

Minutes

Browns Plains Landfill Community Consultative Group Meeting on 14 December 2023 at 9am

ATTENDEES

R Oakley (Waste and Resource Recovery Branch)

L Buffett (Waste and Resource Recovery Branch)

W Cox (Community Representative)

J Ooms (Community Representative) – by phone

1.0 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from John Raven and Lynda Boyd.

2.0 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

It was agreed that the distributed minutes of the previous meeting (on 15 August 2023) were an accurate record.

3.0 BUSINESS ARISING

3.1 Landfill Odour

L Buffett reported there were 7 odour complaints received during the period of July to November 2023 (inclusive). These are detailed below.

Wendy Cox advised that the landfill smell is detected off and on depending on the wind direction and wind speed. The wind generally is higher than 12-13km/h when she notices the smell and after 4.00 pm it is common to detect the smell. After lunch on 13/12/2023 an unpleasant dead animal smell was detected, this was not the normal landfill smell. It was reported that the deodoriser fragrance smell had not been detected and queried the dosage rate r..

Jan Ooms advised that a landfill smell had been detected a few days ago.

RO advised that he would have the Infrastructure Coordinator check the dosing on the deodoriser to ensure it was adequate.

August 2023

- There were no odour complaints in August.

September 2023

There were three odour complaints and details were as follows:

- 7/9/2023 – 12:05pm – Heritage Park –
 - An officer inspected the landfilling area when the report was received and identified that there was a likelihood of odour due to the strong and persistent wind towards the reporter's premises and the operational activities to remove cover for future landfilling works.
 - The de-odourising system was immediately activated and through regular operations, the recently exposed waste was covered with recently received waste to further reduce the likelihood of odour.
- 20/09/2023 - 2:31pm – Heritage Park – Officer responded to the reporter at 11.29am on 21 September 2023 reporting:
 - that following the investigation it was identified that there was a possibility that the Browns Plains WRF was responsible for an odour.

- This may have been due to cover material being removed from previously deposited waste for landfilling.
 - Exposed waste is covered as soon as possible but the time required is dependent on the waste received and the amount exposed.
- 20/9/2023 – 2:48pm Heritage Park – WRIC Spoke to the reporter at 4.05pm on 25 September 2023 and the reporting:
 - that following the investigation it was identified that there was a possibility that the Browns Plains WRF was responsible for an odour.
 - This may have been due to cover material being removed from previously deposited waste for landfilling.
 - Exposed waste is covered as soon as possible but the time required is dependent on the waste received and the area exposed.

October 2023

There was one odour complaint and details were as follows:

- 24/10/2023 4:13pm - The WRIC spoke with the reporter at 4.25pm on 24 October 2023, reporting::
 - Complainant advised that over the past month there has been an increased frequency of odours detected.
 - The complainant was advised that there may be odour from the site as there was strong and persistent wind from the North, North-Westerly direction. This was towards the resident's property.
 - The WRIC also explained that previously deposited waste is progressively uncovered to continue with landfilling operations which increases the likelihood of odours but this is then covered with other material delivered to site on the day to minimise the odours.

November 2023

There were 3 odour complaints and details were as follows:

- 09/11/2023 11:45am The resident was visited at 12.30 and following a phone a personal conversation was had with the following discussed.
 - Both agreed that no odour could be detected at the time of the visit.
 - WRIC explained that the odour was likely due to cover material being removed from previously landfilled area to progress the current landfilling operations.
 - The unfavourable wind conditions have further contributed to the risk of odour nuisance.
 - The customer acknowledged that there are constraints with operations and weather conditions.
 - The WRIC explained the proactive steps taken to control the likelihood of odour nuisance - minimising tip face footprint, cover old waste uncovered with freshly deposited material, planning activities with weather in mind, deodorising systems, etc.
- 15/11/2023 04:15pm - The WRIC spoke to the reporter at 5.35pm on 15 November 2023 regarding the following.
 - The reporter could not observe any odour during the time of the call.
 - Reporter advised the odour control systems were activated.
 - Explained the reasoning for exposing old landfilled to progress landfilling operations and migration pathways for contaminated water.
 - Outlined controls taken to minimise odour risk.
 - Dust was raised as a n issues and the process implemented on-site were outlined (water truck, etc.)
 - Customer was happy to receive a call back and mentioned he would report if there are further issues.
 - Raised concerns about odour being an issues over the holiday period.
- 16/11/2023 07:58am –
 - The investigation by WRIC determined that the warmer weather and unfavourable wind conditions at the time of the report may have increased the likelihood of odour escaping emitted from the site.
 - The plan is to continue undertaking land filling operations in the central area of the site during the warmer summer months to minimise the likelihood of odour impacting the community. our neighbours. We will continue to implement the following operational measures at the current and future landfilling area:
 - Proactively monitoring our operations and planning landfilling works to have the maximum possible distance to the community.
 - Covering deposited waste with inert soil material.

- Consistent response, investigation, action and feedback for odour reports.
- Activating the deodorising system as required to assist in combating the impact of odours.

3.2 Environmental Performance

Environmental monitoring (as part of the Landfill Environmental Monitoring Program – LEMP) was conducted at the Browns Plains Landfill in the third and fourth quarter. Results for the third quarter found some exceedances of the 80th percentile trigger values for groundwater but all were consistent with historical trends. There were no exceedances of criteria for dust or landfill gas. None of these were exceedances of landfill licence conditions.

3.3 Department of Environment and Science (DES)

The only contact with DES during the period was a request for information in relation to the National Pollution Inventory (NPI) regards the calculations that had been performed as part of the submission.

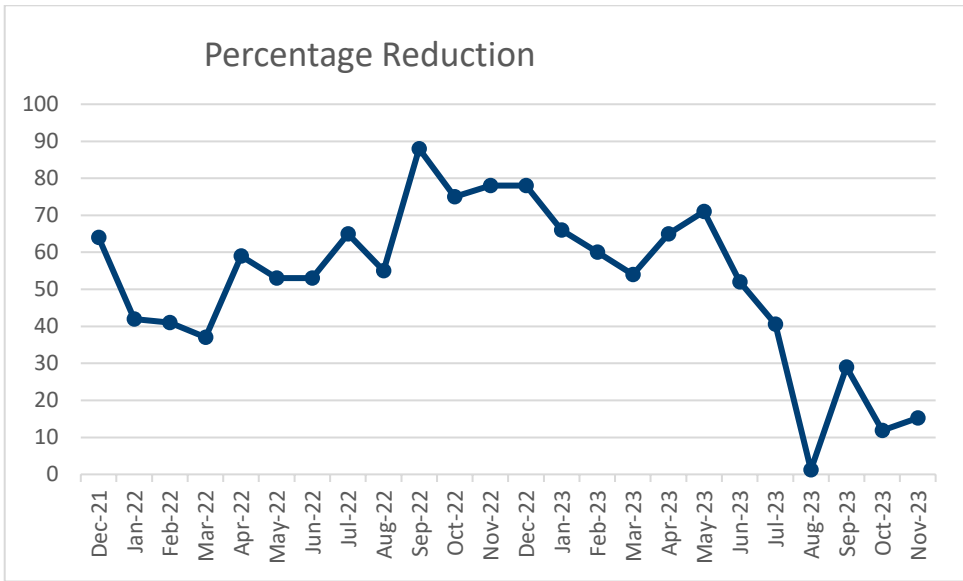
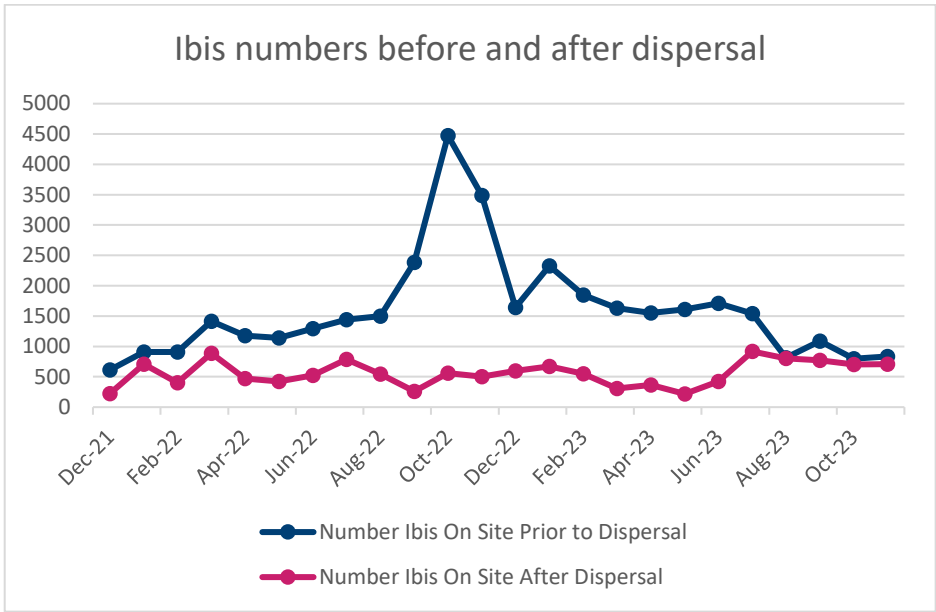
3.4 Ibis Update

The November 2023 report from the wildlife management contractor stated that:

- Average initial ibis counts prior to harassment activities were 833
- Average final counts of ibis were 706 harassment activities.
- On average, ibis numbers were reduced by 15% per day during the harassment period. This compares to the average reductions of the previous three months which were 1%, 29% and 12%.

Numbers of ibis recorded at the landfill site have been as follows:

	Number Ibis On Site Prior to Dispersal	Number Ibis On Site After Dispersal	Percentage Ibis Reduction After Dispersal
Dec-21	612	222	64
Jan-22	911	707	42
Feb-22	911	401	41
Mar-22	1414	887	37
Apr-22	1178	472	59
May-22	1140	425	53
Jun-22	1295	523	53
Jul-22	1440	786	65
Aug-22	1500	544	55
Sep-22	2385	262	88
Oct-22	4475	563	75
Nov-22	3490	501	78
Dec-22	1640	600	78
Jan-23	2330	672	66
Feb-23	1850	552	60
Mar-23	1630	305	54
Apr-23	1550	365	65
May-23	1610	218	71
Jun-23	1710	423	52
Jul-23	1544	917	41
Aug-23	814	804	1
Sep-23	1090	774	29
Oct-23	799	704	12



There were no complaints received regarding ibis between July and November 2023 (inclusive).

Neither Jan or Wendy reported having any issues with ibis during the period.

3.5 Fire Ant Update

There are no known active fire ant nests on the Browns Plains Landfill site.

3.6 Invitations to odour complaints

No additional invitations were extended during the period.

4.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

RO advised that we currently have consultants and engineers onsite to determine what is required to prepare the site for the proposed Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) . The area to the rear of the current Transfer Station needs to be prepared so that a stable building platform able to support the weight of the MRD building, equipment and y and truck movements.

A noise assessment is currently being undertaken in areas surrounding the landfill to determine the potential noise impact of the future facility.

Wendy Advised that she could sometimes hear screechy machinery, usually associated with a loud bang. This may be coming from the industrial estate.

Jan advised that he only hears screeching only when the wind is from a northwest.

RO advised that the site will be open on Christmas day as the waste and recycling collection trucks still operate on that that day..

Meeting closed 9:30am

Next Meeting - March 2024