

MEETING NOTES OF THE NATIONAL STOCK EFFLUENT WORKING GROUP
at
NZ Transport Agency, Wellington

9.00am Tuesday 4 August 2009

Present:	Fiona Knight William McGimpsey Mike Noon Oliver Suri Ian Cox Kevin Cresswell Lew Metcalfe Isy Kennedy Tom Cloke Roger Fisher Murray Riley Alex Currie Rochelle Comber Adele Arnold	Convenor, Federated Farmers AA Ministry of Transport NZ Transport Agency - highways Meat Industry Association Fonterra Environment Waikato NZRTA South Waikato DC NZ Transport Agency – funding NZ Police AA Dairy NZ
In attendance	Rachael Millar	Environment Southland (by telephone from 9 .00 – 10.00am)
Apologies:	Tony Friedlander Trish Burborough Phil Critchley	Road Transport Forum MAF NZ Police

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1.Introductions and apologies	WELCOME TO Alex Currie, standing in for Phil Critchley, and to Dr Adele Arnold of Dairy NZ . Received resignation from Frank Brenmuhl of Federated Farmers – awaiting advice of his replacement. Recorded thanks to Frank for his very constructive input to the group.	
2. Meeting Notes of March 2009	Notes were confirmed.	
3. Matters arising	Crash data: Oliver reported the analysis of the 2007 crash reports – 2007 crashes with 800, 804 or 805 codes	

	<p>(ie slippery road: other, loose material on seal, or mud) Total of 1 fatal, 51 serious and 180 minor injury crashes with at least one of those three slippery road codes A manual search of all 232 crash reports showed only 1 serious and 2 minor injury crashes where stock effluent could be identified as the source of the slipperiness. The source of the effluent was not explicitly identified but there was no evidence that it came from stock trucks. . Agreed this was likely to be typical of other years, and no further work to be undertaken at this stage. Thanks recorded to MoT for undertaking the analysis.</p> <p>MAF research on optimal time for standing stock off green feed: Kevin reported little progress from last meeting, but the work remains work in progress. As the project is focused on beef cattle and sheep, Fiona and Lew to liaise with MAF regarding including dairy cattle.</p> <p>Due to holiday/time constraints, Fiona had not made any submissions on LTCCPs.</p> <p>Because Fonterra had not sent magnets out to the Canterbury farmers as originally intended, there are now about 4000 frig magnets still available for members to distribute.</p>	<p>Lew/Fiona to liaise MAF re dairy cattle</p>
<p>4. Report from Rachael Millar, Environment Southland (ES) on strategy to address effluent issues pertaining to stock transfers for winter grazing.</p>	<p>Rachael joined the meeting by teleconference. She noted that the impetus for the 2009 coordinated campaign had come from the infringement notice issued in 2008 to a road transport operator. ES had established a focus group comprising representatives of most of the interested parties, and this group has worked cooperatively and very successfully. She also acknowledged the support of transport operators and meatworks who made their own disposal/wash facilities available with some financial incentive from ES. Fonterra and Dairy NZ were key players in the success.</p> <p>Noted that it did take some in-depth discussion to achieve consensus on some issues, how/when effluent could be discharged on farms, the content of the factsheet etc. Base principle was that the message would be better received coming from the industry itself. Media included articles, newsletters, radio, local press, industry magazines, local libraries and rural suppliers. The industry itself sponsored much of the publicity. Noted that possible enforcement action did have an encouraging effect</p> <p>ES planning a continued programme in 2010, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More farmer profiles • Promotion of receiving effluent with the stock/ methods of on-farm disposal • Feedback on the successful 2009 campaign • Use of expected new in-transit disposal sites at Lorneville and Raes Bush • Liaison with Otago region 	<p>Rachael report back on estimated costs of the campaign</p> <p>Lew investigate what info could be obtained through Fonterra telephone follow-up calls.</p> <p>Fiona to investigate achievements/gaps in Otago region'</p> <p>Fiona to put info on NSEWG website</p> <p>NSEWG members to promote the success of the</p>

	<p>Actions arising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rachael to report back on estimated costs of the campaign • Lew to investigate what information could be obtained through the Fonterra telephone follow-up calls • Need to obtain more factual information on how many/how long stock were stood (see Item 6) • Fiona to investigate achievements/gaps in Otago region • Fiona to put information on NSEWG website • Other NSEWG members to promote the success of the Southland initiative, whether industry conferences, own publications, • Fiona to write to key players to congratulate/thank them on the success of the campaign • Fiona to send a package of information to regional council chairs • Prepare a joint article for use by all sectors – Fiona do first draft and circulate around group • Fiona to investigate TV/radio programmes like Country Calendar/ Life for some publicity on the success stories – the collaboration being key • Investigate whether Ciaran Keogh would be willing to present to LGNZ meetings 	<p>Southland initiative,</p> <p>Fiona to write letters of congratulation /thanks</p> <p>Fiona to send a package of information to regional council chairs</p> <p>Fiona do first draft of article, circulate around group</p> <p>Fiona to investigate TV/radio programmes for some publicity</p> <p>Investigate whether Ciaran Keogh would be willing to present to LGNZ meetings</p>
<p>5. In-transit disposal sites</p>	<p>Sites now completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whangarei ,Wellsford <p>Sites underway – expected completion this year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lorneville, Raes Bush <p>Sites underway:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Putaruru, SH5 near Napier <p>Sites now agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mercer, <p>Sites under cnsideration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gisborne, The Kuiti, Hunterville, Woodville <p>Areas where difficulties getting agreement or action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Far north, Wairoa, Morrinsville, north of South Island, Waimate, central Otago, Buller <p>Concluded there are still some issues with funding of local shares, and that it is timely to review the</p>	<p>Ian to update maps for website</p> <p>Funding working group to prepare proposal for next meeting</p>

	<p>funding process. Established working group with Murray, William, Isy, Roger and Fiona. Mike Noon keen to attend if time permits. Use teleconferencing for meetings, with Wellington based people meeting face to face. Need to identify the good points and areas of possible weakness in the funding formula. Noted the NZTA Board view that some local funding is a given.</p>	
<p>5A: Funding issues not addressed since last meeting</p>	<p>At the April meeting, agreed to look at using NZTA Regional Directors as they sit on Regional Transport Committees. Ian and Murray to follow up and advise what NSEWG assistance might be required.</p> <p>Agreed to make an NSEWG submission to each regional council, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Background of NSEWG • Promoting the regional role for coordinating funding • Seek support for the TAs who have sites in their districts • Praise those already achieved sites • Maps to show national picture • Full support of fed farmers 	<p>Ian/Murray to speak with NZTA Regional Directors.</p> <p>Fiona to make a brief NSEWG submission to all RTCs</p>
<p>6. Education campaign</p>	<p>Reviewed activities for each sector, noting use of weekly newsletters, industry magazines etc. Ian or Fiona presents regularly to the RCA Forum. Noted that some magnets had not got through to the right target and that more may need to be done on this.</p> <p>Agreed need a consistent message – see actions listed in item 3 on this.</p> <p>Actions agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present a paper at an Ingenium conference • Isy/Roger to discuss what more can be done with local government • Oliver to discuss effluent with the MoT stakeholder teams • Lew to discuss with AgITO including effluent in training • Established a small subgroup of Lew, Adele, William and MAF to review the factsheet and agree content that can be used nationwide 	<p>Roger? present a paper at an Ingenium conference</p> <p>Isy/Roger to discuss what more can be done with local government</p> <p>Oliver to discuss effluent with the MoT stakeholder teams</p> <p>Lew to discuss with AgITO including effluent in training</p> <p>Factsheet working group of Lew, Adele, William and</p>

		MAF review fact-sheet for nationwide content
7.		
8. Pre-farm audits	<p>Tom presented a proposal for pre-farm audits, as requested at the previous meeting. Noted that we are short on solid data, and this was a good concept to get information. Concerns that it would impose a human resource costs on councils, and a related cost on farmers which was not sustainable. Noted that written surveys were less effective, so alternative solution was required.</p> <p>William informed the group that FFNZ had formally discussed and rejected the proposal at the Federation's June Board meeting.</p> <p>Discussed other cheaper ways of identifying non-compliant farmers, so they could be encouraged to change their behaviour – carriers willing to assist with anonymous surveys but better solution was independent research.</p> <p>Lew offered to see what information could be obtained through the Fonterra farm audit system, or through the Fonterra call centre, and at what costs. Kevin may be able to do the same with meat companies.</p> <p>Agreed to identify what would be a statistically reliable sample for a survey, and what it might cost. Look to source some co-funding as well, try NZTA Research programme. Established working group of Kevin, Lew, Adele, Isy and Fiona to develop questionnaire and research proposal which would work for both meat and dairy sectors. Needs to be completed by end of September.</p> <p>Agreed to put a proposal to the Sustainable Farming Fund to get some data, after discussion with them on how best to do this.</p> <p>Thanks to Tom for stimulating the discussion leading to this proposal. SSF timetable is as follows:</p> <p>Early July Funding round opens</p> <p>7 October 2009 Deadline for receipt of Phase I over \$20,000 applications</p> <p>11 December 2009 Phase I shortlist invited to submit Phase II applications</p> <p>2 March 2010 Deadline for receipt of Phase II applications & under \$20,000 applications</p>	<p>Low/Kevin to see what info they can collect through their organisational sources</p> <p>Survey working group to identify key topics for survey</p> <p>Fiona prepare proposal for SSF in consultation</p> <p>Fiona seek sources of co-funding</p>

	<p>15 April 2010 Phase II and under \$20,000 applicants notified of final decisions</p> <p>30 June 2010 Funded projects contracted and commence</p>	
9. Review of consents	<p>Fiona to undertake brief survey with some regional council effluent contacts. Essentially get copies of consents for us to analyse.</p> <p>TA consents to be considered at a later date.</p>	Fiona to get copies of consents, and analyse
10. working with regional councils	Awaiting advice and discussion with Geoff Swainson of LGNZ	Geoff
11. Trade waste bylaws	Noted the problems created in Waikato regarding Trade Waste going into town sewer services. Fiona to compile table of costs from the survey of effluent disposal sites to get a better picture. To be included in the funding groups discussions, as may be more cost effective to assist upgrade meat-work disposal sites than develop new in-transit one.	Fiona do table of costs of using town sewers for effluent disposal
12. FAQ/ factsheet	<p>Isy will recirculate for feedback from all members by 31 August. then get confirmation by the Farming sub-group. Then:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Go on the effluent website before next meeting (mid November) • Promote to regional councils • Circulated by all NSEWG members to their constituents 	<p>Isy circulate latest version of FAQ</p> <p>ALL provide feedback</p> <p>Farming WG vet final text</p> <p>Fiona put on website</p>
13. Legislation relating to stock effluent on roads	<p>Isy 's research lead to the conclusion that the RMA was the only means of enforcement for regional councils. MoT had advised unwillingness to remove the exemption for effluent although the group felt that dogs should be specifically excluded from the definition of stock. Agreed we need some facts about whether court cases had been dismissed / not taken when dogs were on otherwise empty stock trucks stopped by Police when spilling effluent.</p> <p>Agreed that with 90% trucks having holding tanks, it was timely to promote compulsory containment of effluent on trucks. "Containment" allowed for temporary methods when trucks were multi-use and holding tanks might not be a cost-effective solution. Noted that trucks regularly used for stock cartage but which did not have tanks fitted were not fit for purpose.</p> <p>Oliver to find out any obstacles to a law change</p>	Oliver to investigate scope for Rule change to make containment mandatory
14. General business	<p>Isy will be circulating the draft Effluent strategy for EW and would like feedback from NSEWG members. She will email, with weblink and date for response.</p> <p>Analysis of website use is attached separately.</p>	<p>Isy action</p> <p>ALL to respond</p>

15. Date of next meeting	Mid November 2009. Fiona to email dates	Fiona to email