

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Environmental Authority
Held on Tuesday, 31 January 2023
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
Mrs. Susan Armstrong, Member (by remote access)
Mr. Andrew Barnes, Member (by remote access)
Mr. Willie Ferguson, Member (by remote access)
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
Ms. Crystal Baxter, Environmental Health Officer

ABSENT: Mr. James Morrison, Member
Mr. Kirk Outerbridge, Chief Engineer, Public Works
Mr. Tarik Christopher, Principal Engineer (Water & Sewage), Public Works
Mr. Paul McDonald, Acting Senior Planner, Dept. of Planning
Mr. Armell Thomas Senior Environmental Health Officer

1. Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the meetings held on 29 November, 12 December and 20 December 2022 were approved and signed by the Deputy Chair. The Authority noted that the meeting held on 12 December 2022 was held electronically and for the avoidance of doubt ratified all decisions made.

2. BELCO Air Quality Updates

2.1 The Authority TOOK NOTE:

2.1.1 BELCO submitted a monthly update letter for December 2022. It reported that there were zero (0) odour complaints from fuel tanks and associated activities along St. John's Road, Pembroke; there were no sensors at Ocean Lane so exceedance of the air quality standards or targets are unknown; there were zero (0) soot complaints in December.

2.1.2 BELCO's response to the Environmental Authority's letter dated 21 December 2022 was received. In its reply, BELCO requested a meeting with the Environmental Authority to discuss the requested changes to its operating licence and the need to provide additional reporting.

The Authority **AGREED:**

to meet with BELCO representatives at a mutually agreed time and place.

3 Elbow Beach Waste Water Treatment Plant

The Authority **TOOK NOTE:**

that there is nothing new to report: the main hotel is closed, wastewater is received only from one restaurant and some of the apartments of Fritholme Gardens. The plant continues to operate without an activated sludge as a result of the low organic load. The effluent monitoring data for December was consistent with that of previous months.

The Authority **TOOK NOTE:**

of one complaint submitted on 12 January 2023 to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources of a black slurry going from the hotel area down the beach. On investigation, it was found to be debris pumped from the bottom of their swimming pool that had overflowed a temporary soakaway area. Elbow Beach apologised for the unsightly, but not environmentally harmful, discharge.

4 Ministry of Public Works Tynes Bay December 2022 Operation Update

The Authority **TOOK NOTE**:

- Stream #1 was available for 31 days in December and ran all days.
- Stream #2 was available for the first 10 days in December, ran for 10 days, then was off-line for 21 days for cleaning and maintenance.
- Both streams are due to run until 12th Jan 2023 at which point Stream #1 will have its planned shutdown for major overhaul until 3rd April 2023.
- Stream #2 is due to operate to maintain Bermuda's garbage processing capability until Stream #1 comes back online. Loss of Stream #2 for any extended period over this time will lead to the baling of garbage at Marsh Folly.
- The turbine was available for 25 days in December and ran for 21 days at 42.6% efficiency. It was offline for 4 days due to steam/electrical issue and for 6 days due to a control valve misalignment.
- Total waste processed (less metal) was 3,850 tonnes, of which 42.9 tonnes was cooking oil.
- Total electricity sent to BELCO 18 November to 16 December 975 MWh. Total electricity produced for December was 1135 MWh.
- 19 loads of ash-cement and 49 tonnes of unconsolidated ash were disposed of at the Airport Waste Management Facility.

5. Clinical Waste Incinerator (Mediwaste) Public Complaints

The Authority **TOOK NOTE**:

- That DENR met with Mediwaste representatives on 11 January 2023 to go through the expected requirements of their operating licences OL-1185 to 1187 prior to the incineration of any clinical waste or pets, including the commissioning phase.
- Mediwaste confirmed that they will meet all requirements in the operating licences prior to placing any clinical waste in the incinerator. This includes:
 - On-site inspection by DENR
 - Occupancy certificate issued by the Department of Planning
 - All sensors being calibrated and ready for operation
 - Sign-off by the manufacturer, Inciner8 Ltd.
 - Evidence of third-party baseline soil samples being collected for analysis
 - All monitoring logs being ready for data input

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

6.1 CP-757, OL-1193 Bermuda Housing Corporation Ltd

The Authority **DEFERRED**:

consideration of the construction permit and operating licence for a 300 kW diesel generator at Bermudiana Beach Resort, 60 South Road, pending submission of additional information.

6.2 CP-758, OL-1194 Bermuda Housing Corporation Ltd

The Authority **DEFERRED**:

consideration of the construction permit and operating licence for a 300 kW diesel generator at Bermudiana Beach Resort, 60 South Road, pending submission of additional information.

6.3 CP-787, OL-1205, CP-788, OL-1206 Bank of N. T. Butterfield

The Authority **APPROVED**:

the construction permits and operating licences for two 500 kW diesel generators at 65 Front Street, Hamilton, subject to standard conditions.

6.4 CP-789, OL-1207 Flick, 49 Tucker's Town Road, St. George's

The Authority **DEFERRED**:

consideration of the construction permit and operating licence for a 32 kW generator pending submission of additional information.

6.5 CP-665, OL-1062 US Consulate General

The Authority **APPROVED**:

the construction permit and operating licence for a 55 kW diesel generator at 33 Wilkinson Avenue, Hamilton Parish, subject to standard conditions. It was noted that this is an essential use, and all reasonable steps were taken to mitigate the noise from the generator.

7. Applications for Construction Permits and Operating Licences (Reissues)

7.1 The Authority APPROVED:

The applications for reissue of operating licences listed on the five-page printout, subject to standard conditions. It was noted that Susan Armstrong stood aside during consideration of OL-1051, generator at 181 South Road, Paget. Those approved included the applications for OL-305 RWTP WWTP, OL-789 Ord Road Laundry effluent disposal, OL-857 BLDC WWTP, and OL-887 Sardis Development WWTP. Satisfactory annual reports had been received for the waste water treatment plants.

8. Applications for Water Rights (New)

8.1 The Authority APPROVED:

WR 5778 Delmonte and Judith Swan, domestic water right for the supply to one household at 4 Tecoma Lane, Smith's, subject to standard conditions.

8.2 The Authority APPROVED:

WR 5777 Mark Strecker, domestic water right at 35 Harbour Road, Warwick for the disposal of treated sewage effluent via a septic tank, subject to standard conditions and providing the borehole is sealed at least 40 feet below sea level.

8.3 The Authority APPROVED:

WR 5779 Blake Alexander, domestic water right at 21 North Shore Road, Smith's for the disposal of treated sewage effluent via a septic tank, subject to standard conditions and providing the borehole is sealed at least 40 feet below sea level.

9. Applications for Water Rights (Reissues)

9.1 The Authority APPROVED:

the reissuance of Water Rights on the four-page printout, subject to standard conditions, with the exception of five indicated as withdrawn. This list included applications for 20 boreholes for monitoring/recovery at BELCO, Serpentine Road, Pembroke, which were approved for a one-year period.

10. Well Digger's Licence

10.1 The Authority APPROVED:

the annual well diggers licence WE-2 application for Atlantic Water Development Co., subject to standard conditions and providing the well drilling report for 2022 is submitted.

11. Advertising Withdrawn Water Rights for Public Supply

The Authority **TOOK NOTE**

that DENR was sending a letter to the Ministry of Public Works to keep them informed of their water right withdrawal process and the granting of those water rights to others. It was agreed that initially the new water rights would be granted for a one-year period to encourage the new holders to begin using them.

12. Date of the Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was set for 8:30 am, Tuesday, 28 February 2023.



CHAIRMAN

28 FEBRUARY 2023

DATE

