



**Port Hedland Industries Council**  
Community Industry Meeting

**Minutes**

Wednesday 19 February, 2020  
3.00 pm

**VENUE**

Web Business Hub  
18 Edgar St, Port Hedland

<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Kirsty Danby (Chair)	PHIC
Commissioner Fred Riebeling	Town of Port Hedland
Trish Barron	PDC
Morag Lowe	Community
Roger Higgins	Community
John Carter	North Regional Tafe
Kieran Lawler	Care For Hedland
Jaylan Smith	PHIC / FMG
Jeanette Hasleby	PHIC / Roy Hill
Tegan Reid	PHIC / PPA
Clinton Smith	Community
Michelle Kivits	Ashburton Aboriginal Corp
Patrik Mellberg	PHIC / BHP
Chantel Cullen	PHIC

<b>Apologies</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Kevin Michel, MP	Member for Pilbara
Raylene Button	Kariyarra PBC
Jim Henneberry	Community
Tracey Garbin	Community

<b>Invitees</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Paul How, Account Manager	Ecotech
Peter Stidwell, Engineering Manager	Ecotech

<b>Item</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting opened by Kirsty Danby 3.00pm</li> <li>• Acknowledgement of Country and recognition of the Kariyarra people as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which the CIF meets.</li> </ul>
<b>1.1 Introductions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CIF members provided an introduction of themselves and who they are representing (if applicable).</li> <li>• Membership status proposal – CIF members adopted change in membership status: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Jim Henneberry’s resignation of CEO of Port Hedland Progress Association (PHPA), and will now represent Community</li> <li>- Roger Higgins will transfer Community Member status to now represent PHPA</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>1.2 Confirmation of Minutes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PHIC CIF Minutes 13 November 2019 confirmed by Mr Roger Higgins and seconded by Commissioner Fred Riebeling</li> </ul>
<b>1.3 About PHIC</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PHIC acts collaboratively for the benefit of industry and the Port Hedland community to ensure the long-term sustainable growth of the Port and the community.</li> </ul>
<b>1.4 Terms of Reference</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members unanimously agree PHIC CIF Meeting Minutes will be available publicly on PHIC website however it was suggested by a member that there could be the option of in-camera sessions, should a member request. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provides open and transparent communication which is the aim of the CIF.</li> <li>- Members will not be named specifically in minute discussions</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Members unanimously agree Kieran Lawler, Care for Hedland, to become Deputy Chairperson for PHIC CIF</li> </ul>
<b>2.0 PHIC Pilbara Producers &amp; Exporters Forum Summary</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms Kirsty Danby provided a summary of the Forum held in November in Port Hedland: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This was the first time all Port Hedland Port exporters came together in a conference format to share knowledge.</li> <li>- All PHIC Members attended and presented information from environmental, health and engineering specialists and operational leaders</li> <li>- Other guest presenters included specialists from Greening Australia, health, university professors, NSW EPA (lessons learned on best practice guidelines for Hunter Valley implementation)</li> <li>- Established opportunities for further communication for members to impart knowledge</li> <li>- Recognise that each operation is unique and there is no ‘one size fits all’ approach.</li> <li>- PHIC members who have travelled Australia and overseas to gain further understanding of best practice shared their learnings and opportunities for consideration.</li> <li>- PHIC members support the notion that there is no competitive advantage to dust mitigation</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Group Discussion:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CIF Member suggested that greening would assist in the visual amenity in town. PHIC advised that greening is actively being pursued by members and is also considered in the Taskforce recommendations. Agreement to continue this focus and take recommendations on best species that can be sustained in the Pilbara.</li> <li>- CIF Member suggested that Port of Waratah could also be a benchmark for PHIC members to consider</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

### 3.0 Port Hedland Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Network

- Ms Kirsty Danby:  
**History of network:**
  - Established by PHIC in 2010 to support Taskforce recommendations
  - Reference sites to capture cumulative dust in Port Hedland air shed
  - Part of 8 monitoring stations in Port Hedland. Sites selected by air quality experts.
    - Residential monitors: Kingsmill Street, Neptune Place, Richardson Street and Taplin Street (Taplin). The South Hedland monitoring station serves as a generally representative site for the South Hedland township.
    - The Wedgefield monitoring station is within a light industrial area that includes some residences and is located between the South Hedland and Port Hedland townships.
    - The Bureau of Meteorology station in Port Hedland is relatively distant from the bulk of port related industrial activities and residential populations and serves as a general Port Hedland background monitoring location.
    - Yule River station is removed from industry and population and is 45kms from Port Hedland and serves as a rural background monitoring location.
  - Network independently audited in 2013, in 2016, and most recently in 2018 to ensure the requirements of the Taskforce were being met
  - Measure a combination of PM10 (particulate matters less than 10 microns), PM2.5, meteorological conditions (wind speed, wind direction and temperature) and oxides of nitrogen (NOx).
  - Compliant datasets -Australian Standard –hourly average measurement -daily average 70ugm<sup>3</sup>/24 hour period (displayed live on website at 10 min intervals)
  - Real time data from each station is made available via a public website (www.phicmonitoring.com.au).
  - Network is managed independently by Ecotech.
- **Network management and calibration checks**
  - Mr Paul How, Account Manager and Mr Peter Stidwell, Engineering Manager, Ecotech presented to CIF members:
    - Hourly -BAM Unit automated calibration check
    - 3 monthly inspections, checks and calibrations (PHIC request 2 monthly)
    - 6 monthly inspections
    - Annual full site inspection (combines 3, 6 and annual inspection tasks)
    - Two-year inspections
    - Calibrations are undertaken from the stringent testing/inspection regimes:
      - Australian Standards requirements
      - PHIC requirements (3 monthly every 2 months)
      - Manufacturer requirements
      - Ecotech QA/QC requirements
- **Inconsistent readings – Taplin Street monitor**
  - Noted that at the time of presenting the Annual Report to the CIF last meeting, PHIC advised that we were surprised that there were zero exceedances at Taplin Street.
  - Noted that CIF Members had expressed concerns about lower readings at Taplin Street and were looking for re-validation.
  - Noted that in addition to the standard calibrations and equipment checks (which raised no issues) PHIC had undertaken four investigations from April 2019:
    - bringing forward the annual calibration (no issue detected)
    - engaging a specialist to conduct a meteorological report for the past seven years (no issue detected)
    - independent comparative data set tests across four network monitor sites (no issue detected)
    - in-person site inspections (no issue detected)
  - PHIC committed to continuing investigations to re-validate the datasets in addition to Australian Standard calibrations and equipment checks (no issues raised).
  - At the end of December PHIC instructed EcoTech to run a parallel BAM 1020 PM10 monitor next to the original BAM 1020 PM10 monitor (on the PM2.5 inlet). **This investigation showed a discrepancy. This was confirmed 23 January, 2020.**
  - Ecotech showed CIF members the BAM 1020 - PM10 comparison graph

- Ecotech discussed past, current and ongoing investigations –noting that **no conclusive root cause established to date (19 February 2020)**
  - Preliminary instrument data review (31 Dec-15 Jan results)
  - All regular and additional calibrations/checks from this time within normal tolerances
  - Internal audit on all maintenance checks and calibrations
  - Instrument moved from Port Hedland to Perth workshop for comparison testing (graph on results showed to members)
  - Since removed, instrument and ancillaries not repeating low readings
  - Unit sent to manufacturer for testing –preliminary report expected late March 2020
  - Hi-vol installation at Taplin Street (3<sup>rd</sup> monitor, “old-school” testing) to provide different data capture methodology (gravimetric) against 24hr daily average
  - Comparison checks with co-located hi-vols planned for each site –Richardson set up as first location
  - PHIC has launched independent audits against:
    - o Maintenance procedural audit against calibrations and checks
    - o 3<sup>rd</sup> party site inspection on procedures and practices for parallel monitor

#### **Group Discussion**

- CIF member applauded PHIC and Ecotech for their commitment to continuing investigations into re-validating the data.
- CIF member asked if PHIC could determine past exceedances.
  - At this stage, this has not been determined. Difficulty given that a specific instrument fault has not been determined.
  - Advised that PHIC has commissioned an independent data analyst to suggest methodologies that can retrospectively determine potential exceedances with scientific (100%) accuracy.
  - PHIC has also provided datasets to DWER to conduct independent analysis, noting that DWER has login access to the database and can conduct analysis at any time.
- CIF member asked if PHIC could determine timeframe of when lower readings commenced.
  - Advised that PHIC has commissioned an independent data analyst to review datasets to see if this can be determined.
  - PHIC has also provided datasets to DWER to conduct independent analysis.
- CIF member asked if the positioning of the Taplin Street monitor could have contributed to lower readings - concerned that it is in a low-lying area/gully and query about whether it could be relocated to a higher position. Group agreed to raise with DWER to review the location of Taplin Street as part of the network transition.
- CIF member asked if datasets could have been compromised through hacking/cyber security breach prior to being downloaded by Ecotech. Group agreed that this should be pursued as part of the investigation.
- Discussion around Kingsmill Street monitor becoming a reference point. Noted that DWER will determine the best reference sites as part of the network handover. Noted that PHIC’s position is to support monitor moves, providing they are in close proximity to the original sites for ongoing trend analysis. Group agreed to raise this as a point to DWER.
- CIF Member concern over transparency of network data when DWER take over the network and suggested that PHIC provides greater transparency. Group agreed for this to be raised as a concern to DWER.
- CIF Member concern about the delay of network transfer to DWER.
  - Noted that a DWER Industry Working Group for the network transfer was created in October (2019).
  - Noted that a number of site visits and network audit documents have been provided to DWER.
  - Also noted that there is a delay given there is no legal framework for cost retrieval of network costs from industry. This is currently being addressed by DWER so industry can pay, and DWER will self-manage or have an independent expert (such as Ecotech) operate the network on behalf of DWER.
  - The Taplin Street issue will likely fast track the handover.
  - Group agreed for this to be raised as a concern from CIF to DWER.
- CIF Member concerned about lack of public consultation from DWER.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Noted that DWER held consultation on network transfer in November, which was not well-attended. Members feel like this may have been largely due to the timing with Ross Love's West End Buy Back Scheme consultations around the same time.</li> <li>- CIF Member suggested the DWER consultation they attended was informative and worthwhile.</li> <li>- Group agreed to pass feedback through to DWER.</li> <li>- CIF Member asked if group could be updated on the issue regularly. Group agreed.</li> <li>- CIF member suggested that CIF could be an ongoing conduit for suggestions to DWER for the network transfer. Group agreed this would be a good approach.</li> </ul> <p><b>Site tour</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Site Tour of Taplin Street Air Monitor was conducted by Ecotech. CIF members provided access to collection platform, and inside the station.</li> </ul>
<b>5.0 Action Items</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kirsty Danby to ask for DWER's position on Taplin Street siting and network data transparency after handover</li> <li>• PHIC to invite DWER to attend the next CIF</li> </ul>
<b>6.0 Other Business</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agenda item suggestions - members to provide agenda items of interest for next meeting</li> <li>• Next Meeting: 13 May 2020</li> </ul>