

## MINUTES FROM THE ORGANIC MATERIALS STEERING GROUP MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 27 APRIL 2017

**PRESENT:** Andrew Pearson, George Fietje, Jacqui Horswell, Nigel Clarke, Katie Beecroft, John Harding, Rob Tinholt, Paul Bruce, Nick Walmsley

### 1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Nick welcomed everyone to the meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to review the submissions received on the draft documents and decide how they would be dealt with plus review the ongoing program to completion. Thanks also to Jacqui for arranging the venue.

### 2. OVERVIEW OF PROJECT STATUS

A general discussion occurred noting the following:

- A total of 5 public meetings were held to discuss the public draft volumes; the programmed four at Hamilton, Palmerston North, Christchurch and Queenstown plus an additional one in Whangarei for the Far North communities at their request.
- Three main risks for the project were;
  - Credibility
  - Money/budget
  - Regional Councils not engaged
- It was considered that the process of guideline development was more important than a rigid timeline or cost, provided it was affordable.

### 3. OVERVIEW OF COMMENTS RECEIVED

- 23 submissions were received, some from combined organisations. Submitters were all in favour of the guidelines albeit with proposed improvements. A summary, as well as full submissions, had been issued to the Steering Group prior to the meeting.
- Submission Summary :

Individuals	2
Regional Councils	3
TLAs	16
Industry Groups	10
Consultants	2
Health Boards	3

- It was noted that submissions could be allocated to one of three categories:
  - a. Show stoppers
  - b. Changes to consider
  - c. Out of scope items

There did not appear to be any items under category 'a'. Most items were under 'b' and some under 'c'.

- Given the number and range of submissions it was important that a second draft be issued, both to show the changes adopted and to confirm that submissions were well considered.
- It was noted that a submission from councils that are collaborating on a project to develop a joint biosolids strategy in the Horizons region, and two councils in the South Island had been prepared but not submitted. **It was agreed that Katie would request that submission for inclusion with the others.**

- It was also noted to ask GWRC if they had completed a submission, even though it had not been received. **Nick to do this.**

#### **4. BASE ISSUES:**

##### **4.1. Nitrogen**

Clarification to be provided on how this works with the metal limits and justification for the conservative 200 KgN/Ha/year i.e. loading is low to minimise risk of leaching limits occurring. **Katie to provide a draft statement.**

Add Eco-SGVs upfront in volume 1 with note on how it is applied i.e. Text to clarify the logic i.e. 1<sup>st</sup> N limits, 2<sup>nd</sup> Guide, 3<sup>rd</sup> SGVs. Refer FANZ submission paras 25, 26. Also note the potential benefits.

**Jacqui to also discuss with Mathew Taylor.**

**This commentary to be drafted in advance of full Draft 2 and sent to Regional Councils for comment.**

##### **4.2. Organic Materials Vs Biosolids**

Clarify glossary and its use plus more information on waste streams and associated risks. Also include NZFSSR Phase 1 project information (**Jacqui to produce**). Audit the volumes for consistent use of terminology.

##### **4.3. Adaptive sampling**

Include NPDC proposal re lesser sampling with specific contaminant prioritisation.

##### **4.4. Eco-SGV alignment**

Note Eco-SGV includes old EOCs. We now have new EOCs plus PAHs. Clarifying the differences to allow compost as a replacement soil in the urban environment is needed. **Jacqui/George to draft alignment wording and Nigel to check re current MfE NES redrafting work.**

##### **4.5. Flowcharts**

To be provided to clarify process and how to use guide.

##### **4.6. Analyses Matching Source Materials**

Refer item 4.2 above.

##### **4.7. Social/Cultural Guidance**

Add key considerations for biosolids Vs other wastes based on the Tapu to Noa report to give direction to councils. **Rob to circulate relevant work from Watercare studies.**

##### **4.8. Linkages to other documents**

Add text showing linkage i.e. full name of document linked

##### **4.9. Guide Vs Standard**

Explain why this is a guideline rather than a standard and that options were considered.

##### **4.10. Process for ongoing reviews**

Add details of preferred process i.e. maintain representative organisations and limit to them for selective updates rather than full consultation. Annual meeting? NZLTC forum timing?

#### **4.11.Liquids Vs Solids Definitions**

Add explanatory text re different definitions for each industry plus mass loading application and check glossary for consistency.

#### **4.12.EOCs review**

**Jacqui to get quote for report update by Grant Northcott and co-researchers.**

Addendum to be provided noting:

- a short justification as to why we have changed from the old list to the new
- a short list of EOCs for monitoring in the new guideline
- Recommended limits for the short list of EOCs
- Recommended methodology for analysis of the afore mentioned EOCs

Text in Volume 1 to clarify why we have changed EOCs from 2003 i.e. old dioxins etc were looking only at historical practices while proposed EOCs are looking forward at likely effects from new chemicals.

#### **4.13.EOC Database**

Acknowledge support and benefits and recommend for appropriate ministry to take up as a separate project.

#### **4.14.Incorporation**

Clarify the circumstances where incorporation is required and why. Detail on how this is undertaken is outside scope of documents.

#### **4.15.Regional council Submissions**

Nigel to ask all regional councils for submissions on Draft 2. Include query on how they would deal with the Guide in their natural Resource Plan.

#### **4.16. Council Policy Guidance**

Tauranga proposal for separate policy guidance a good idea but outside current scope. Consider as a separate project.

#### **4.17.Title and terminology**

Agree that 'waste' would not be in title but would be used in text body to clarify that many raw materials would be wasted from other industries and processes.

#### **4.18.Publication of Submissions**

**Nick to publish** submissions, Steering Group meeting notes and the proposed timetable on the Water NZ website. Need to check permission with submitters first.

#### **4.19.Thermal Hydrolysis**

Check whether the current process definitions include for thermal hydrolysis. It should.

#### **4.20.Addition of Examples**

Once public Draft 1 has been updated to Draft 2, examples should be prepared showing how the guidelines should be used for:

- Biosolids
- Industrial wastes e.g. Meatworks

#### **4.21. Terminology and Text Changes**

Proposed text and terminology changes to be accepted where they do not alter agreed scope of content.

## 5. DETAIL COMMENTS

- Check whether biosolids used to grow nursery plants is acceptable re urban soil limits for replanting in urban gardens.
- Add NPDC comments re 'when to sample'.
- Include DHB comments re 100 EColi limit for notification.
- **Jacqui to check requirements re timing for retesting of soils for EColi.**
- **Nick to redraft Volumes for Steering Group review.**
- Note current NZFSS Research project, Phase 1, will produce useful information into the need for incorporation for different organic materials.
- George/Jacqui to check whether Aa biosolids (post 2012 limits) comply with Eco-SGVs; in which case refer to Eco-SGVs.
- Add comments on why limits for urban land are different from agricultural land.
- Rob noted that there were new (February 2017?) UK guidelines. **Rob to circulate details.**

## 6. PUBLIC FEEDBACK PROCESS

- Develop Communication Strategy / Plan Rob to circulate example
- Publish submissions and Steering group notes acknowledging what details are accepted.
- Update to Draft 2 with Steering Group review
- Publish Draft 2 for industry comments
- Review Draft 2 comments and update to final draft.
- Review and finalise documents for publication

## 7. PROPOSED TIMETABLE

- Acquire outstanding information by end May 2017
- Detail program, update budget and communications plan by end May
- Draft 2 for Steering group review by end July
- Publish Draft 2 for comment; 2 months closing end August
- Consider Draft 2 comments and update to Final draft end February 2018
- Publish by end July 2018

Summary in table below:

Task	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Get new information														
Submissions etc to website														
Draft 2														
Steering Group review														
Draft 2 consultation														
Review Draft 2 submissions														
Produce Final draft														
Steering Group review														
Gain Ministries support														
Publicise														

## ANY OTHER BUSINESS

### ACTIONS as at 23/05/2017

#	Who	Action	Comment	Completed ✓
1.	Katie	Request Horizons et al submission	Provided	✓
2.	Nick	Request GWRC submission if available	Not available	✓
3.	Katie	Draft statement supporting 200 Kg N/Ha/year		
4.	Jacqui/ George/ Nigel	Jacqui talk to M Taylor re Eco-SGVs and agree draft statement of alignment		
5.	Jacqui	Draft statement re different materials including NZFSSR Ph 1 input		
6.	Rob	Circulate Watercare iwi docs		
7.	Jacqui	Obtain quote for EOC update addendum	Update commissioned for end May	✓
8.	Nick	Publish submissions, notes etc on web		✓
9.	Jacqui	Check timing for retesting soils		
10.	Nick	Redraft docs for Steering group review		
11.	Rob	Circulate UK update references	Web link circulated	✓
12.	Rob	Communications Plan		