



# TLCCG

## Tullamarine Landfill Community Consultation Group

**OUR PURPOSE:** to foster collaboration between the community, Transpacific and EPA Victoria, and ensure community concerns and aspirations regarding the closed Tullamarine Landfill and adjoining land form part of the decision making process.

### FEBRUARY 2017 MEETING SNAPSHOTS

This meeting provided an update on site rehabilitation.

#### EPA Victoria Reform

Jeremy Settle, EPA Victoria commented on the independent Inquiry into the EPA undertaken by the Ministerial Advisory Committee. Jeremy noted that the key recommendations relevant to Tullamarine landfill are:

Recommendation 6.1: Establish a legislated Chief Environmental Scientist position within the EPA's senior executive structure.

Recommendation 14.1: The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning develop a comprehensive statewide database of sites that pose a high risk to the community because of their past use, which should link to other relevant government data sources including information held by EPA.

Approximately 44 new EPA roles are being developed including community engagement, environmental health (which has been transferred from Department of Health and Human Services), epidemiologists and toxicologists (to monitor the impact from the environment on human health).

More information can be found at <http://www.epa.vic.gov.au/about-us/response-to-epa-inquiry>

#### Community Consultant Assessment

Jeremy reported that EPA Victoria and the community were still waiting on the report from the US consultant Steven Amter, Disposal Safety Incorporated, Washington.



# Tullamarine Landfill Activities

Alan O'Brien and Kieren McDermott, Cleanaway provided an update on the recent activities undertaken at the landfill

1. **Moonee Ponds Creek** sampling has commenced, focussing on salinity.



2. **Ambient air sampling** design is in progress and sampling is expected to be implemented this year. The sampling will be undertaken at differing locations - close to the flare, at the 235m drop point as in the modelling and further into the buffer land.
3. **Leachate Extraction.** EHS Support has undertaken the trials at Mounds 1, 2, and 3. Alan explained that the tests on Mounds 1 and 2 targeted the leachate whereas Mound 3 testing targeted the Light Non-Aqueous Phase Liquids (LNAPL) - oil layer on the leachate.

Key Findings – Mounds 1 & 2 (Leachate)

- Sumps were selected based on the volume of leachate available for pumping.
- Small volumes of leachate were pumped from sumps (c. 10KL in total).
- Relatively slow pumping rate and recovery.
- Transmissivity (T) of the waste is low and below the threshold recommended in US guidance for continued pumping.

Key Findings – Mound 3 (LNAPL)

- Locations were selected based on volume of LNAPL available for pumping.
- Very small volumes of LNAPL recovered from pumping operations sumps (c. 100L in total).
- Relatively slow pumping rate and recovery.
- Transmissivity (T) of the waste is low and below the threshold recommended in US guidance for continued pumping.

Community members questioned the decision-making process in which it was determined that leachate extraction was not feasible. EHS Support has been asked to respond.

4. **Stormwater Connection** to Moonee Ponds Creek –An update for the community is being prepared.
5. **The Bore Network Depths** have been reviewed to assess the capacity and infrastructure of all the wells to detect Dense Non-Aqueous Phase Liquids (DNAPL). Testing is best in deep wells especially in the bedrock.



Community members expressed concerns about the possible presence and movement of DNAPL. Cleanaway responded that DNAPL hasn't been detected at the landfill at all and would be very slow moving if it were to be present.

**6. The Groundwater Management Plan and Groundwater Sampling Schedule** have been released to TLCCG

**7. Flare Report** has also been released to TLCCG.

Key findings of Flare Report

- A new more robust sampling technique was employed. The sample canister is filled at a much lower point in the flare after reaching the vacuum pump, allowing for more accurate testing.

**Flare Sampling Equipment - Calibrated In-Situ Equipment**  
Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), Temp, Pressure, Flow



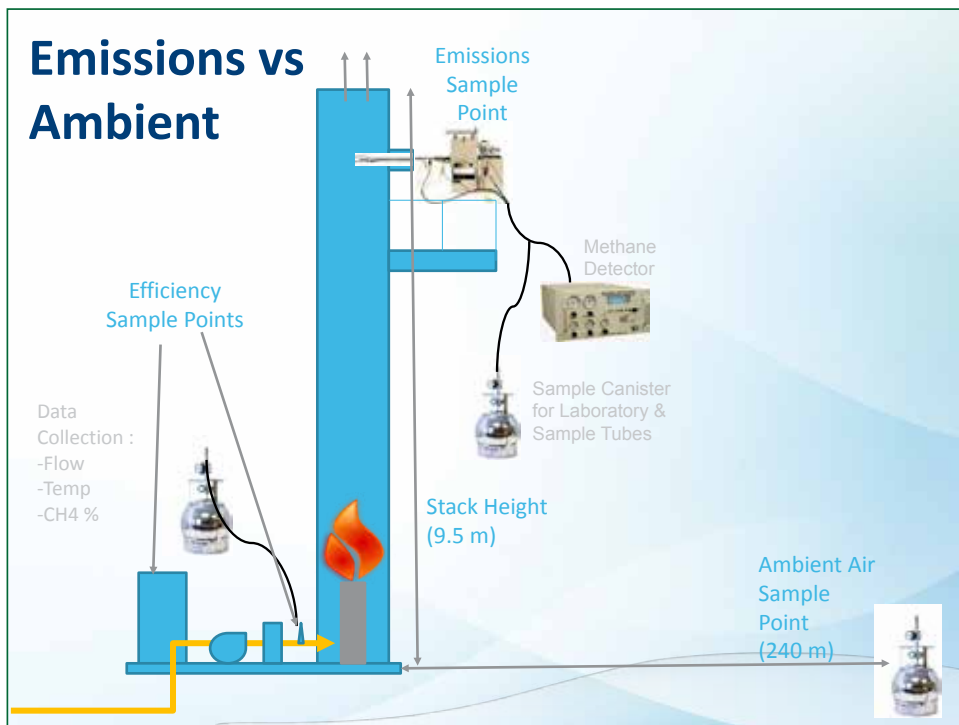
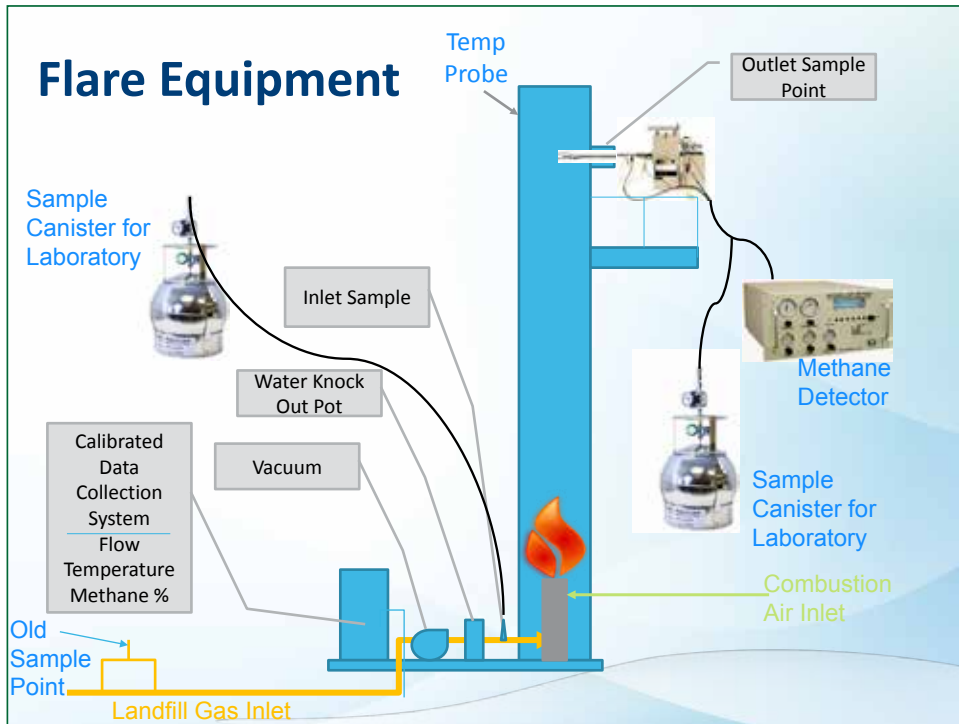
**Flare Equipment (new sample locations circled in red)**



- Results indicate Flare emissions are low and there is no impact to the ambient air.
- Methane destruction efficiency is greater than 99.9%.

Several community members reiterated their disappointment that the flare was not reaching the promised 99.99% destruction rate by Cleanaway management and that it has taken years to make the necessary changes to the flare to improve the sampling. The 99.99% destruction rate is the benchmark that the community expects to be reached.

- Some compounds are created in the stack (Acrolein, Poly aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), Dioxins and Furans) and these are below relevant (including US and Europe) standards.
- While further sampling is not required by EPA Victoria, Cleanaway will complete ambient air sampling during 2017 – the frequency is yet to be determined.



- LFG Auditor (Warren Pump) is providing his comments on the Flare Report.

Community members were concerned about the lack of a national standard for testing of dioxin and furan intake in humans. They also asked for the reports to be provided to the community in a less scientific format.

## NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be held on 24 May 2017

For a full account of discussions at the meeting and associated attachments see the meeting notes at <http://www.cleanaway.com.au/community/major-project/tullamarine-closed-landfill-vic/>

TLCCG is supported by Cleanaway in order to foster good communication and relations with the community.