

## QUARANTINE EXPERT PANEL

### SUMMARY OF MEETING #16

**Date:** 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2011, 9:00am to 3.30pm  
**Location:** Dynon's Plaza, 905 Hay St, Perth – Level 2, Geryon Room 2:07  
**Subject:** Gorgon Quarantine Expert Panel – Meeting #16  
**Attendees:** All Panel members other than those for whom apologies are noted  
**Apologies:** David Humphreys, Rae Burrows

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#### Update of Project Progress

A recent Project progress video was shown to the Panel with additional comments from Chevron Australia outlining the changes and developments that have occurred since the last Panel meeting. The following were key points of discussion:

- Gorgon has now passed 12 months of construction.
- This cyclone season Barrow Island has been de-mobilised four times.
- Dredging is 70% complete, with the Materials Offloading Facility (MOF) under construction.
- The kitchen upgrade is scheduled to be completed by end of Q1 2011.
- So far 180,000 tonnes of cargo has been mobilised to Barrow Island.

#### Update on key QMS highlights and achievements

Chevron Australia provided an update on key Quarantine Management System (QMS) highlight and achievements. The following are key points of the discussion:

- Chevron Australia provided a world map outlining from where Gorgon procurement items are sourced.
- Panel Members recognised that it appears that a robust quarantine culture is being adopted and there has been little resistance among Barrow Island workers and visitors.

#### Status of WAPET Land upgrade

Chevron Australia provided an update of the WAPET landing upgrade. The following are key points of the discussion:

- The WAPET landing upgrade will include a hard road access between the three holding areas to address recent matters raised by the Department of Environment and Conservation
- The Department of Environment and Conservation are supportive of sealing the roads between the holding areas.
- Chevron Australia explained the alternate upgrade suggestion for Bob's Beach. The Panel recommended a more symmetrical boundary to the Bob's Beach upgrade to reduce the chance of weeds establishing along the edges.

#### Completion of QMS Review

The Quarantine Management System (QMS) review is nearing completion, with about 20 documents left to review. There have been no substantial changes made as a result of the review. It was proposed to bring a working group together to discuss the QMS review and then the approval process for the QMS will be followed.

The timeframe for this process is approximately a month.

## Events and Incidents and Intercept Register & Procedural Deviations

Chevron Australia provided a presentation on the intercept register. The following are key points of the discussion:

- The Panel agreed that the Level 2 incident classification allocated to the recent detection of a gecko on Barrow Island was appropriate. The Panel debated the ability of whether the gecko could survive the high temperatures on Barrow Island.
- A gecko repellent has been sourced and Chevron Australia are investigating to see if it could be used on goods going to Barrow Island to deter geckos, which are a non indigenous species (NIS).
- The actions taken by Chevron Australia after detection remain the same irrespective of what classification is given to quarantine intercepts.
- Care is needed by those classifying items intercepted at Barrow Island to avoid the location/labelling being described as Barrow Island and possible confusion between its presences versus having been intercepted on arrival.
- All marine vessels that commute between Barrow Island and other ports will be checked for marine pests after juvenile Asian Green Mussels were detected.

## NIS Management Program

Chevron Australia delivered a presentation to the Panel Members on the NIS Management Procedure. The following were key points of discussion:

- The weed baseline has been updated and a new species has been added.
- Spiked Malvastrum was discussed at length by the Panel as to whether it should be considered naturalised on Barrow Island or remain an NIS. Spiked Malvastrum is largely naturalised across the Pilbara in mainland Western Australia. The status of the Spiked Malvastrum needs to be properly documented, as does the criteria of naturalisation by the relevant authorities (e.g. the time length of presence).
- Chevron Australia would continue to monitor Spiked Malvastrum for evidence of spreading.
- Chevron Australia needs to consider what to do with species that are recorded as pre-Gorgon but may proliferate due to Gorgon.
- When any NIS weed is seen Chevron Australia takes action to remove it and also follows up with a survey inspection to check if eradicated (i.e. not just rely on an application of herbicide).
- The Panel endorsed Chevron Australia continuing with its current weed program with its main emphasis on Buffel Grass.

## Review of Performance Metrics and Trends

Chevron Australia provided the Panel an update on the performance metrics and trends. The following were key points of discussion:

- Chevron Australia will have a data analyst starting shortly.
- Routine Fly in/Fly Out of Karratha is expected to stop by the end of May due to increase of beds on Barrow Island.
- The Panel support seeing the interceptions at Karratha in the metrics.
- The performance metrics will be made available to the Panel each month for its review.
- The 'per tonnes' measurement potentially hide the pathways and the characteristics of each load should be displayed in the metrics.
- Consideration be given to separating the containers and the flat racks in the metrics.