

GMVUAC June 5, 2017

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Called to order – 6:58 pm

Members Present:

Steve Hiester	Hank Haynes
Peter Rimbo	Sue Neuner
Rhys Sterling	Adam Sterling
Linda Harer	Lorraine Blacklock
Stephen Deutschman	Susan Harvey

Members Absent:

Warren Iverson (proxy to Rhys)

Agenda:

Rhys moved to approve agenda, Hank seconded.

Motion passed

April/May Meeting Minutes:

Deferred to next month.

Public Comment Period:

None

Guest Speakers:

Reserve Silica Ravensdale Remedial Investigation

Dave Cook, Aspect Consulting Geologist (Reserve Silica)

Carla Brock, Aspect Consulting Geologist (Reserve Silica)

Greg Jacoby, Holcim Attorney

Frank Shuri, Golder Associates Geologist (Holcim)

Other county/agency representatives in attendance

Steve: (Read prepared notes giving a brief description of the GMVUAC)

Tonight we are pleased to have stakeholders here to join in our forum for the Reserve Silica (RS) mine south of Ravensdale. Feel free to ask questions at the end, but please be respectful.

Dave Cook: I am the principle geologist for Aspect Consulting, and I will be talking about the assessment/cleanup of contaminated sites. This site has a long history, Carla and I will talk about what we've done to date, then turn it over to Holcim and Golder.

Carla Brock: I am a geologist with Aspect Consulting, we evaluate sites placed under toxic cleanup designation by the state.

Dave Cook: To start off, ours is a very specialized business of evaluating sites with a long industrial history, we will walk through the process, the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) is the law followed for cleaning up contaminated sites, it was established in 1989. Step 1: evaluate the site, what is the history of the project area, and define the area. In this case, it is an old mine site. The Dept. of Ecology (DOE) can also go to the site and do a site hazard assessment, that was done by DOE 1.5 years ago, we had already been doing some assessment at that time, and step 1 can occur at different times throughout the process. Step 2, identify the history of the sources of contamination, did those sources contaminate the ground or groundwater, scientists come in to determine (site characterization/selection step, remedy selection). Aspect has completed this step and a report will be published in a few weeks, the public can access it from DOE's website. Step 3: if contaminants are found, next step is a feasibility study, what are the options to clean up the site, and evaluate alternatives. Step 4: establish an action plan, can have an engineering design report for more complex sites that the DOE reviews. Step 5: post-cleanup, certain property covenants are needed, pits need to be filled, etc. Final step is cleanup, closure, and delisting.

What is a remedial investigation? Details will be made available, we follow the MTCA, wanted to mention the third bullet point on this slide, a remedial investigation report is a structured, DOE-developed checklist, should have a general description of the site (history, use, etc.), summary of explorations (soil/groundwater samples examined), conceptual site model (how contaminates would migrate to ground/water from tank and discharge to a receptor, i.e. human/animal), terrestrial ecological investigation, then conclusions/recommendations (whether actions are needed), and a feasibility/action plan.

Property areas are broken down, large properties usually narrow focus of study based on history/explorations. (Referring to a PowerPoint slide map) The yellow areas are the Holcim easements, on the right is the Dale strip pit (DSP) that's been filled with cement kiln dust (CKD), same with the lower disposal area (LDA), the easement also includes the haul road connecting the disposal areas on the left, the sites were old sand mines. Site locations align with mineral seams, sand and coal, the sand was used for glass, etc. The red area was also a sand mine, it is currently being filled with inert waste/soil permitted by King County (KC), the blue line is

the lower haul road, Carla will talk about that. Upper orange area is the plant site, main operations offices when coal mine was operating and during sand mining, the area to the left of plant site used to be ponds, silt/clay material was filtered into the ponds. The rest of the site is forested, there's also an underground coal mine on the eastern half of the property. Carla will next talk about explorations and chemical testing.

Carla Brock: The site is an active fill area under the MTCA, the site also has a long history, so we first went through old info and identified gaps that need to be addressed, we reviewed 45 years of reports to complete the remedial investigation report. The active fill areas in red are former sand mines being reclaimed under an inert backfill permit, there are chemical criteria in the permit, and RS must make sure that the materials coming in meet the MTCA criteria. No environmental concerns have been identified for the active fill area in the remedial investigation report. There were 3 data gaps: first, a potential for high pH and arsenic coming from the LDA migrating north to the plant site which sits on Ravensdale lake, concern to extent of arsenic/pH. Second, the plant site itself, as petroleum products were present related to the presence of a mine on the property, and the petroleum storage areas and underground storage had not been evaluated before. Third, the presence and impact of reportedly imported slag used in the road bed, came out of a 2000 report, and another consultant noticed slag on the lower haul road.

What we found. For the first environmental concern, we installed 5 wells, 2 down gradient from the arsenic-contaminated ground water, 3 on the plant site also looking for petroleum, and sent samples from each well to a lab. Arsenic was found in the 2 wells in the lower corner of map on slide located down gradient of the ponds, a fairly low concentration of dissolved arsenic, arrows on the map indicate a flow toward Ravensdale lake, but it was a low concentration. None of the three wells on the plant site detected arsenic. As for petroleum use, there was an old diesel tank in the middle and a storage area in the upper right corner, we collected soil samples from boring, low concentrations of petroleum found in the shallow soil, but to be expected in an industrial site, and nothing was detected in the ground water, the wells were shallow because it is near a lake. Third, for the potential presence of slag, we did a series of borings along the haul road, screened samples and sent them to a lab, we saw chunks of slag mixed with gravel along the road. Arsenic and lead were detected above the natural background soil levels, we ran those through a testing method that simulates leaching, no arsenic/lead in those samples of leached water. Even though metals are there, they are not leaching out.

Based on the results, outside of the Holcim areas, there are no risks to human health/environment from petroleum or arsenic, and no migration of arsenic water onto the site. To the extent that the area could be impacted by leachate from the LDA, Holcim is responsible for cleanup on the Holcim easement.

Greg Jacoby: I am the attorney for Holcim, the company took CKD to the site in the late 70s and 80s, deposited it in two areas, the DSP and the LDA, the RS property is 400 acres, and CKD is on 13 of those acres. Frank will walk you through the environmental activities Holcim has undertaken over the last 10 years focusing on high pH levels, because big holes were filled with CKD, water flowing through emerges as leachate with high pH, Holcim is addressing it, and we will be doing more this summer. Holcim is focused on these two areas of CKD, the rest of the property is RS's responsibility.

Frank Shuri: I will be going over the activities that Holcim has done, and I am an engineer/geologist with Golder Associates. CKD (Cement Kiln Dust) is a byproduct of Portland Cement Manufacturing, they take limestone/clay/shale and heat in a kiln to make cement for concrete, construction, etc., CKD is the dust removed by air pollution control equipment, and it is a fine grained solid material. (Referring to a PowerPoint slide) This picture shows a mound of CKD, 99.5% is inert raw materials that form concrete, but water gets high a pH when it comes into contact, same with when water comes into contact with regular cement. Why was this disposed of in the environment? It happened in the 70s/80s, we were not aware of problems with CKD at the time because it becomes inert when mixed with enough water, but there is not enough in natural settings, and groundwater can become higher in pH. It was placed here under permits from the DOE, the actions were not inappropriate, we just had a limited knowledge at the time. CKD was historically used to neutralize acidic waste, and for road base, filling, etc., it is an industrial byproduct with wide uses.

The property is located south of Ravensdale lake and Ravensdale highway, the two areas Holcim is responsible for are the DSP and LDA, both are CKD areas. The LDA has high pH seepage coming from the west side, probably caused by groundwater coming from the hillside. Holcim undertook many activities to address this from 2002 to the present, and I will be handing out copies afterward. They include groundwater/surface water monitoring, used to be 4 times a year, now 2 times a year due to better historical data. In 2007 we upgraded the cover on the LDA, installed seep collection test trenches, cover inspection and maintenance. In 2010 we upgraded the DSP cover, did a number of hydro-geological investigations/trace testing to understand where groundwater goes to find out how to control it. We also established easements and drop inlets, monitored interceptor trench discharge, and fenced areas with high pH surface water. Holcim has implemented a number of site activities starting with the most basic, more things are planned, it is a logical process to address the high pH issue. The LDA cover was graded to have a uniform slope so water runs off, in 2007 we made sure to use low permeability soil over the area to stop rain water from seeping down, and spread 1/2 foot of topsoil on top to establish grass. Pictures from above shows the large LDA, the lighter area is the clay cap covering the CKD, and we spread topsoil over that. The completed cap looks grassy, sloped, and now meets DOE landfill requirements in place at the time waste was put in.

We put in test trenches in areas with high pH seepage, the drain line goes to an infiltration pond to intercept before seepage, we did this at the LDA but had a large volume of seepage, could not take it in a truck to a sewer district, so we need to handle it onsite. For the DSP, we put a similar clay/soil cover on top, re-graded it to shed water, and grew grass on top to prevent erosion. Dirt was brought in to accomplish the task, but we still saw seepage so did some more investigations, drilled boreholes for sampling, etc. to find out how groundwater is working at the site, also along the LDA where it seeps out, we put in a ditch going into a drop inlet that sends water to infiltration ponds. Only sites with high pH seepage on the surface are fenced off, and the infiltration ponds are also fenced. we did a lot of work to contain the high pH seepage, drop inlets in the ground takes water through underground pipes to the ponds.

Based on investigations, a lot of groundwater is coming into contact with the LDA from the from south and east, so the next step was to divert groundwater before it comes into contact with the CKD to create less volume that needs to be treated. In 2013 we put in a groundwater interceptor trench along the edge of the LDA, the evidence was that groundwater flows along the bedrock surface, so we dug down and put in a trench, backfilled it with gravel, and placed a liner on the CKD side to prevent seepage. We generally see 1-2 gallons per minute, we tested it every month but now only quarterly, it is clean water clean water so the trench is effective, but it might need to be extended to intercept all groundwater. Last year, we put fencing around areas with seepage to control access as the site is moving from an active mining site to one with other uses. There is now a 6-foot high barbed-wire fence west of the LDA, it runs along the ditch then along the access road, the area is fenced and locked. We also put up similar fences around the south pond and the infiltration ponds. The other activity is ongoing surface and ground water monitoring, with a number of wells around the DSP and the LDA in the upper alluvium (where there are impacts) and down into the bedrock (no impacts found).

For planned activities in 2017, we want to design/install a CO₂ treatment system to lower the pH and reduce arsenic levels, it will be a couple hundred feet downhill from the trench, it will carbonize water to lower the pH below 8.5. Phase 2 of the interceptor trench and a borehole drilling program are planned, we will drill to the bedrock to test feasibility later this summer, then move into the design phase for extending the groundwater trench. We are also looking as required for additional activities to address CKD, etc. and we are continuing our surface/ groundwater monitoring.

Steve: I would like to open it up for questions.

Rhys: We were hoping to have agencies join in regarding their areas of expertise or where they can contribute, I would like departments/agencies to give overviews of what they're doing and their involvement, I sent out prep questions beforehand, so

please give a minute overview of how it's going, what we should be concerned about, and what the future holds.

Tom Buroker: I'm with the DOE, this is a complicated site, we will review the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RIFS), Madeline will handle it with the toxic cleanup group, we have not seen the report yet. On the Holcim side, they talked about CO2 treatment, they need a water quality permit associated with that, and we will be involved to ensure compliance. It could be a long time, but are there any estimates?

Frank Shuri: No, nobody has seen a site long enough to know when contamination will taper off.

Tom Buroker: There's also a sand/gravel permit for mining, should be wrapping up, we will make sure it's closed up properly, then provides assistance to KC Dept. of Public Health for land filling.

Darrell Rogers: I am with the Seattle-KC Dept. of Public Health (DPH), one program we operate is solid waste, we oversee activities such as landfills, destruction, etc., that includes landfills open and closed such as the RS site, as RS has both. We do inspection and work with the DOE on both issues. Our role according to state law as a local jurisdiction is to issue permits, RS will submit an application every year with a plan of operations, we review it in conjunction with the DOE as technical experts to ensure that it meets public health standards regarding contaminants/hazards. The portion of the RS site that is active is for inert materials, not causing harm to health or the environment, after issuing the permit we check monthly, walk along the property, look for issues, bring issues to the attention of RS, and ask for action if we spot anything unusual. We ensure that the owner/operator has a written procedure for closure/post closure and an insurance plan. After closure, it may need to be monitored for decades, and if that is the case we will continue to inspect it according to local laws and regulations.

John Taylor: I'm with KC Dept. of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP), Water and Land Resources Division, not much to add, it's a regulatory matter, so no permits, etc. with us.

Peter: I have a series of questions, the geologists explained what they have been doing, but I have no feel for the schedule, it seems to be a long-term process with multiple steps and sites, the area has been proposed for a housing project, but could there be 5/10/100 years of monitoring? They are following the procedures for permits, but have there been any problems? How are departments enforcing those permits? Third, Darrell mentioned inert materials that don't react, but what are some examples?

Tom Buroker: The timeline is a complicated question, the RIFS is entering the MCTA process, it can take a lot of time.

Madeline Wall (DOE): My program requested a site hazard assessment be done to the toxic cleanup program, there are still problems and we felt that a more holistic investigation was needed, we are finding contamination issues and looking at a

broad range of options to fix. We recognized that Holcim and consultants have been working on this for 10+ years, we are following what they have done and giving input, but we felt it needed to happen more quickly. We received the remedial investigation report for part of the property outside of the CKD areas, we will review it fairly quickly and give comments back to RS depending on what we see and if we agree with their conclusions. We are also reviewing what Holcim and their consultants give us, we expect they will fill in data gaps, do feasibility studies, and they have done many investigations and interim actions. It's not a timeline, but it should not take 100 or even 10 years.

Peter: But that does not include the toxic parts? Was not your group concentrating on the landfill portion?

Madeline Wall: We have an agreement with the DOE Toxic Cleanup Group to take the lead when materials are identified for the landfill and the whole property, for example, slag found on the haul road is on the property.

Darrell Rogers: We do a waste characterization, determine what properties of material are heading to the landfill, it could be something we know is inert or might or might not, an example of something inert is soil bored out for building a tunnel, or demolition debris from cement that is considered to be non-reactive. We go out monthly and look at test results, walk the facility, etc., our responsibility has to do with the landfill portion and management thereof, the RS landfill is active and permitted only for inert materials.

Peter: How long has the filling operation been going on, and how much longer?

Darrell Rogers: How much longer is up to RS, they still have more space, and they must go to us each year for a permit.

Marisa Floyd: I work for RS, we are operating the fill site through this year and next year, but we are coming to the tail end of that. That is assuming 2 trucks per day vs. 200, so it depends on truck volume, but we are at the tail end.

Greg Wingard: I was the one who initially reported seeing slag at the RS site, the pH levels remain the same as in 1983, we were told then that the pH would neutralize itself but decades later it has not happened, but as Frank said no one has monitored a site long enough to know how long that will take. ASARCO slag was found there, RS was unusual at the time in that they had a contract with ASARCO to use for commercial products with Ideal Cement Co., which is now Holcim, sent slag as feed stock for cement then took it to the site to dispose of, and this occurred during the same timeframe of disposal of the CKD. That's why we're seeing arsenic out there. One concern is with the landfill pit, as there is a difference between the scientific and statutory definitions of "inert." Could have cement called inert on the waste side of a program, whereas the water quality side would say otherwise. According to water quality files, standards were not met many times. I have some concern with why that red area was written off, not characterized or sampled, as it is sandwiched between two areas not complying with pH standards, and it had materials above pH limits deposited there.

Carla Brock: The report goes into detail, there were 3 different times when non-inert non-compliant soil was deposited, the Seattle Tunnel Partners was one time, cleanups are conducted when it has been found that non-compliant waste was dumped, it is documented in the report.

Greg Wingard: But it was not characterized? It does not look like you tested water there, crushed up concrete also has a high pH, and the volume is higher, more stuff and in use for more years with high pH materials, wouldn't you want to know what influence that has on the area?

Carla Brock: One requirement for the inert landfill permit is for there to be no connection to groundwater, there is sitting water when it rains, but that is all.

Greg Wingard: But rainwater must go somewhere, not all of it evaporates.

Dave Cook: That's why landfills are capped when full, but it has not happened in the red area yet, it will be capped when the landfill is filled and completed, it should reduce the influence of rainwater once capped. It is pretty clear that the high pH source is the CKD in the 2 locations on the Holcim easements, the red zone is between those areas. Those are the source of most of the issues for this property.

Rhys: Were the non-compliant materials removed and taken elsewhere for disposal?

Greg Wingard: Two instances were the results of complaints, which caused agency attention to be brought to it, but that's not the limit of off-spec materials that went to the site, just instances of when they were found based on specific actions.

Marisa Floyd: We are working with the DPH, we have complied with our permits, we did have 3 instances, but that material was definitely removed, in once instance we were told we could accept the materials then told we could not, so we removed them. We watch what's going in there, take the DPH and our permits seriously.

Stephen: Have you tested any animals or insects for toxins?

Frank Shuri: We have not, not as far as Golder is concerned.

Hank: There are 5 wells, 2 tested positive for arsenic, do they go deep enough to monitor 3-dimensionally as far as going into the aquifer/lake? How about local wells?

Carla Brock: The aquifer is thin and the groundwater is shallow because it's in a valley near a lake, the wells go down 25 feet, groundwater is at 5 feet. Local wells go down 200 ft. We have not sampled those, but previous samples have, it is a different aquifer, we are looking at the shallow aquifer, most wells go to deeper aquifers. We don't know about any other proposed wells.

Michael Brathovde: The remedial investigation report will be available in a couple weeks?

Carla Brock: It will go to the DOE, then anyone can request it via public records.

Madeline Wall: It will be online, we have a website for RS, we will put it there in the area for electronic documents.

Tom Buroker: I will also give it to Rhys once it is available electronically.

Rhys: Does that go for other studies/permits? What is available online for the public to view?

Madeline Wall: Most of what we receive is put online.

Darrell Rogers: Reports/permits are available for request, we don't have electronic links, but we would honor any requests, so please contact our public records officer through the formal process.

Dave Cook: Hank, to clarify our answer to your question, we had 5 wells established at 25 feet, there was no detection of chemicals above cleanup levels, nor pH out of the expected alignment in the shallow aquifer. It's a complex issue, should be represented in our document through graphics of why the aquifer is there and where deeper aquifer is relative to geology.

Hank: I am concerned about what will happen over time, things can disappear quickly or they get worse.

Susan: Just as a comment, this meeting has taken 30-35 years to put together, this is due to the silo effect of the DPH, DOE, and the Dept. of Permitting and Environmental Review (DPER) not talking to each other. I implore you to get together when you have a common issue so other people don't have to work to get everyone together in the same room.

Michael Brathovde: Once the remedial investigation report is available, can the public provide comments?

Madeline Wall: There is no formal comment period, this is independent action in the MCTA process, I asked same question to a Toxic Cleanup Program (TCP) expert and there is not usually a public comment period, but you can write a letter to us.

Michael Brathovde: I am really interested in seeing it. Carla mentioned going through 45 years of studies, where were those from? Did you get the 2015 environmental analysis from GeoEngineers? What about coal tailing? That is something I identified as a potential issue area.

Carla Brock: We got information from a variety of sources, from RS, DOE records, etc., everywhere with records available. The coal tailings are not a toxic concern, it is structural, cannot build houses on top.

Dave Cook: I was an engineer at GeoEngineers, the coal tailings are at the plant site, well sites were established to monitor pH and petroleum, but we also took soil samples to test for hydrocarbons. That would have identified coal contamination, but nothing was found. We did find coal chips in the soil samples, but the red flag with historic uses is groundwater wells as the canary, and the results gave us confidence that the groundwater looked clean regardless of what happened on the site. If there was a significant problem we would have found it, the wells are spaced appropriately, we would tell you if coal tailings were hit.

Michael Brathovde: Previous studies indicated flows were to the northwest, but your studies say north, would have been going to Ravensdale creek. The wells near the CKD sites did find arsenic? Wells on the properties were showing high levels of arsenic and high pH when they did studies, but those 2 new wells were not showing anything?

Carla Brock: It was below state cleanup levels, and they had a neutral pH.

Dave Cook: You will have to ask Holcim/Golder about the CKD. There are two different aquifers flowing two different directions, one concern was whether groundwater

is migrating through the bedrock, and that's an issue for Holcim/Golder. We are trying to identify sources of contamination in the shallow aquifer above the bedrock, the blue lines show the direct path of the shallow aquifer flowing to the lake.

Peter: Madeline, you said that remedial investigations are independent, but does that mean they are voluntary?

Madeline Wall: Yes, RS is not under any order, that is part of the MCTA regulations.

Tom: Redevelopment drives cleanup, the RIFS process starts when someone wants to do something with the property.

Peter: For the infiltration ponds, how long will it take until they are clean? DOE, when will the pH be OK according to regulations?

Jerry Shervey (DOE): It will depend upon what work is done, CO2 is a successful way of treating pH in water, it should reduce the pH significantly, intercepting groundwater along the CKD sites will affect the ponds, so future work will dictate that answer. It should be down to acceptable levels within a year or two of installing the CO2 treatment. The pH is 10.5 at the ponds, the permit has an expectation of 8.5, so once it gets down to 8.5 it is acceptable. Water pH can vary, the town of Concrete has a water pH of 9.0, it comes out of limestone, but that is not a fair comparison. The toxics cleanup people talked about concrete being not inert, but that is similar to making coffee from whole beans vs. coffee grounds.

Peter: Regarding the landfill permits, what's KC doing about this property? Is the DOE doing everything? There is a potential for housing development, but DPER could not make it to this meeting.

Ivan Miller: I am with the KC Executive Office, this site is on the comprehensive plan, we took action in the 2016 comprehensive plan to remove it as being eligible as a demonstration project, moved it into the 4-year cycle, it is a major project so that will allow more opportunities for public comment. Land use on the site is mostly for mineral/forestry, the amount of development right now on the site is limited. The issue we looked at when we pulled it out of the comprehensive plan was residential development near forests, in 2012 surrounding property owners wanted to join in and get their properties rezoned, there is no development potential at the site under the existing zoning, and no potential absent a land use change, which would have to be through the comprehensive plan. As for other issues, we looked at it more from a land use/long-range planning stance rather than toxics, I can talk to folks after the meeting.

Lorraine: Aside from concrete, what other materials are inert?

Darrell Rogers: I would like to defer to the experts, I can provide a list of typical things, but there's a lot. Materials change when they are grinded down, we characterize materials as to what the particle size is at the time.

Madeline Wall: There is an inert waste category defined in regulations, it includes glass, steel, concrete, etc. There's a short list, and other things must go through the evaluation process.

Marisa Floyd: We closed down the landfill in the wet season, one reason is because we cannot manage rainwater. We mostly take soils and big chunks of concrete and asphalt.

Hank: What about the coal mines underneath the pit? I am concerned with the land settling, pits filling up with water, etc. Can water migrate from filled wells and go north? Are there unmapped coal mines? How deep?

Dave Cook: Yes, the coal mines underground have water in them, it is in our report that there is a mine portal on the northern end of the site north of the red zone, we got maps from the 1930s, so we think we have everything identified in the report. The mines go down 150 feet or so.

Resident: Sometimes mines are drilled in slopes and not straight down.

Michael Brathovde: For example, the McKay Mine in Ravensdale goes down 2,500 feet, but these are not that deep, I have info on those. Another question, the remedial activities has been focused on pH/arsenic, but have you also looked at lead? According to the EPA there are other hazardous materials associated with CKD, including chromium, dioxins, etc. Any tests done for those?

Holcim Representative: We haven't tested, they are not that common, Holcim has done a ton of research looking at the raw materials, but there is no concentration there. You can have dioxins anytime there is combustion, but we have not been testing for that.

Greg Jacoby: That report on CKD by the EPA is based on dozens of sites, it goes into detail about those things, most of the time it is not found, and if it is found it is at parts per trillion levels or less.

Michael Brathovde: I'm talking about the 1993 EPA study, Ideal Cement was using tires, tested medical waste during this timeframe, someone should test for those toxins.

Jerry Shervey: The DOE has a second website for water quality, information related to testing is available there.

Steve: Thank you all for coming.

(Short break while most people leave)

Peter: I was a little underwhelmed by the DOE, they appear to be letting everyone do whatever they want, and KC is doing nothing, DPH is annually permitting landfill materials, so I have no confidence in the agencies.

Susan: They have no comprehensive plan, they are siloed and don't talk to each other.

Steve: As for the cleanup site, they hired consultants to look at the plan, and they're doing a good job, relying on professional engineers/companies to go between agencies.

Peter: The fact that RS wants to put residential structures on the property is insane.

Steve: Thanks to Rhys for putting this together, the meeting went fairly well.

Peter: Will DPER be here next month? We can ask Randy Sandin questions about this, and Jerome Cruz from DOE will also be here to discuss the Landsburg Mine. I would like to ask them about the RS site.

Rhys: I will make sure Randy is invited.

Peter: My KC question was directed at DNRP, as SR-520 bridge debris is being dumped in the site.

Steve: A lot of the areas around here are landfills and coal mines. In downtown Issaquah, people were digging a ditch and the water turned bright orange, it was landfill manganese from coal mining.

Council Business: - 9:01

Bylaws: Rhys Sterling

Rhys: I sent out two sets of drafts for the bylaws, they included changes for forced labor on committees, now if a committee drops below 3 members it becomes defunct, it can be revived later on or it can become a focal point. But people still need to be a member of at least 1 committee. It was sent out on May 18th and after our May meeting with that change. I received no more comments. These are a work in progress, the bylaws can be changed at any time if issues arise, but we can give these a try.

Susan: Can you go over the proxy situation? What if someone becomes sick after coming to a meeting?

Steve: If they are present at the beginning of the meeting, then they're present.

Rhys: If you're here at the beginning of meeting, you can leave afterward,

Peter moved to accept the proposed bylaws, Lorraine seconded.

Motion passed

Steve: One change with these bylaws is that I get to vote now. In the next round of bylaws changes, we should make having an Internet connection mandatory.

Demonstration Overlays: Peter Rimbo

Peter: Everyone should have received e-mails about this, KC put together a taskforce last fall to look at the Sammamish Valley wine industry, recommendations for changes in the code, KC did a review and released their report on May 25th with 2 weeks for public comment. I drafted a letter and sent it out to everyone on Friday and I received comments from Susan. I would like to send this 1-page comment letter to Karen Wolf in the Executive's office. The only reason we're worried about this is that it might set a precedent of allowing retail businesses along roads in the Rural Area, we have a history with demonstration projects, and there's a possibility of this happening elsewhere. Demonstration Overlay B would cover every property on the eastern side of the Woodinville-Redmond Road, all in the Rural Area.

Steve: This allows tasting rooms, then you can get special permits for events, but it is limited to 1000-foot facilities, so our concern is just about precedent? Wineries with tasting rooms seems very rural.

Peter: I looked at the taskforce review, almost all the grapes are produced in eastern Washington, there are vineyards here but not in the overlays.

Sue: Many wineries have separate tasting rooms.

Susan: Are there limits on the overlays?

Peter: It would allow tasting rooms, sales, events, but they must be related to their business. The main concern is allowing every property along the road to have a retail business.

Rhys: Each facility would still require a conditional use permit. What is being avoided through the overly is the need for a temporary use permit.

Peter: There were a lot of code violations, so they decided to just make it legal with certain limitations. Existing tasting rooms are illegal, located on the rural side because properties are cheaper, they're right next to the city in a Rural Area. I used the Issaquah-Hobart Road as an example, but it's probably not a good one because that is rural on both sides. In Woodinville, the Agricultural Production District (APD) is a buffer between Woodinville city limits and the Rural Area. Every property on the east side of that road is affected, but not the agricultural areas on the west side. The APD is to preserve farmland, the overlays only affect rural lands.

Hank: What are these properties doing? Tasting, special events? Will they have a line of taverns?

Peter: Yes.

Rhys: Each winery would still require conditional use permit, this would just remove certain barriers to getting temporary use permits. What is Economic Committee's view?

Steve: According to the overlay, they can have tasting, can serve light food, but no amplified noise.

Susan: What do local residents want?

Peter: The local Community Service Area (CSA) is having a meeting tonight, Alan Painter and Marissa are in Woodinville tonight for the Bear Creek meeting, I imagine they will be talking about this. Nancy, the Bear Creek UAC chair, never responded to my inquiry. Michael Tanksley, president of the Hollywood Hills Association, said he was concerned about retail expansion. Not every one of these properties are wineries, but they would be allowed as part of Overlay B to put in wineries. Transportation review in the report, the KC recommendation is to add shuttle busses from Woodinville, ask Metro to increase bus routes, clear bike paths, etc. It is a 2-lane road, so there should be a lot of traffic.

Hank: I would like to see a planning commission, try to figure out how to coordinate architecture, activities, etc. It could be a revival effort like in Leavenworth.

Peter: The area is part of the comprehensive plan, what they're talking about is code changes, integrated design is not part of the comprehensive plan.

Susan: My concern is the method they're trying to accomplish this through a demonstration project/overlay, they tried this with the RS property and Pacific Raceways. Demonstration projects are not regular procedure.

Peter: That is in the letter, I am not aware of KC monitoring the demonstration aspects after the fact, I know nothing about what happens afterward.

Adam: All this overlay does is make it easier for properties in that area to get temporary use permits. Not every property is a winery, nor will they all become wineries. If they want to become wineries, they still need to apply for a conditional use permit and meet those requirements, it is no different than any other home business run out of an RA5-zoned residence.

Peter: Cannot get permits for everything, it depends on the zoning and codes, but people can do many things on residential properties.

Rhys: Each one will need permits, just like wedding facilities, the only thing I saw reviewing the regulations is that it would not require the additional costs of obtaining annual use permits, but the mechanism to ensure compliance is in the code. I would like to see us do something to promote small businesses instead of just say no to everything. I would like to see demonstration project assessments with reports. The letter should focus on the need for reports, allow demonstration projects but they must be regulated.

Peter: The letter does say that.

Steve: I understand the slippery slope argument, but there's a need for rural economic growth, and wine tasting seems to fit in. Traffic is another story, most will be on weekends, Issaquah has hang gliding, etc.

Susan: It would be helpful to get what happens at the Bear Creek meeting.

Rhys: Peter can submit a letter personally.

Peter: I would like to be consistent based on our comments on the comprehensive plan, we have problems with demonstration projects, putting facilities in Rural Areas that should not be there, and there is no sunset clause. When KC allows a demonstration project, that's the end.

Steve: What do our constituents say? Land use, economic growth on the survey?

Rhys: There is a winery on the Issaquah-Hobart Road and a brewery in Hobart.

Susan: Maybe take out words such as "unacceptable."

Steve: I would like something about not being against rural economic development, but our concern is with KC not doing studies on the effects of demonstration projects.

Susan: My concern is that maybe the letter should use less confrontational language? I'm concerned about the wording.

Peter: I could change it to be about concerns for local residents, put in something about not being against rural economic development.

Steve: So long as it is consistent with the rural character, but these are our concerns.

Rhys: Should be focused on the need for follow-up studies.

Adam: The focal point should be that we would be more supportive if there was actual monitoring.

Peter: The reason I am writing the letter is that we are opposed to setting a precedent, I can bold the paragraph on monitoring.

Susan: Ivan Miller with the Executive Office also doesn't like demonstration projects.

Peter: Any problems with who I've cc'ed? (No) It's signed by myself and Steve.

Rhys moved to approve sending the letter out as amended with softer language and a changed emphasis, Hank seconded.

Motion passed

Website Update: Linda Harer

Linda: I'll be quick, you can make comments by e-mail. For the website update, you can look at the test site any day but cannot make changes. Let me know if you see anything wrong, I will fix things that don't work, I already have found errors, but it's a part of the process. Accomplishments over 30 days include we selected an appropriate template, rebuilt the structure of site, started to add links that were on the original site, what other links do you want? Parks, representatives, senators, council? Let me know what links are appropriate and send those to me. We started reviewing files for transfer to the current site, Peter will have to decide what to have and what not, there's lots of capacity so we could dump it all on there. We set up a basic calendar for when are meetings, train show, etc. Features will include contact info gathering using MailChimp, we can get data when they subscribe to us, if they're not a true constituent they can get updates but not vote. Subscribe button, we will be able to interface with users, send e-mail blasts to people who are interested in new notes on pages, etc. There are voting capabilities through Survey Monkey, and we can get instant data during the voting process. The next thing is committee pages, I will teach you how to self-manage pages, but I will keep it usable. From each committee, I will need a photo that represents what you do as a committee, digital only. Last thing, the decision to have one single e-mail that can be transferred to individuals or several, we probably don't want everyone receiving e-mails. I am suggesting we just having one for now. This site is all changeable, it's easy to adapt, and we can easily fix it if I mess up.

Susan: Can we access the website with this address?

Linda: Yes, if you cannot access it let me know. The basic format is you come to the landing page, the picture there can be anything you want, our vision statement is below, then a popup menu with a committee dropdown list going to each page. We have not created a new script, the map shows our service area, and Peter sent me a link to a ton of maps.

Peter: All those maps were created by Tom.

Linda: We will be using a list calendar since there are only a few activities per month, it doesn't make sense to have graphic calendar with only one item. Below is a play area, I would like to have current issues here so people are aware of what we are working on, and below that we will have service area statistics. Committees are also further down the page, menus are going out of style, links are at the bottom. In the center section, below this will be the blog, Peter can communicate with constituents, viewers will only see the first three lines and they can click for more. Through MailChimp people can unsubscribe easily, we can have up to 3,000

people sign up with no cost to us, then they can contact us via e-mail/phone/mail or online comment.

Peter: Should committee pages also have contact info for the chairs? Or will everything have to go through me?

Linda: Everything will go through you for now, until it becomes unmanageable. Survey Monkey can be used for official votes, surveys, or what constituents think about issues, such as RS. We can base these on past surveys, etc.

Hank: What happens when you try to save a webpage? I save them on thumb drives.

Linda: Moving on. For constituents to contact us we will need their street address, and we will need to explain why we need it, it's not to send mail but to make sure that they fit in our service area.

(Stephen feeling sick, had to leave)

Sue: What about Google, can people find us?

Linda: I am an expert on this, Google looks for how many keywords a site can pick up, but also how many people are hitting the site, so we will ask people to look up our site and stay on it for two minutes. When we are finished, please recruit people to visit site, then Google will pick it up. The address is the same, but we can set up gmvuac.com as a bogus site to redirect.

Rhys: What format for pictures?

Linda: Anything electronic, jpg, pdf, etc.

Peter: How much longer, will it be finished next month? Later in the summer?

Linda: I said 30 days before, but I'm busy next month, so we are now looking at 1.5 months. Let me know if you want links to specific sites on different committee pages as well because that is something I would have to add.

Peter: For example, info from the RS presentations today can be linked to on our site.

Linda: We can also have areas selectively available for print, can select which parts to print and not, etc.

Committee Reports: -

Deferred to next month.

Chair adjourned.

Meeting Adjourned – 10:00 pm