

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Environmental Authority  
Held on Tuesday, 27 July 2021  
At the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Botanical Gardens, Paget  
and Remotely using WebEx Teleconference**

**PRESENT:** Ms. Davida Morris, Chair, (by remote access)  
Mr. Eugene Saunders, Member (by remote access)  
Mr. Andrew Barnes, Member, (by remote access)  
Mr. James Morrison, Member (by remote access)  
Mr. Jonathan Starling, Member, (by remote access)

**ADVISORS:** Dr. Geoff Smith, Environmental Engineer, DENR  
Dr. Shaun Lavis, Hydrogeologist, DENR  
Mr. Tarik Christopher, Principal Engineer (Water & Sewage), Public Works  
Mr. Kirk Outerbridge, Chief Engineer, Public Works, (by remote access)  
Ms. Patricia Hollis, Environmental Officer, DENR, Recording Secretary

**ABSENT:** Mrs. Susan Armstrong, Member  
Mr. Willie Ferguson, Member  
Mr. Paul McDonald, Acting Senior Planner, Dept. of Planning  
Mr. Armell Thomas, Senior Environmental Health Officer  
Mr. Tom Crossan, Chief Environmental Health Officer

**1. Confirmation of Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 29 June 2021 were reviewed and accepted. They are to be signed at the next in-person meeting.

**2. Corporation of Hamilton—Upgrades to Sewer and Treatment Plant**

At the meeting held on 29 June 2021, it was reported that meetings had been held between the Corporation of Hamilton (CoH) and the MPW to discuss proposed improvements to the City of Hamilton waste water treatment plant. It has been agreed in principle that funding will be approved for upgrades if they can be shown to be complementary to the Government's sewage master plan. Once DENR receives a copy of the agreement, it will be shared with the Authority.

**3. Elbow Beach Waste Water Treatment Plant - there was nothing to report.**

**4. BELCO Water Quality Monitoring –update**

The Authority **TOOK NOTE:**

that in compliance with its Operating Licence conditions, water tanks at 5 properties were sampled in June 2021. Very recently, the analytical results were made available by the testing laboratory. Once reviewed, the results will be shared with the Environmental Authority.

**5. Application for Import of HCFC Refrigerant R-22**

At the meeting held on 29 June 2021, the Authority considered an application submitted by Airpro for the import of 10 cylinders each with 30 pounds of R-22, an ozone depleting refrigerant. The Authority deferred the application, requesting information on the sites of intended use of the R-22. This information was supplied (2 Government facilities—Sylvia Richardson Care Home in St. George's, and Global House, Church Street, Hamilton) at the email meeting of 25 July 2021. The Authority again deferred the application at that email meeting.

After discussion about the Environmental Authority's long standing policy of allowing market forces to drive future imports of R-22, the desire to encourage more environmentally-friendly refrigerants, the lack of budget for maintenance/replacement of facilities in Government buildings, and the need to maintain climate control at critical buildings, the Authority **AGREED to APPROVE:**

the application for the import of 10 cylinders of R-22 on condition that notice be issued to Public Works Estates Section and other building managers advising them that replacement of

older systems using R-22 should be made a high priority as future import applications for R-22 may not be approved.

The Authority **REQUESTED:**

that a strategy for communications about R-22 be submitted at the next meeting.

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

### **6.1 CP-727, OL-1143 Mr. Gary Young**

The Authority **APPROVED:**

the application for a 14 kW LPG genset at 10 Barnes Valley, Paget subject to standard conditions and providing a 4 foot high fence with sound blankets is installed and that no objections are received during the advertisement period.

### **6.2 CP-729, OL-1145 Ministry of Public Works Fort Victoria, St. George's**

The Authority **APPROVED:**

the application for a 15 kW diesel genset at sewage pumping station, Fort Victoria, St. George's, subject to standard conditions.

### **6.3 CP-731, OL-1149 Ministry of Public Works, 17 Somner Lane, St. George's**

The Authority **APPROVED:**

the application for a 250 kW diesel genset at the RO Plant, 17 Somner Lane, St. George's subject to standard conditions.

### **6.4 CP-715, OL-1122 Mr. Kizer**

The Authority **APPROVED:**

the application for a 20 kW diesel genset at 35 Grape Bay Drive, Paget subject to standard conditions and use of sound blankets as detailed in the sound modelling used to support the application.

### **6.5 CP-732, OL-1150 Bermuda Hospitals Board**

The Authority **APPROVED:**

the application for a 22 kW propane genset at 25 Berry Hill Road, Paget subject to standard conditions and providing no complaints are received during the advertised period.

### **6.6 CP-733, OL-1151 Liz Mayne**

The Authority **APPROVED:**

the application for a 20 kW propane genset at 7 Sunny Lane, St. George's subject to standard conditions and providing the genset is surrounded by a solid masonry block wall, as per the software modelling used to support the application, to help attenuate the sound.

## **7. Applications for Operating Licences (Reissue)**

7.1 The Authority **APPROVED:**

the reissue of operating licences on the two-page printout, subject to standard conditions, with the exception of OL-145 Grotto Bay WWTP which was deferred pending submission of the annual report.

7.2 The Authority **APPROVED:**

the revised conditions attached to the Bermuda Hospitals Board Steam Sterilizer Macerators (OL-1146, 1147).

## **8. Applications for Water Rights (New)**

8.1 The Authority **APPROVED:**

WR 5700 Teucer Ltd, 3 Cedar Avenue, Commercial WR for 585 gpd supply to guest house.

WR 5701 Warwick Academy, domestic WR for disposal of rain water at 117 Middle Rd, Warwick subject to standard conditions.

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

The Authority **APPROVED** the reissuance of Water Rights on the two-page printout, subject to standard conditions:

**10. Tobacco Bay Bathing Water Quality**

The Authority **TOOK NOTE:**

of measures undertaken to address the recent exceedance of the bathing water standards at Tobacco Bay, St. George’s, where a high *Enterococci sp.* bacteria count was recorded by the Department of Health on one occasion where subsequent analyses showed compliance.

The measures undertaken by BDLC are as follows:

- Installation of an electronic flowmeter from St Regis (Completed Fri 23rd July - not electrically connected yet).
- Highland Sanitation Ltd were on site pumping out solids on Friday 25th June. (Note the septic tank was pumped out before the St Regis line was connected to it and hotel opened in May)
- Highland Sanitation will be put on a bi-weekly schedule to remove waste from the septic tank going forward.

**11. MPW Water Rights – Withdrawal Update and Next Steps**

The Authority **TOOK NOTE:**

that the Ministry of Public Works had recently withdrawn 33 water rights from abstraction zones over the central freshwater lens. DENR will seek advice from the Attorney General’s Chambers on how make the water rights available to interested parties for the purposes of potable water supply.

**12. Establishment of a Water Authority**

The Environmental Authority were reminded that the Ministry of Public Works is intending on establishing a Water Authority to regulate the distribution of public water.

The Authority **REQUESTED:**

that a letter be sent on their behalf to the Ministry of Public Works asking for the Environmental Authority to be considered as a stakeholder and to be consulted during this process.

**13. EA Operational Policy #9 (Gensets): Update Discussion**

The Authority **AGREED:**

that their Operation Policy #9 Electrical Back-up Generators shall be updated to include a policy statement stating that non-compliant applications that have received the appropriate assessment by DENR may be declined, rather than deferred by the EA.

The Authority **REQUESTED:**

that the revised policy be circulated via email for comment.

**14. Date of the Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting was set for 8:30 am, Tuesday, 31 August 2021.



CHAIRMAN

26/10/2021

DATE

