

**Adbri Community Liaison Group Meeting**  
**Held on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2024**  
**City of Port Adelaide Enfield Council Town Hall 6 pm**

## **1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

We acknowledge and pay respect to the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet. We pay respect to Elders past and present. We respect their spiritual beliefs and connections to land which are of continuing importance to the living Kurna people of today.

## **2. OPENING**

Meeting opened at 6:05 pm with a welcome and acknowledgement of country. The meeting was facilitated by independent facilitator Barbara Chappell and notes taken by Brenton Chappell from Simply Speaking. Barbara welcomed everyone to the Adbri Community Liaison Group (CLG) meeting and went through housekeeping and proposed guidelines for how the people gathered could talk with one another respectfully and have a productive meeting.

She explained there would be an update from Adbri and a presentation from the EPA on work they had been doing in the area; and a presentation from SA Health with responses to questions raised at the previous meeting and by the CLG community members.

She advised she had met with the CLG community organisers and there was an agreement reached on the management of the meeting and on what would be addressed at this meeting, and what would be placed on the agenda for the CLG September. She referred attendees to the agenda where this was documented (see attached).

She asked if anyone intended to record the meeting and that as a courtesy they should make everyone aware of their intentions. She advised that an attendee had recorded the last meeting without letting anyone know they were doing it. She had been asked by the CLG community members to organise a video recording of the meeting, however with short notice, there was not enough time to organise this and the best that could be done was to turn on the transcriber facility on Microsoft Word. She asked if everyone could use the microphone so their questions and comments could be heard clearly and picked up by the transcriber tool.

When she had a majority agreement to the guidelines, she proceeded to work through the meeting agenda.

## **3. ATTENDANCE RECORD**

Deputy Premier Susan Close, Mayor Claire Boan, Cr Peter McGregor, Cr Steve Vines; from SA Health Professor Chris Lease, Dr Kimberley Humphrey, Andrew Brown, Razia Zariff; from EPA Tracy Nelder, David Vaughan, Andrew Pruszinski, Katie Williams; from Adbri Michael Williams, Craig Mackenzie, Peta Wingrove, Johan Revalk; Bradley Prosser from PAE, community members from the CLG Alison Derry, Brett Peterson, Tony Bazeley, Debra Stoeckel, Shane Stoeckel; facilitator Barbara Chappell, note taker Brenton Chappell.

Community member attendees: Felicity Bray, Jessica Reid, Stephen King, Craig Newlyn, Lucy Newlyn, Scott Hall, Brett Brown, Peter Baker, Christine Gates, Julie-Ann Fairweather, Peter Bowen, Karen Andrew, Catherine McMahon, Judy Diemel, Josh Falkenberg, Jesse Lemke, Michael Pearson, Sandra Bayley, Stephen Bramley, Caroline Bramley, Dan Bramley, Neil Bretana, Gaye Howe, Barry Husten, Elaine Fardell, Marisa Pla Ferrer, Peta Wingrove, Sally Robertson, Sally Munday, Tracy Grime, Lorraine, Wickham, Alison Vale, Karyn Hall, Steve Collen, Anneliese Collen, Jan Kanz, Sean Carey,

Donna Hilton, Nina Tsernjavski, George Yankovich, Sam Jackson, Kaye Schneider, Lauren Francis, Kim Petherick, Zoe Gordon, Melaine Carter, Mark Visser, Kay Roai, Rosemary Sawtell, Sam Hyde, Jane Hyde, Sharon Barlow, John Stokes, Ralph Koplzynski, Hugh Hosking, Vicki Easom, Torsten Schmitz, Levi Hudson, Kat Hop, Sandra Dann, Margarida Azevedo, Jane Edwards, Warwick Norman, Bernie McGinnes, Jodie Fogarty, Dave Tanner, Leanne Tanner, Jeanne McNicol, Bridget Grant, Tammy Franks.

#### **4. APOLOGIES**

Alison Derry (CLG)

#### **5. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2024 meeting were distributed to CLG members and as widely as possible to email addresses given (some email addresses were illegible). In response to concerns that specific questions for SA Health were not detailed in the minutes, the facilitator explained she had met with the CLG community members and explained that the minutes were a general summary of what was recorded with questions condensed where questions on the same topic were raised multiple times. The EPA also took notes during the meeting and the information gathered was drafted into FAQ's on their EPA Engage website <https://engage.epa.sa.gov.au/adbri-birkenhead>. The health questions raised during the last meeting were included in the FAQ's and put to SA Health for this meeting.

Given that explanation, the facilitator called for a motion that the minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> June y 2024 be accepted. Moved: Brett Peterson. Seconded: Tony Baseley. Motion carried.

#### **6. FOLLOW UP ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

The facilitator explained that the presentations from Adbri, EPA and SA Health were all prepared with the key aim of providing a complete picture of the information that has been gathered since the June meeting. She asked everyone to use the question sheets provided to write down any questions and hold them until all the presentations had been given. The use of question sheets had been prepared in consultation with the CLG community members.

##### **6.1 Adbri Presentation**

Michael Williams, General Manager Operations, thanked everyone for attending and acknowledged the Deputy Premier/Local Member Susan Close, Mayor of Port Adelaide Enfield Claire Boan and Councillor Peter Mc Gregor, Cr Steve Vines. At the last meeting Michael gave an update to everyone on the cause of the dust event on May 13-14, what the remedy was and what Adbri is doing in the future to prevent such an event from happening again.

Other activities since the last meeting included providing the Port Adelaide Enfield Council with an update of Adbri activities, as well as providing answers to questions submitted to the Adbri hotline.

Adbri met with Minister Close who made clear her expectations and recommendations for Adbri.

Adbri met with the EPA to discuss actions to be taken moving forward from the May event.

Adbri has submitted an Environmental Improvement Plan (EIP) as a requirement of the licence to operate. The plan submitted to the EPA did not meet their requirements citing, among other things, the need to consult more broadly with the community as a key issue. Adbri is now working with the EPA to revise the EIP and get more community input.

Adbri is providing vouchers for cars that were impacted by the dust event for use at a car detailing facility or in some cases, a mobile detailer has attended homes.

Adbri has also been inspecting and cleaning solar panels. They have engaged an external assessor who has been visiting residents and inspecting properties that have been impacted by the dust. The assessor is making recommendations on what needs to be done to rectify the situation.

Adbri has increased the amount of live video monitoring on site and improved local monitoring for dust.

Additional BAM units are being installed, including one more at the community dog park to see if there is any difference in the results.

## 6.2 EPA Presentation

David Vaughan and Katie Williams provided an update from the EPA (PP attached to minutes).

A summary of the following points were covered in the presentation:

- A number of extensive site inspections of the Adbri facility.
- Increased surveillance/environmental observations.
- Issuing an Information Discovery Order - a formal request to Adbri for information regarding the dust event.
- Meeting with community members face-to-face to better understand community concerns.
- Collected dust samples - 19 samples collected and analysed in May/June – further sampling in early July.
- Analysis of local air quality data.
- Looked for visible emissions around the area.
- Looked carefully into the quality data on the LeFevre peninsula and compared it with data from Netley and Christies Downs.
- Over the last two years there was not a large difference in air quality results across greater Adelaide.
- Graphs provided on PM 10 data comparison for April 2023 and 2024 (see slide #'s 4 and 5).
- Graph provided on PM 2.5 data (see slide # 6).
- Relativity of levels on LeFevre Peninsula worth comparing to other sites in greater Adelaide.
- Levels are well below the national standard.
- The EPA issued Adbri an EPO on 18 July 2024. A copy of the EPO is available on the EPA website at [www.epa.sa.gov.au](http://www.epa.sa.gov.au)
- An Environment Protection Order (EPO) is a legal directive from the EPA that requires a person or company to undertake actions to remedy a risk or prevent environmental harm.
- An EPO is issued pursuant to Section 93 of the *Environment Protection Act 1993*.

### Environmental Sampling (slide # 7)

- EPA collected 19 deposited dust samples in May 2024 from locations in Birkenhead and surrounding areas.
- The samples were sent to a laboratory for analysis and the EPA received the results in June 2024. The results will be published on the EPA website (EPA Engage - <https://engage.epa.sa.gov.au/adbri-birkenhead>)
- For comparative analysis, further environmental samples have been collected by the EPA – from other suburbs and from the Adbri site. The EPA is still waiting on these results, including a chemical analysis of a clinker sample from the Adbri site. The results will be published on the EPA website.

#### **Calcite Results** (slide # 8)

- **Calcite** (which is essentially limestone –  $\text{CaCO}_3$ ) generally decreased with increasing distance from the Adbri facility.
- Limestone is stored in large quantities on the Adbri site.
- Calcite is natural mineral found widely in the environment.
- The amount of calcite in 19 samples collected ranged between 10% to 52%.

#### **Hatrurite Results** (slide # 9)

- **Hatrurite** ( $\text{Ca}_3\text{SiO}_5$ ), an important mineral phase in cement clinker, was detected in 14 of 19 samples.
- Hatrurite generally decreased or was not detected with increasing distance from the Adbri facility. The amount of hatrurite in the samples ranged between 2% to 30%.

#### **Quartz Results** (slide # 10)

- **Quartz** ( $\text{SiO}_2$ , the most common mineral on earth and major component of normal dust) generally increased with increasing distance from the Adbri facility.
- The sampling indicated that quartz concentration increased in the samples taken further away from the Adbri facility. The amount of quartz in the samples ranged between 16% to 71%.

### **6.3 SA Health Presentation**

Professor Chris Lease introduced his team of Dr Kimberley Humphrey, Andrew Brown and Razia Zarif. Ms Zarif presented the majority of the presentation for SA Health (PP attached to minutes). The questions on the agenda are listed on slide #'s 11 and 12. The answers to the questions were provided throughout the SA Health presentation and not answered one after the other, however, they were all answered. The following is a summary of points covered in the presentation:

- PM or particulate matter is the common term
- PM is not any one particular pollutant but includes a mixture of solid particles and liquid droplets in air.
- These particles come in many sizes and shapes and can be made up of hundreds of different items.
- PM10 and PM 2.5 are related to air quality with the main route of exposure is through inhalation. These are very small particles e.g. PM 2.5 equates to the size of particles emitted from wildfire (bushfire) smoke (refer slide # 4).
- Total Suspended Particulate (TSP) have diameters less than  $50\ \mu\text{m}$  or sometimes  $100\ \mu\text{m}$  (Dr Kimberley Humphrey)
- Exposure to PM and effects on body systems outlined (refer slide #'s 5 and 6).
- Health studies information was provided by Andrew Brown. (Refer slide #'s 7 and 13. Research commenced in the 1950's it is only gaining traction since the 1990's.
- Health effects of air pollution (refer slide #'s 8,9 and 10).
- Information on health studies (refer to slide #'s 13, 14 and 15)

Andrew Brown provided information on the AirRater App for SmartPhones as follows:

- Developed and launched in 2015, now has over 100,000 users Australia-wide
- Provides real-time information on local air quality and pollen (where available)

- Backed by world leaders in environmental health research
- Free download and use <https://airrater.org/>
- More information on slide #'s 17 – 20.

### **Responses to questions not covered in the slides**

Acknowledgement that anxiety would have been felt at the time of the dust event.

SA Health and EPA in the process of organising a “café style” public session for residents to raise health concerns. EPA to send invitations to residents when date confirmed.

Support to be provided to CLG community organisers to promote the session.

Recommendation that people don't drink rainwater. This is standard health advice for industrialised areas that have access to mains water. This is a highly industrialised area. To be safe, drink the mains water.

There are guidelines called recreational water guidelines, which suggest that the risk of exposure from contaminants by using rainwater on veggie gardens is 1000 lower than the risk from drinking. No rainwater sampling has been undertaken at this time.

The advice is to wash vegetables before you use them. Dust falling onto vegetables is likely and not just from industry, but from the surrounding environment i.e. traffic and everything else in an industrial/residential area, needs to be washed off.

Complaints received about odour from time to time from residents on the peninsula. EPA not convinced that the odour is emanating from Adbri. There are certainly other sources of industry potentially causing the types of odours attendees were referring to. Difficult to detect odours and then determine what it is. Difficult issue as a regulator to deal with odours. EPA aware there are a couple of sites in the area.

## **7. Question and Answer Session**

### **Question**

How do we distinguish between the industrial impacts from Adbri and other industries such as bitumen works et al?

### **Answer**

Andrew provided an overview of the “Air Rater App” being developed for public health use and invited interest from the group. The App records air quality in a number of locations and is a public health tool that assists individuals to monitor air quality and take measures to protect their own health.

Invitation extended by SA Health to 20-30 community members to be part of the round table discussion for this public health data tool.

Getting other industries along to meetings has been difficult. Not wanting to buy in.

### **Question**

Burning of plastics and impacts on residents. Perception of odour generated from Refuse Derived Fuel.

**Answer**

The facilitator indicated the CLG had agreed to move discussion on RDF to the September meeting and that this meeting was for SA Health to be available to respond to general questions on the health impacts of the May dust event.

EPA indicated odours on the Le Fevre Peninsula have many sources e.g. petroleum, bitumen and difficult to detect. EPA was not convinced the odour was from Adbri.

**Question**

Why are large quantities of rubbish delivered at night?

**Answer**

EPA would not permit this.

**Question for EPA and Adbri**

Where is the sense of urgency for the health of young people in our area? Have not seen change in 36 years.

Further questions asked before a response could be provided to the above.

**Question**

Winds are from the south. Are the monitors in the right place?

**Answer**

Yes. Wind is monitored 24/7.

**Question**

What is coming out of the right chimney? It looks black.

**Answer**

Michael offered to follow up with the individual to look at his photos and clarify his question, however the individual left the meeting immediately after it finished.

**Question**

Are there any other toxic chemicals?

**Answer**

EPA monitors for other pollutants and is looking at other measures to identify pollutants.

**Question**

Are there any other monitors being installed?

**Answer**

TSP monitoring close to being installed. Planned for Spring/Summer installation.

**Question**

What was the cause of the recent power failure?

**Answer**

From SA Power Networks – one supply system was down for maintenance, and the other went down due to a vehicular accident. There was an increase in levels because of the total power outage.

New units BAM (Beta Attenuation Monitoring/Methodology) to monitor PM 2.5 and PM 10 are being installed. Testing for larger particles as well, hoping to detect issues earlier on. This will be publicly accessible data.

The CLG members go through the data during their meetings and ask questions. Invitation again extended to the community to join the CLG.

**Question**

Data reports trigger alerts. In Q1/24 just under 300 alerts were recorded. In the 2022 Trigger Report there were 500 for the whole year. This equates to trigger alerts in Q1/2024 occurred every 2.4 days; and in 2022 they occurred every 4.7 days. Were the monitors triggering different alerts now that one monitor has been decommissioned? Does this all mean trigger alerts are much higher?

Your action responses seem to be increasing. Why are there so many actions?

**Answer**

We have a network of monitors within the Adbri boundary, so action can be taken from the data collected from those monitors. Triggers can occur by moving limestone around (monitors in that location would pick up on dust caused by movement) and cause an increase.

Reporting thresholds have been reduced and therefore triggers have been increased.

In regards to external monitors and their triggers, any triggers detected on the two major stacks are reported to the EPA. Craig Mackenzie to provide further information in lay terms for the CLG.

**Question**

There are 2000 households within the region of Adbri. Information needs to reach everyone. The information from SA Health needs to be made available to everyone.

**Answer**

PowerPoint slides to be made available to everyone including the EPA slide as well and the minutes.

The Facilitator congratulated the CLG community members for getting everyone together and getting information out.

The CLG September meeting items were brought to the attention of everyone at the meeting. A Residents Charter has been proposed by the community. The focus of the Charter is improvement in notification of events at Adbri to the community.

The facilitator asked for people to leave their question sheets with her so all questions could be brought to the CLG meeting in September.

**Question**

Regarding plastics and their CO2 impact what is the commitment to CO2 reduction?

Why are there not more monitoring stations and why is air quality not assessed per hour. The 24-hour data collection averages out the peaks. Assessing the poor air quality per 24 hour period is missing the peaks right through May and April. These peaks are not shown on the Adbri website.

**Answer**

The burning of refuse fuel is largely construction woodwork, sorted and turned into a bio fuel. It does have a portion of plastics in it.

In reference to the carbon footprint, burning plastics is similar to burning gas i.e. lower than coal.

The Birkenhead plant has the lowest carbon emission per tonne of cement than any other site in Australia.

Adbri is committed to continuing to reduce the carbon emissions by 30% by 2030 and the reduction is based on 2020 baseline.

In regards to data, it is presented over 24 hours, however this can be dissected for those with an interest. The raw data is available. Adbri reports monitoring on an hourly basis.

**Question**

Can we have a central site to report to complaints? Email or phone number?

**Answer**

To be placed in the minutes, where on the website does one report?

Community website link <https://adelaidebrightoncommunity.com.au/> Phone number is 8300 0523, email address: BHCommunity@adbri.com.au.

**Question**

Is there quartz in the dust?

**Answer**

Quartz is found in dust. Answered on EPA slide # 10.

**Question**

So Quartz is silicone dioxide and does it pose a health hazard?

**Answer**

There was no sizing done on it and yes it's silicone dioxide.

Concentrations of silica increased naturally in the environment with increasing distance from the Adbri site.

Silica is not one of the raw materials. Silica is more from the soils around the area.

Quartz is not a raw material in the process. There is silica in the limestone.

**Question**

Adbri Materials Safety Data Sheet - Section 11 indicates general purpose cement is not classed as carcinogenic. Crystalline silica is classified as carcinogenic to humans.

**Answer**

There is negligible Crystalline Silica in cement. Data sheets have to cover all aspects of content.

The information is to assist in exposure reduction, particularly for people susceptible to such content.

**Question**

What is clinker? Is the black stuff in our backyards clinker dust? Do the staff working in Adbri get induction to working with clinker?

Responses to be provided to the September meeting.

**8. SUMMARY OF AGENDA ITEMS FOR SEPTEMBER MEETING**

- Update on SA Health Session for residents.
- Residents Charter to be discussed (see attached agenda).
- CLG community members will need funding support to get information out to the community. They have been funding the printing of flyers etc.
- EPA happy to help with a mail out.



- Residents worried about: RDF, 20% plastic (burning 1.5 million tonnes per year) and clinker. AdBri has indicated that they want to increase the output of plastics burnt. What does SA Health have to say about the impacts of these products on people's health?
- There is slag from Whyalla being stored at the AdBri site - how is this being stored and what are the ramifications of the storage of slag on people's health?
- Oxides of Nitrogen – 4 questions to be tabled by the representative from the Port Adelaide Resident's Environment Protection Group.
- Review of Adbri Environmental Protection Plan (CLG)
- How much Clinker did Adbri lose out of the shed during the May 2024 dust event?

**Please note:** The question sheets will be typed up and the questions will be put forward for responses. The responses will be tabled at the September CLG meeting.

## 9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024 at 6:00 pm in the PAE Town Hall.

Meeting closed at 8.30pm