

MINUTES OF THE ACNCG MEETING: THURSDAY 31st March 2022

Hosted by Qenos at Training Centre and remote via WEBEX

Present:

Resident - EMT Members, Guests	Qenos
Troy Ryan	Rob Berton: Qenos SHE Manager (CHAIR)
Chris Rider	Duncan Laslett: Olefins Operations Manager
	Andrew Lake: General Manager Operations
	Andre Olszewski: Resins Operations manager
EPA	Les Harman: Qenos Environmental Adviser
Bikash Rai	Alan Findlay: Environmental Health Coordinator
	Nikki Gaskell: SHE Systems Advisor
GWW	Enviropacific Services
Joe Messina	Dino Adikaram
WorkSafe	Dow
Dannae Campbell	Justin Jones Dow Altona Site Leader
	Camillo Coladonato – Dow Remediation Manager (ANZ)
Apologies	
Erin Finnegan Resident	

1. Welcome, Introductions

Rob Berton opened the meeting after all remote attendees had connected to the on line meeting. This is the first meeting that has had dual attendance modes. He welcomed everybody. A round of introductions was completed prior to proceeding with Dannae Campbell from worksafe attending for the first time.

2. December Minutes review

There were no comments or queries on the December meeting minutes.

3. Agenda review and discussion

No General business items identified. Agenda order rearranged slightly as traffic delaying Camillo Colodonatos arrival

4. Company Updates

Solve Update

Dino presented the Solve update.

The site is operating 5-6 days a week with 12,500 tonnes processed in Q1 and supporting infrastructure projects. The Non Destructive Dig plant start-up has been successful with 3,000 tones processed in 1Q

He gave the Solve HSE report for 1Q which includes HSE initiatives to review the Solve HSE procedures in line with a national improvement activity and the scheduling of Quarterly Safety Days.

Enviropacific services has seen steady growth over the past year and the Solve facility has increased from 32 to 20 people

Solve is planning an Open day in 2Q and a tree planting in Hobsons Bay, with an invitation to be extended to the ACNCG members for both events.

In response to a query from Chris, Dino said the tree planting would be on site and were looking for a suitable site along Cherry Creek

Dow Update

Camillo Coladonato delivered the Dow presentation.

Operations:

No HSE incident since last meeting.

The site demolition of decommissioned areas will be commencing soon.

Warehouse operations continue.

Dow EPA license has now been reissued under the EPA act of 2017.

Still in discussions with potential tenant regarding a Plastic recycling facility

Remediation:

Annual progress report submitted to EPA. EPA accepted Dow invite and attended site on 25th March.

EPA are updating Dow notice to bring them in line with the EP act of 2017

Dow Clean Up Plan on track to be submitted to EPA by end of May

1,000 tonnes of impacted soil treated at the Solve facility.

Soil Vapour extraction system currently treating about 10kg/day of chlorinated compounds in the thermal oxidiser

Qenos Update

No follow ups from December meeting, and no queries about the February Qenos update were asked.

Qenos presentation was given by several people as follows.

Rob Berton said he was proud of the Qenos Altona Contractors achieving their safety program KPIs for Q4 2021. The Altona College accepted a donation that will provide personal computers to ten local students. The contractor's value being able to contribute to the local community.

Les Harman gave a summary of the 2022 Environment Improvement Plan (EIP) which is targeting effluent plant odour, flare performance, monitoring environmental performance and development of a Clean Up Plan to manage site contamination. A copy of the EIP table with details is attached to the minutes. Contact Les if any clarification is required.

Andrew Lake discussed the Qenos Business update and Qenos Circular Plastics Project.

Business Update:

The transformation of Qenos Altona to SCAL-2/Resins operation has worked well with all supporting projects being successfully implemented. This has been completed without any major SHE issues. The sour water system project in SCAL-1 to treat SCAL-1 sour water has worked very well and reduced the sewer odour levels.

The SCAL-1 plant is Hydrocarbon free, mechanical completion expected mid-April and electrical isolation scheduled in May to complete the Mothball process. Customers have been found for all by-products.

The Plastics Plant has been de energised is hydrocarbon free and all chemicals and waste removed from the site.

Employee engagement has been good with a significant training program underway for redeployed workforce which will be completed in the May/June timeframe.

The next phase is to consolidate and optimise the SCAL-2/Resins operation in 2H of 2022 and progress planning for the 2023 SCAL-2 turnaround.

Qenos Circular Plastics project

Qenos has signed feasibility studies with Cleanaway to provide 100,000 tpa of soft plastic waste for feedstock, and Plastics Energy/Axens to recycle the soft plastic waste into feedstock for Qenos Botany Ethylene plant.

The studies should be aligned and completed in July. Qenos has been engaging with our customers about fully recycled polyethylene with the same properties as virgin polyethylene.

Joe Messina asked where the facilities would be located.

Andrew responded that the proposal was for one Altona recycling plant process waste plastic from Melbourne producing a polymer oil that would be sent to the Qenos Botany facility for purifying and recycling. A recycling plant at Qenos Botany would process waste plastic from Sydney producing a polymer oil. The polymer oils would be purified into a liquid naphtha feed and then processed in the existing Botany facilities to produce a fully recycled polyethylene.

The Altona recycling facility will be located on one of the operating sites, Olefins or Resins.

There is still a lot of work to be done which will require changes but it is a very positive opportunity for Qenos

2021 Qenos Flare Review

Duncan Laslett presented this report. He noted that the flare report was specific to the Olefins flares now as the Plastics flares have been mothballed with the Plastics plant. Duncan noted that the flare data was updated from August 2020 to end of 2021 to add to the data set completed for the flare EMP. While the data set does go back to 2009 this review is looking at the trends for the last five years. He gave an overview of the methodology used.

The report noted

- Complaint levels have been lower in 2020 and 2021 than in 2017 and 2018.
 - The complaint flaring events were tabulated with cause and follow up
 - There have not been any complaints since the SCAL-1 shutdown/mothball
- The hours of flaring in 2021 was higher than previous years due to the mothball activities, but that the flare improvement activities had reduced the impact.
 - The status of the improvement activities was shown and a number of activities related to mothballed plant were no longer required.
 - Duncan noted that an innovative flare control change to allow the operators to boost steam flow has assisted in keeping the flare control in automatic mode. He likened it to being able to toggle cruise control speed rather than taking cruise control off.

There are a number of back up slides attached to the presentation that have data on the flaring history since 2009. There were no questions raised.

5. Regulator updates

GWW Joe Messina

Nine months as Greater Western Water.

No issues with Qenos trade waste.

Had difficulty contacting Solve who will provide GWW with new contact. (Previous contact has left Solve).

Will have site visit to Solve, and Dow while on the site.

Worksafe Danae Campbell

50% of MHF licenses due in next 12 months

Licensing of Qenos key activity with next Safety Case due May 2022.

There will be two days of site tours with intensive dialogue. Discussions are underway. Worksafe are currently putting together the scope of assessment. They will look at the capacity of the Safety Management System to manage change including leadership, noting that Qenos is undergoing massive change.

EPA Bikash Rai

Thanks the companies for their extensive presentations. Bikash enquired if there were any questions for EPA. Les asked if he could update on the status of Cherry Lake fish kill. Bikash noted it was moving to the recovery phase, and that the company concerned was working with Greater Western Water and Melbourne Water

6. Environment Action Line Report

Alan gave the EAL report noting that there have not been any complaints to the EAL since October 2021. The year on year trends show that 2021 was one of the lower years for total and confirmed complaints.

7. General Business

Troy Ryan asked whether there had been any complaints about DHL logistics. Lots of noise issues for local residents.

Bikash responded: He said that EPA have a plan in place and he will get in touch.

Discussed potential site visits. Solve have an open invitation for a site visit and tree planting. Qenos could host a visit to look at the new Activated Carbon Filter at the effluent plant once commissioned. Will liaise with ACNCG members to confirm interest and schedule accordingly

Les was asked when next meeting is and responded that it was September now with only two meetings a year.

8. Meeting Close.

Rob closed meeting after checking if there were any closing comments.

PS

Les checked December minutes for the 2022 ACNCG program.

Next company update is due in June and the next meeting is due in September as advised