

Meeting: Sixth Community Environmental Liaison Committee
Date: May 29, 2003
Time: 7:00pm
Location: Belledune Recreation Centre

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Adoption of May 15, 2003 Minutes
4. Correspondence
5. Old Business
 - Impressions/Questions/Comments of trip to Récupère Sol Inc.
 - Discussion Board for Community Environmental Liaison Committee
 - Member Attendance
 - Presentation by Jacques Whitford re: findings from Human Health Risk Assessment
6. New Business
7. Additions to the Agenda
8. Next Meeting
9. Adjournment

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL LIAISON COMMITTEE MAY 29, 2003, MINUTES

In Attendance:

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| ▪ Francine Leger Guitard, Local Citizen | ▪ James McDonnell, Belledune Regional Environment Association |
| ▪ Mark Roherty, Local Citizen | ▪ Mario LaPointe, Eel River Bar First Nation |
| ▪ Mayor Joe Noel, Village of Belledune | ▪ Paul Fournier, Department of Environment and Local Government |
| ▪ June Boulay, Noranda Medical Centre | ▪ Denis Marquis, Jacques Whitford |
| ▪ Roger Vienneau, Co-chair | ▪ David Rae, Jacques Whitford |
| ▪ Carey Letts, Bennett Co-chair | |
| ▪ Cleo Hache, Local Citizen | |
| ▪ Gaetan Landry, Maritimes Fishermen's Union | |

Regrets:

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| ▪ Paul Deveau, NB Smelter | ▪ Sheila O'Kane, BSD |
| ▪ Brenda Kelley, BSD | ▪ Susan Firlotte, Local Citizen |

Introduction

- Meeting called to order at 7:00PM by Roger

Agenda

- Agreed to add email from Brenda Kelley of Bathurst Sustainable Development under ‘Correspondence’
- Gaetan moved to adopt the agenda, Joe seconded, all members in favour; Adopted.

Adoption of May 15/03 Minutes

- James M. pointed out that under ‘Old Business’ the second point under ‘Update on Environmental Protection Plan’ should likely read Approval to Operate instead of Approval to Construct a second time.
- Joe moved to adopt minutes, Gaetan seconded, all members in favour; Adopted.

Correspondence

- The email Brenda Kelley sent on May 28th was sent to many people; would be good to get an explanation of who each person is from Brenda
- Roger pointed out that NDP Leader Elizabeth Weir is copied on the message; seems to be a political move especially since it is election time.
- Media outlets were also included on email which disagrees with the CELC Terms of Reference and Mandate; only co-chairs are supposed to communicate with media
- Roger suggested a round table take place to record member feelings on appropriateness of this email; agreed.
- Francine – questioned the need to copy so many others besides CELC members on the email, also pointed out that question 16 of her email did not specifically ask about Sydney tar ponds so should also be answered along with question 1; should consider contacting Brenda because perhaps she doesn’t read all minutes
- June – agreed that the email could have been politically motivated, though should deal with the two questions in her email
- Mark – assumes she knows how committee’s work and that it would be more appropriate to raise questions to the committee first before broadcasting on the email
- Paul – from a DELG perspective, the question regarding Sydney tar ponds was answered by Bennett to BREA on March 6th. Paul read the question and Bennett’s response:

Q: “Would the Belledune facility be able to treat the wastes from the Sydney tar ponds? If so, are there any negotiations, agreements in place, or expectations to do so?”

A: “The technology proposed for the Belledune treatment facility would be suitable to treat the material from the Sydney tar ponds, from a technical perspective. However, there have been no negotiations or agreements made in respect to that possibility. Bennett recognizes the potential sensitivities with respect to the Sydney tar ponds, and would endeavour to initiate discussions with the community in the event that this material was being proposed for treatment at Belledune. It is also possible that a new registration under the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation would be required in that event.”

- Gaetan – there’s no need to include the media on the email list. If Bennett has already answered this question there is no need to answer it again. She may have missed removing certain email addresses from the normal BSD distribution list
- James – agrees with other members, though she is part of another committee so she could be sending these questions as a rep from that group.
- Mario – inappropriate to be sending these questions to the media; need to ask her questions on her reasoning and should construct a response letter as to why she sent this letter.
- Joe – in CELC terms of reference it is clear who speaks to the media; there is also a confidentiality issue here. Question has already been answered, she has tied up the meeting for 20 minutes with this email. Letter should be sent to her stating she is in violation of terms of reference. Members of this committee take their time dedicated to it very seriously.
- Roger asked Denis to comment on question #16 (“Have you included an assessment of the impact your facility will have on the greenhouse gas emissions total for this region?”). Denis stated that any time you burn a fossil fuel you get greenhouse gases. GHG has not been included in the HHRA because it’s a global issue not a local issue. In terms of the provincial airshed, Bennett’s contribution would be a drop in a bucket, especially because they’re using a cleaner fuel like propane or butane. An estimate can be done and will be provided in written format.
- Roger moved that a response will be put together then circulated to CELC members before it is sent. June seconded, all members in favour. Moved.

Old Business

Impressions/Questions/Comments of trip to Récupère Sol Inc.

- Francine really enjoyed the trip, though found it a dusty place and thought perhaps this is just another heavy industry. Also wondered about the buffer zone if she drives by the location – what would she see? Denis showed an aerial photo in response and described the depth of the buffer zone as ~30 feet from Highway 134.
- June said she was glad she attended, though it would have been bigger. Her interest was on the testing on workers and personal protective equipment but all her questions were answered.
- Cleo – also expected it to be larger. Jean-Francois (plant manager) was good at explaining/responding to their questions
- Mark stated he was impressed with the ventilation and was happy with the trip to RSI.
- Francine noted that the containers for ship transport were not as she had expected, did not seem as tough as verbal description lead her to believe. Carey answered that more information on the containers will be provided.
- Paul was glad he had an opportunity to visit the plant.
- Gaetan said that it was a nice facility and should be a good transformation to Belledune. Enjoyed Jean-Francois and Gilles’ honesty about positives and negatives of the facility.
- James found that there was lots of information available and a lot of parameters available for monitoring the process and that so many different parts of the process could be controlled – good detail. Also impressed with openness.

- Mark asked if plastic would be lining the truck bed shouldn't that keep the material from freezing to truck bed? Carey stated that the experience at RSI during the last season was that despite the plastic lining the material sometimes stuck to the truck bed. Joe suggested could be due to moisture before plastic is laid down and material loaded.
- Mario said he enjoyed the trip, the tour was well done and there was lots of detail. He felt that it quantified that the Bennett plant in Belledune will be that much better because of technology improvements.
- Roger pointed out that farmers local to Saint Ambroise were busy the day of the trip but he was told that possible arrangements could be made to meet with or discuss with farmers in Saint Ambroise area, their experience of RSI.

Discussion Board for Community Environmental Liaison Committee

- A suitable discussion board has been found hosted by EZ Board for use by CELC members. Accounts should be up and running in a couple of weeks.

Member Attendance

- Concern arose at last meeting about members not attending meetings. Discussion around should there be a timeline for missing meetings that the member(s) is asked if they were interested or not?
- Mostly important that members receive all material from meetings even if they cannot attend.
- Roger will forward a letter to those who have not been able to attend recently.
- Mario stated that he has not been able to attend up until now due to prior commitments but will be in attendance from now on.

Human Health Risk Presentation

- Denis introduced the human health risk assessment and David Rae who is the lead on the HHRA. David took results from air quality, emissions modelling and turned that info into estimates. Protective assumptions were made along with selection of chemicals of potential concern (COPC) with use of a US EPA guidance document for screening. A final COPC list was generated including metals, hydrocarbons, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), dioxins and furans, combustion gases and volatile and semi-volatile organic compounds (VOCs/SVOCs).
- Francine asked what kind of industrial sites the Belledune facility would be cleaning up. Carey responded that wood treatment facilities would require Bennett's services – not so much gas station sites since there are usually cheaper alternatives to cleaning those sites.
- Next, exposure pathways were established. Receptors were chosen and their locations. Maximum point of impingement (MPOI) was determined to be just south of the Bennett plant.
- Paul asked that since HHRA was based on results from RSI, and Belledune will have higher level of technology, will this impact findings? Denis responded that it would add another level of safety.

- Roger asked about environmental monitoring and the area it will occur in; Bennett will be conducting baseline monitoring for site and groundwater on the proposed site; air hasn't been defined yet.

New Business

- None

Additions to the Agenda

- None

Next Meeting

- June 12/03 at Belledune Recreation Centre.

Adjournment

- Roger adjourned meeting at 8:45pm