branch)
R Dewan (Waste and Resource Recovery Branch)
W Cox (Community Representative)

1.0 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Jon Raven and Linda Boyd.

2.0 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

It was agreed that the distributed minutes of the previous meeting (on 14 December 2024) were an accurate record.

3.0 BUSINESS ARISING

3.1 Landfill Odour

L Buffett reported there were 9 odour complaints were received during the period of December 2023 to February 2024 (inclusive).

December 2023

There were two odour complaints in December and details were as follows:

- 1/12/2023 – 2:57pm - Strong odour detected in Bayliss Rd area –
 - Wind was blowing from the W when officers visited locations in the vicinity of the reporter (approx. 11.15 am) and no waste odours could be detected at the time.
 - It is reasonable to conclude that if the wind had been blowing from the NW earlier in the day that odours from the uncovered areas of the landfill site may have reached Bayliss Road. Action was taken to immediately reduce the potential risk of escaping odours and these actions appeared to have a positive impact.
- 18/12/2024 – 3:02pm – St James Circuit and surrounding areas.
 - St James Circuit and surrounding area visited. During the time of monitoring (around 4.00 pm – 4.15pm) wind was occasional and mild blowing from the N/NE. No waste odours were detected during the monitoring. The wind direction was such that at the time of the report it is possible that odours may have escaped the site.
 - To reduce the risk of odours escaping the site progressive cover material was being applied and the perimeter odour system was started and operated for the rest of the day.

January 2024

There were six odour complaints and details were as follows:

- 9/1/2024 – 5:06pm – Lamberth Road East
 - The review of weather data and site conditions aligned with the possibility of odour nuisance from the facility to the reporter residence.
- 9/1/2024 – 10:34am – St James Circuit
 - Resident reported odour detected over the weekend.
 - The reporter wanted to advise the site to ensure that the de-odourising system was active.

- The reporter was advised that the recent and significant rainfall events have hindered operations at the landfill with limited machinery access and cover application. The reporter understood the effects of the rainfall events and was appreciative for the return call.
- 12/01/2024 - 11:55 AM –
 - The reporter raised that the odour was detected on 11/01/2024 and generally when it rains.
 - A review of site conditions following the prolonged rain and prevailing wind conditions, determined that it was possible that odour may have escaped from the site to reporter's suburb (an address was not provided in the email report).
- 12/01/2024 – 1:17pm - Aquila Court
 - The odour was identified by the reporter when wind speed and gusts were at their peak for the day.
 - There was a mild intermittent odour that could be detected during the site visit.
 - Additional resources were engaged to assist with covering the landfilling area whilst the weather was more favourable.
 - The reporter understood that the sustained rain events had made it difficult for machinery operations and could appreciate the difficulties having previously operated a mushroom farm.
- 16/01/2024 – 6:54am – Ibrox Court
 - Email sent to reporter
 - The prolonged nature and intensity of the recent rain events limited safe access to cover areas of deposited waste. Strong wind conditions and hot days increased the likelihood of odour being emitted from the site.
 - Reporter advised of actions to minimise odour, including activation of the perimeter deodorising system.
- 30/01/2024 – 9:22am – address unknown
 - Issues relate to weeks 1 and 2 of January and had not been a problem for customer more recently.
 - Council officer advised the reporter that recent weather issues that had affected landfilling and odour generation. Reporter was also advised of measures taken to manage odour from the site. Resident was encouraged to report issues.

February 2024

There was one odour complaint and details were as follows:

- 5/2/2024 – 5:04pm – Lamberth Road East
 - The review of weather data and site conditions aligned with the possibility of odour nuisance from the facility to the reporter residence.

Wendy was surprised that there were not more complaints about odour, as she had smelled it often over the past 3 months. We concluded that it was possibly because residents were probably inside with their air conditioners on. Wendy said she hadn't complained over this report period as she mostly noticed it after hours and she understood that the weather conditions would have been challenging for Council to manage.

RO added that wet and hot weather makes it harder to manage odour. With cooler weather there will be fewer odours and the less favourable landfilling works will be done during the cooler months.

Wendy said she rarely smells the deodorant but does smell the landfill. RO assured that it is being used and that he had asked for the dose to be increase. RO advised that he would ask the staff again to increase the dosage.

3.2 Environmental Performance

Environmental monitoring was conducted at the Browns Plains Landfill in the fourth and first quarters of the year in accordance with the Landfill Environmental Monitoring Program. Results were in alignment with landfill conditions.

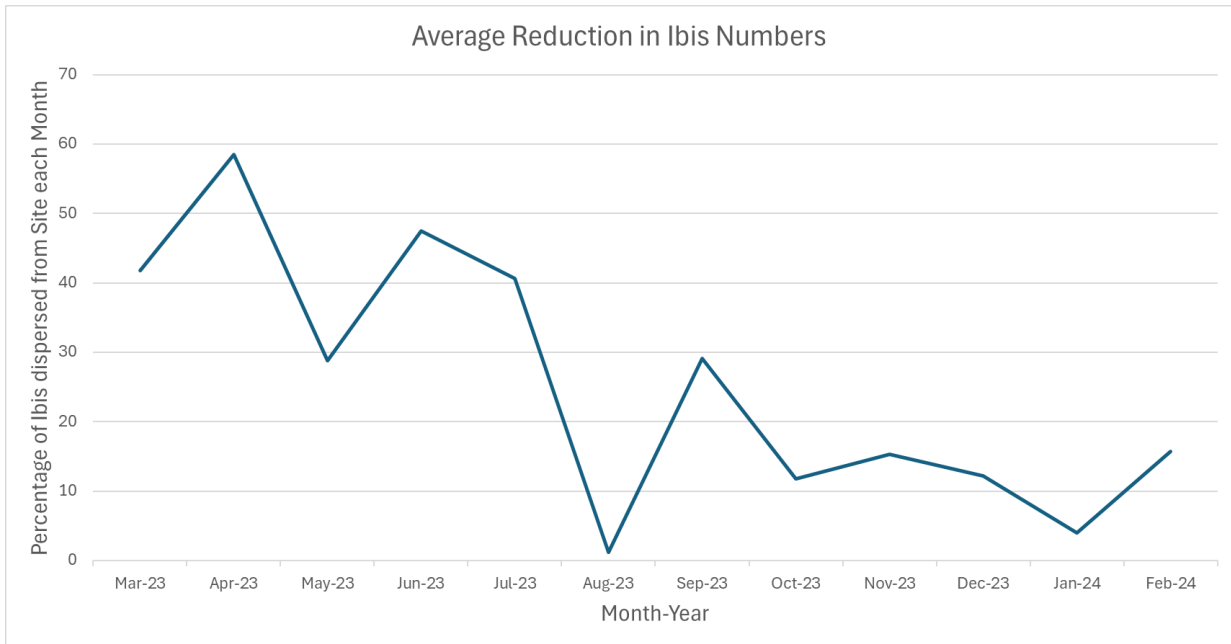
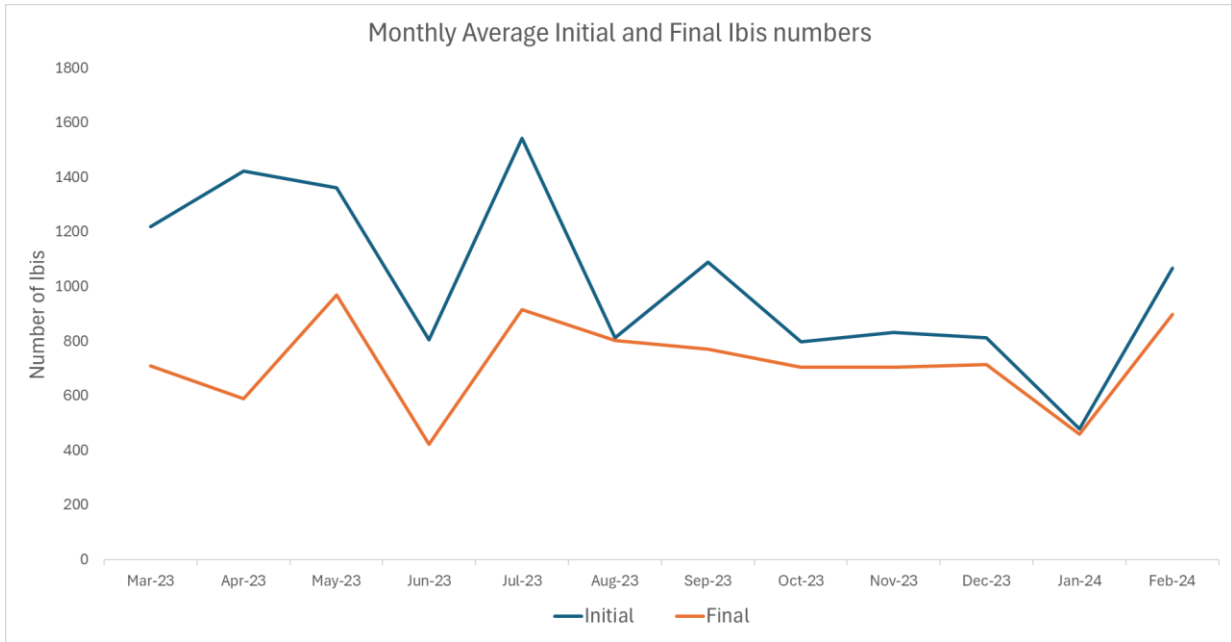
3.3 Department of Environment and Science (DES)

DES officers attended site in February 2024 to review green waste disposal and processing as part of the broader Queensland wide inspection program.

3.4 Ibis Update

The February 2024 report from the wildlife management contractor stated that:

- Average initial ibis counts prior to harassment activities were 1068.
- Average final counts of ibis were 900 harassment activities.
- On average, ibis numbers were reduced by 15% per day during the harassment period. This compares to the average reductions for December and January of 12% and 4%.



There were no complaints received regarding ibis between December 2023 and February 2024 (inclusive).

3.5 Fire Ant Update

There is one known active fire ant nest on the Browns Plains Landfill site, this was reported and treatment was undertaken.

3.6 Invitations to odour complaints

Invitations were sent to new residents who complained about landfill odour during the period.

4.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

Wendy said that she had nothing to raise.

RO talked about the MRF. He advised that the MRF designers and representatives from Qld state government had attended the site to talk about the project. Projects this large require State Government funding to be able to go ahead. There is money available for projects like this but will need to meet criteria and pass certain tests and go through an approval processes. RO remains confident but cannot guarantee at this stage that the MRF will go ahead.

RO advised that another mattress processing event has meant that the steel from another 6000 mattresses was recovered, and the volume was significantly reduced for landfill.

Noise monitors were out for 4 weeks with the results going back to an Environmental noise consultant. The purpose of the monitoring was to determine if the proposed MRF would affect nearby residents. Preliminary findings showed that it is unlikely to affect residents from a noise perspective. Other assessments would occur.

Meeting closed

Next Meeting - June 2024