

BIGHORN CORRIDOR ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE NOTES

Wednesday, September 7th, 2011

4:00 P.M. - Bighorn Municipal Office, Exshaw

File: 0105-17-01

IN ATTENDANCE:

Ralph Anderson	Member at Large	Cliff Hansen	Member at Large
Neil Bonesky	Baymag	Debbie Penninga	Member at Large
Darcy Edison	BVWMC	Rick Poznikoff	CPR
Wayne Hingley	Graymont	Chris Read	Member at Large
Sierahuen Maldonado	Graymont	Joel Taguchi	Lafarge
Harry Bohnet	Baymag	Brad Watson	Lafarge
Dene Cooper	Councillor/Chair		

REGRETS:

Alison Lewis	Graymont	Rob Beleutz	Graymont
Fran de Beer	Member at Large	Rick Peterson	Member at Large
Paul Ryan	Councillor		

STAFF:

Emily Smith MD of Bighorn

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Cooper called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. and welcomed the attendees to the meeting.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by C. Hansen that the agenda be adopted with the following amendment:

- New Business item 9(d): CRAZ Grid
 - New Business item 9(e): Applications for BCEC Member at Large Appointments
- CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by R. Poznicoff that the minutes from the 2 March 11 BCEC meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

4. DELEGATIONS

Tracy Woitenko, M.D. of Bighorn Community Planner
Municipal Development Plan Review

T. Woitenko provided a brief overview of the purpose of the Municipal Development Plan (MDP) and the process at Bighorn is taking to review and update this document. Councillor P. Ryan is one of the Council representatives and Ron Remple, CEO for the Bow Valley Builders and Developers Association is representing industry. Both can be contacted for more information or to discuss any issues. To date, the terms of reference have been set, the steering committee appointed and a first round of visioning sessions have been conducted. Bighorn is now into phase II of the process, which includes a review and public input of the results of the visioning session. Bighorn is requesting responses by the end of October, and BCEC members are encouraged to make a submission either individually, by industry or as a committee. T. Woitenko noted that all the relevant documents are available on Bighorn's website. T. Woitenko is also happy to provide hard copies to anyone who would like a copy.

R. Poznikoff enquired about policies relative to development adjacent to rail lines and suggested reviewing CFM document, Proximity Guidelines and Best Practices. T. Woitenko noted that specifically related to BCEC, a couple of proposed revisions include a new section on setbacks from rail lines and a new section on developing adjacent to rail lines.

Questions:

Does MDP review trigger a Land Use Bylaw (LUB) review?

It is possible that some changes may be required, but these are expected to be minor, if any at all.

Will the South Saskatchewan Regional Plan (SSRP) have an impact on the MDP?

Possibly. This provincial plan will supersede our municipal plans, so anything different from our MDP would require a change. However, if the SSRP process stays on time, it should be complete before the MDP review is done which will allow any direction to be incorporated.

How is the recent Economic Development and Tourism Strategy being incorporated into the MDP review?

It is being used as background information.

What are the deliverables?

There are not specific outcomes attached to this review, other than a complete update.

However, one new thing that is proposed is a two-part process for ensuring that the MDP is relevant; an implementation and monitoring process.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

a. SAEWA

P. Ryan submitted a written update to the meeting.

b. Lafarge Coal Trials

B. Watson noted that a letter has been sent to the communities of Dead Man's Flats, Lac des Arcs and Exshaw, as well as the extensive interested party email list that B. Watson has on file.



During the week of September 19th, Lafarge will be testing coal from a potential new supplier. This will include stack tests to compare emissions with current coal. ABENV has been consulted and it was determined that an amendment to the existing operating agreement was not required for the test. Results from the testing should be available by the December meeting.

A key part of determining whether to go with this new coal will be its impact on the capacity of the mill.

A number of questions were posed regarding potential changes in emissions and its impact on the decision on whether to use this new coal, including what the likely changes would be in emissions, will some emissions be higher and from an emission standpoint, what would make the new coal unacceptable: higher than current emissions or emissions exceeding current operating agreement with AENV?

B. Watson responded that is conceivable that the emission levels will be different, but what that will look like won't be known until after the test are completed. Any gross difference in emissions would trigger a larger review.

S. Maldonado reported that Graymont is also looking to test a different coal supplier.

c. South Saskatchewan Land Plan (SSRP) Review – CRAZ Review

D. Cooper reported that CRAZ has completed their review of the SSRP and has provided a number of recommendations relative to air quality. A copy of their position was circulated to the committee.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

7. INDUSTRY UPDATES

a. Bow Valley Waste Management

D. Edison reported that it has been a busy summer at the landfill. In June, there were three accident incidents reported, including one with a customer injuring themselves.

In July, a large fire in the kiln dried wood pile resulted in the loss of 12,000m³ of wood and a further 4,000m³ of wood chips. D. Edison extended his appreciation to all the efforts of the responders who assisted. The cause of the fire is still under investigation and this area of the landfill is still closed.

Since May, there have been seven untarped loads that have either received warnings or fines.

There have been 14 issues of inappropriate materials including food waste, paint and fluorescent light bulbs.

The landfill is now at 72% material recycling rate, which puts actual tonnage at the same level as 2003.

b. Baymag

N. Bonesky reported that Baymag is doing a stack test in August and will conduct another in September. Results should be ready for the December meeting.

c. CPR

R. Poznikoff reported that the CPR is busy enhancing their coal route through BC and undertaking the installation of new infrastructure in North Dakota. This work is in anticipation of future need. There is nothing to report within the Bow Valley.



d. Graymont

S. Maldonado that Graymont has followed up about trucks not having their number clean and legible and this should be happening now.

Graymont need more dust collection and they are working on expanding with 2.6 million dollars allocated to add two more dust collectors in the crushing machine and the conveyance areas.

The issue of truck parking on the 1X has been resolved.

Tarps on the trucks need replacing, but the tarp company needs the weather to be virtually calm in order to install.

S. Maldonado presented a powerpoint on the air quality monitoring results and this is attached as Schedule "A".

e. Lafarge

Former Exshaw Plant Manager, Jeff Scott has now gone to Michigan and he is being replaced by Heinz Knopfel. Heinz actually started his career with Lafarge at the Exshaw plant 30 years ago working on Kiln 5, so he is familiar with the area and the community: though he was a little surprised to see the change in housing prices from his time here in early 80's. His last position with Lafarge was a plant manager in Paulding, Ohio.

Lafarge presented a powerpoint on the ambient air monitoring and it is attached to these minutes as Schedule "B". A couple of interesting notes is that all particulate measurements have decreased over time. Transportation can have a significant impact, but it depends on the location of the monitor. So, in the case of the monitor in Exshaw, while it is likely picking up some traffic from the 1X and particularly when there are a number of trucks in queue, it is not picking up anything from the TransCanada Highway.

Lafarge has requested a temporary field authorization (TFA) from Alberta Sustainable Resource Development (SRD) to store coal temporarily at the south Quarry at Seebe. They have received authorization from SRD and have received their development permit from Bighorn. It is now going through the 14 day waiting period.

The purpose of the temporary storage is to give Lafarge a stockpile of coal while they transition to a new coal supplier. The maximum stored would be 50,000 tonnes and the expiry of the TFA would be December 2012.

There are three potential concerns with storing coal and these are fugitive dust; water quality; and combustion. Lafarge has a plan to mitigate or reduce the risk of these three issues in the following way:

1. Fugitive Dust – pile will be compacted and sprayed.
2. Water - area will be bermed and water will be recycled back onto the pile.
3. Combustion - compacting of the pile will reduce potential combustion.

8. MEMBERS ISSUES

C. Hansen noted that the annual eagle count is on now until September 20th and is taking place at Hay Meadows in Kananaskis. Anyone is welcome to drop-by and check things out between sunrise and sunset.

D. Penninga reported that she is continuing to investigate the issue of anti-idling and met with the Bio-sphere Institute to discuss their program in Canmore. D. Penninga will have a more detailed report for the December meeting.



- C. Read – nothing to report
- R. Anderson – nothing to report.

9. NEW BUSINESS

a. **Jura Creek Trailhead Issue**

This creek area has become increasingly popular and as a result, there is a lot of vehicles parking illegally around the various access points and on the Graymont plant access and the Two Feathers Road. More and more trail users are crossing the highway in an unsafe and uncontrolled manner. Further, there are no amenities for garbage. SRD has authority over the crown land where this trail is located, but has maintained that they are unable to do anything about this situation without the participation of Alberta Transportation. After much effort by the M.D. of Bighorn, Alberta Transportation has provided a drawing showing what a proper approach and turn lane in this area for a trailhead would look like. The next step will be to approach SRD to encourage them to move forward with a proper trailhead for this popular, but informal trail.

b. **Lafarge Expansion Community Involvement**

Lafarge is finalizing a community engagement process for addressing issues specific to the ongoing impacts of expansion. Bighorn will need to have a separate entity or committee to deal with issues as they arise.

c. **Weed Control**

D. Cooper provided a brief overview of the control of noxious and restricted weeds and the role that Bighorn plays. Generally, Bighorn only sprays for these types of weeds, which we are obligated to undertake as set out in the Provincial Weed Control Act. On a rare occasion, Bighorn has sprayed for dandelions, but not a few years.

d. **CRAZ**

There are now 30 monitors from Lake Louise to Brooks and Crossfield to Claresholm. Each monitor gives a 30-day average and provides a good idea of airflow as it moves from west to east. The current cost of the project is \$80,000 per annum, but it is scheduled to increase to \$150,000. This will reflect an expansion of the number of monitoring sites and the ongoing cost of the program. Currently, it is 35% funded by the Province. Target is to have 35 sites in the near future. Over time, the reports will be able to chart trends and future reports will have a more descriptive geographic reference for monitoring sites. There will also be a map on the website

The monitors measure ozone O₂, Sulphur dioxide SO₂, and Nitrous oxide NO_x.

e. **BCEC Member at Large Positions**

All non-industry members of BCEC are required each year to apply to be reappointed to the committee. Application forms were included in the fall municipal newsletter and copies were distributed to members at the meeting.

10. INFORMATION

a) Letter from Altalink re: Reliable Energy to the Bow Valley

It was noted that a number of upgrading projects are underway to improve the provision of electricity in this region.



11. NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting is scheduled for **December 7th, 2011 at 4:00 p.m.**

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:04 p.m.



CHAIRPERSON



SECRETARY