

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Environmental Authority  
Held on Wednesday, 24 July 2019  
At the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Botanical Gardens, Paget**

**PRESENT:** Mrs. Sarah Haycock Tafur, Deputy Chair  
Mrs. Susan Armstrong, Member  
Dr. Nick Bates, Member, present via internet video call  
Mr. Eugene Saunders, Member  
Mr. Jonathan Starling, Member

**ADVISORS:** Dr. Geoff Smith, Environmental Engineer, DENR  
Dr. Shaun Lavis, Hydrogeologist, DENR  
Mr. Tom Crossan, Chief Environmental Health Officer  
Mr. Yves "Bob" Lortie, Chief Engineer, Public Works  
Mr. Kirk Outerbridge, TBWEF Plant Manager, Public Works  
Mr. Tarik Christopher, Principal Engineer (Water & Sewage), Public Works  
Ms. Patricia Hollis, Environmental Officer, DENR, Recording Secretary

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mr. Justus Anderson, Summer Student, DENR

**ABSENT:** Mrs. Winnifred Fostine-DeSilva, Chair  
Ms. Lynesha Lightbourne, Member  
Mr. Armell Thomas, Senior Environmental Health Officer

**1. Confirmation of Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 June 2019 were approved and signed by the Chair.

**2. Elbow Beach Waste Water Treatment Plant**

The Authority **TOOK NOTE:**

that the Department of Environment and Natural Resources had received a draft report prepared by Water Infrastructure Group (WIG) on recommended short-term options that Elbow Beach could take to bring the plant into compliance. Once DENR has reviewed the draft and confirmed that Elbow Beach has engaged WIG to undertake the work, the Authority will be updated.

**3. Process to Nominate Competent Persons under Health & Safety (Pressure Systems) Regulations 1989.**

The Authority **TOOK NOTE:**

that DENR has notified pressure system licencees of the new process, and that the Department of Health has notified the two previous competent persons that they both need to make a new application to the Minister of Health demonstrating their accreditations and liability insurances in order to be deemed 'competent' under the Health and Safety at Work (Pressure Systems) Regulations 1989.

The Authority **RECOMMENDED:**

that a Government Notice be placed in the Official Gazette (Government website) notifying interested parties of the new "competent person" process.

**4. Public Works Request for Disposal of Raw Ash at Airport Waste Facility**

The Authority **TOOK NOTE:**

that the proposal has been sent to the Department of Health for their comment. Kirk Outerbridge agreed to forward dust study reports undertaken at Tynes Bay Waste to Energy Facility to the Chief Environmental Health Officer.

**5. CP-634, OL-1020 Bierman's Concrete Products mobile rock crusher/sand sifter.**

The Authority **TOOK NOTE:**

that the construction permit and operating licence had been issued to Biermans, and that the objectors had been notified.

## 6. Proposed Changes to the Policy on Sound from Generators

It was noted that it will be beneficial to amend the policy on sound to reflect the need for approval of some generators because of mitigating factors (e.g. supply to essential services). DENR has drafted revisions to the policy, which will be submitted to the Authority for their consideration in due course.

The Authority **AGREED**:

that proposed changes to the noise policy could be considered in a subsequent email meeting.

The Authority **RECOMMENDED**:

that the need for an acoustics specialist/sound engineer in Bermuda be brought to the attention of the Engineers' Council.

## 7. Applications for Construction Permits and Operating Licences (New)

7.1 The Authority **DEFERRED** the following applications:

- CP-610, OL-986 C. Lopes Genset, 40 kW, Mission Crescent, Paget
- CP-611, OL-987 Lovett Genset, 20kW Diesel, 7 South Road, Hamilton Parish (options to mitigate noise and revised sound modelling required); and
- CP-613, OL-989 Clarien Bank, 40kW Kohler, Diesel genset, Point Finger Road, Paget (Deferred pending submission of sound survey).
- CP-636, OL-1022 Harkins, one 20 kW propane generator at 9 Harvest Lane, Hamilton Parish, pending testing with acoustic blankets.
- CP-367, 368, OL-1028, OL-1029 Aecon, two 1500 kW diesel generators at 3 Cahow Way, St. Georges, pending submission of additional information.

7.2 The Authority **TOOK NOTE**:

that there were no new applications for construction permits or operating licences.

## 8. Applications for Operating Licences (Reissue)

8.1 The Authority **APPROVED**:

the reissue of Operating Licences on the two-page printout, subject to standard conditions.

## 9. Application for Import Permit

9.1 The Authority **APPROVED**:

the issue of a chemical import permit to Karibuni Ltd. for 200 30-lb cylinders of R404 and 240 30-lb cylinders of R507, subject to standard conditions.

## 10. Applications for Water Rights (New)

10.1 WR 5628 Henry Talbot III, 14 Woodlands Road. **Deferred again.**

10.2 WR 5632 Gospel Tabernacle Church, Radnor Estate Road, Hamilton Parish. **Deferred again.**

10.3 WR 5631 MPW/ROCON 8 Somner Road, St. George's.

Public Works submitted an application for the relocation of the St. George's RO Plant abstraction well from near the north shore coast to the RO Plant site at 8 Somner Road, St. George's. It was reported that a well in a new location is required because there is short circuiting of saline water between the St. George's RO Plant abstraction and disposal boreholes; there is bacterial contamination in the well which requires frequent cleaning, and the redevelopment of the golf course will restrict access to the boreholes and pipework for maintenance. It was also reported that the potable supply to the town of St. George is approaching critical failure. The constraints on water production is affecting tourism. It was noted that the replacement well would only be in use for 2 years or so, until the water and waste water master plan for St. George's and St. David's was implemented in 2022.

The proposed well design is for a 12 inch casing extending to 30 feet below sea level and then 8 inch diameter open hole extending from the bottom of the casing for about 30 to 40 feet until reaching the Bermuda volcanics. The existing, poorly functioning abstraction well will be kept as a backup.

It was reported that DENR had requested an options appraisal/risk assessment to be undertaken by the applicants. It was considered important to have an independent expert review the proposal and consider all options, including a sea outfall for the reject water. This has not been received, but MPW discussed with the Authority their reasons for choosing the new location for their well.

A discussion was held of how to compensate existing Water Right holders if they are affected by the proposed new well; this will be set out in a list of additional, non-standard licence conditions. DENR proposed a monitoring programme using a control well (possibly Khyber Pass borehole) to help distinguish between regional and local ground water quality changes.

The Public Works representatives left the meeting.

The Authority **APPROVED:**

the relocation of the RO Plant abstraction borehole to the site at the R.O. Plant. The proposed additional conditions will be circulated to the Members for their consideration.

10.4 WR 5642, 5643, 5644 Bermuda Skyport Corp. Ltd.

The Authority **APPROVED** water right applications for 3 abstraction wells, each 1.32 mgpd, for air conditioning cooling system at the Bermuda International Airport, 3 Cahow Way, St. George's, subject to standard conditions.

#### **11. Applications for Water Rights (Reissue)**

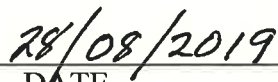
The Authority **APPROVED:**

the issue of water rights as listed on the three-page printout with the exception of nine indicated as withdrawn.

#### **12. Date of the Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting was set for 8:30 am, Wednesday, 28 August 2019.

  
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CHAIRMAN

  
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DATE