

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Environmental Authority  
Held on Wednesday, 25 September 2024  
At the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Botanical Gardens, Paget  
and Remotely using Teams Teleconference**

**PRESENT:** Ms. Davida Morris, Chair (by remote access)  
Mr. Eugene Saunders, Deputy Chair  
Mr. Willie Ferguson, Member (by remote access)  
Mr. Harry Matthie, Member  
Mr. Jonathan Starling, Member (by remote access)

**ADVISORS:** Dr. Geoff Smith, Environmental Engineer, DENR  
Dr. Shaun Lavis, Hydrogeologist, DENR  
Ms. Patricia Hollis, Environmental Officer, DENR  
Mr. Tarik Christopher, Acting Chief Engineer, Public Works (by remote access)  
Mr. Paul McDonald, Senior Planning Officer, Dept. of Planning

**ABSENT:** Mr. Andrew Barnes, Member  
Mr. James Morrison, Member  
Mr. Armell Thomas, Acting Chief Environmental Health Officer  
Ms. Crystal Baxter, Environmental Health Officer

**BELCO:** Mr. Mark Pacheco, Director of OHSE and Business Continuity  
Ms. Kascia DeSilva, OHSE Manager

**1. Confirmation of Minutes**

Minutes of the meeting No. 397 held on 28 August 2024 were approved and signed by the Deputy Chair.

**2. BELCO Complaints—July 2024**

The Authority **TOOK NOTE:**

In August, there were 7 complaints of soot, and none for hot oil odour. The soot complaints were on 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> August.

The Authority **TOOK NOTE:**

that a response from BELCO to the Authority's letter sent on 29 July had been received on 26 August 2024. The letter requested details on the actions taken to date and their plans going forward to address the soot fallout and hot oil odours.

The Authority **AGREED:**

that a draft response from the Authority to BELCO shall be drafted and presented to the Members for their consideration at the next meeting.

**3. BELCO Remedial Action Plan Update**

- There was no update to report.

**4. BELCO Emission Control Order Natural Justice Letter**

- It was reported that the Department of Environment and Natural Resources is working with the Attorney General's Chambers to amend the Clean Air Act 1991 to address the large-particulate soot fallout events.

**5. BELCO Presentation of Annual Report**

Mr. Mark Pacheco and Ms. Kascia DeSilva gave a presentation on BELCO's annual report.

A summary of the bulk generation operations was given:

- Since 2021, there have been 8 diesel engines, 4 gas turbines and one oily water treatment plant in operation, producing a maximum of 142 kWh.
- In 2023 679,388 barrels of heavy fuel oil and 59,662 barrels of light fuel oil were used

An overview of the transmission, distribution & retail sectors was given: There are:

- 255 miles of underground transmission and distribution cable
- 915 miles of overhead distribution and service lines
- 32 Substations and numerous vaults
- About 2500 pole and pad-mount transformers
- The transmission network upgrade project continues: to replace 50% of underground transmission cables, and to increase capacity to support large-scale renewable energy projects.

An overview of the environmental management was given:

- 6 of 8 engines are equipped with continuous in-stack opacity monitors
- Certified visual and camera-based observers are on site
- 3 ambient air monitoring stations are maintained to measure pollutants and meteorological conditions
- In 2023, 185,599 US gallons of waste was recovered from plant operations and process at a licenced facility in the USA
- The oily wastewater treatment plant is used to separate water from oily wastes.
- A network of 19 wells remains for subsurface hydrocarbon recovery
- BELCO continues to respond to environmental complaints, painting roofs where needed
- BELCO continues its ambient vibration monitoring programmes
- BELCO continues its spill prevention and response programmes. Skill specific training and standard operating procedure awareness training are given routinely. Fuel tanks and pipeline inspections, maintenance and testing are undertaken regularly.
- Of the 32 spills in 2023, four were reportable.
- BELCO continues to maintain its environmental management system (ISO 14001 certification)
- Testing of BELCO's major environmental pollution plan was undertaken on 12 July 2023 at a real time incident of a spill of 70 US gallons of oily water during maintenance of a disposal borehole.

BELCO reported that it has met compliance obligations of all operating licence conditions. The Members thanked BELCO for their presentation.

#### 6. Tynes Bay Waste Facility August 2024 Update

- **Stream #1:** was available for 18-days and ran for 18-days. It was offline due to planned rebuilding of feeder table.
- **Stream #2:** was available 23-days and ran for 21-days. It was offline due to low and wet trash and planned refractory replacement.
- **Turbine (T2):** was available for 31-days and ran for 31-days at 41% efficiency. Multiple trips were reported 19-21 July due to oil leak on actuator.
- **Total waste** (less metal): 4,623.34 tonnes. Cooking oil – 47.08 tonnes.
- **Total electricity** sent to BELCO: 15 July to 15 Aug 1011.23 MWh.; Total electricity produced for August: 1941.733 MWh.
- **Ash Processing Plant:** 136 loads of ash-cement to the Airport Waste Management Facility. All loads were used for capping (no block production)
- **Unconsolidated Ash:** 0 loads = 0 tonnes were disposed of at the Airport Waste Management Facility

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

None

#### 8. Applications for Construction Permits and Operating Licences (Reissues)

##### 8.1 The Authority **APPROVED:**

the applications for reissue of operating licences listed on the two-page printout, subject to standard conditions, with the exception of two (OL-1106 Continental Trust and OL-1159) which were deferred pending submission of additional information.

8.2 OL-1106 Continental Trust 22 kW propane genset was operated contrary to operating licence conditions. The Authority **AGREED:** to request the applicant to submit plans for permanent and improved sound abatement

8.3 OL-1159 Arias spray paint facility. The Authority **DEFERRED** the application pending investigation of complaints of paint fumes in the neighbourhood.

#### 9. Applications for Import Permit

The Authority **TOOK NOTE** of the Import Permits issued in August, subject to standard conditions:

- 9.1 C 195 Aircare Ltd import of forty 25 lb cylinders of R410A
- 9.2 C 196 Cool Zone import of six 14.8 oz cylinders of R600A
- 9.3 C 197 Karibuni Ltd import of five hundred 11.3 kg cylinders of R410A and three hundred and sixty 11.3 kg cylinders of R507
- 9.4 C198 Sub Zero Air Conditioning import of one hundred and twenty eight 9.5 kg cylinders of R32, one hundred 11.3 kg cylinders of R410A, and fifty 13 kg cylinders of R134A

#### 10. Applications for Water Rights (New)

10.1 The Authority again **DEFERRED**:

WR 5830 Meyer Properties Ltd commercial water right for supply to boat power washer at 19 Wellington Slip Road, St. Georges, pending a site visit by the Government Hydrogeologist to assess current power washing practices and environmental stewardship.

10.2 The Authority **APPROVED**:

WR 5831 Warwick Academy School, 117 Middle Road, Warwick for the disposal of tank water overflow, subject to standard conditions

10.3 The Authority **APPROVED**:

WR 5832 Marshall Worx, 9 Burnaby Street, Hamilton for the disposal of tank water overflow, subject to standard conditions


#### 11. Applications for Water Rights (Reissues)

11.1 The Authority **APPROVED**:

the reissuance of Water Rights on the two-page printout, subject to standard conditions with the exception of two indicated as withdrawn.

#### 12. Date of the Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for 8:30 am, Wednesday, 30 October 2024 in the DENR Boardroom, Botanical Gardens, Paget

  
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CHAIRMAN

30 October 2024  
DATE

