



Adelaide Brighton Cement

Proposed renewed EPA licence

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT

20 October 2017



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Background

Adelaide Brighton Cement (ABC) is among approximately 1,500 companies in South Australia which require an EPA licence. ABC's licence was due for renewal at the end of October 2017 and in July the company applied to renew its licence. Due to community interest in the facility's operations, the EPA developed an engagement program to seek community input on the proposed updated licence conditions for the renewed licence.

The EPA undertook community consultation in three phases:

Phase 1: the development and publication of proposed licence conditions for a renewed licence for your company's operations. The EPA is committed to sharing progress of conditions and drafts with you throughout this development stage.

Phase 2: will entail inviting submissions on the draft conditions and then providing ABC with a copy of submissions received (personal details removed) and an opportunity to respond in writing.

Phase 3: the EPA will summarise and publish submissions received, plus its response to those. We will also publish any response received from ABC and publish a renewed licence.

The EPA provided the community with an opportunity to meet direct with EPA, SA Health and ABC staff via a café style 'drop in' information session to ask questions about EPA licensing processes and the conditions proposed for the renewed licence. This event was also held to help enable the community in making any written submissions about the draft licence conditions proposed.

Community engagement approach

The 'drop in' session enable individual conversations with EPA staff, SA Health staff or ABC staff with small groups of two to three people at each table. Community members were able to ask questions about ABC's licence renewal application and the EPA's development of revised licence conditions. The aim for the EPA was to ensure that community members were suitably informed to make a written submission regarding the licence renewal, should they wish to.

The EPA provided an area for written submissions to be made at the event should attendees wish to do this, along with information on other methods to make written submissions prior to the closing date.

It is important to note that submissions received are one of a number of inputs the EPA considers when developing conditions of licence. The EPA also considers prior environmental performance of the licensee, the availability of new data or scientific information, technological developments, as well as the legal requirement that all conditions must be linked to the legislative powers of the EPA under the *Environment Protection Act 1993*.

The EPA's community engagement approach was based on the principles of communication, transparency and accountability outlined in the EPA's [Partnerships and Engagement Framework](#).

Community engagement activities

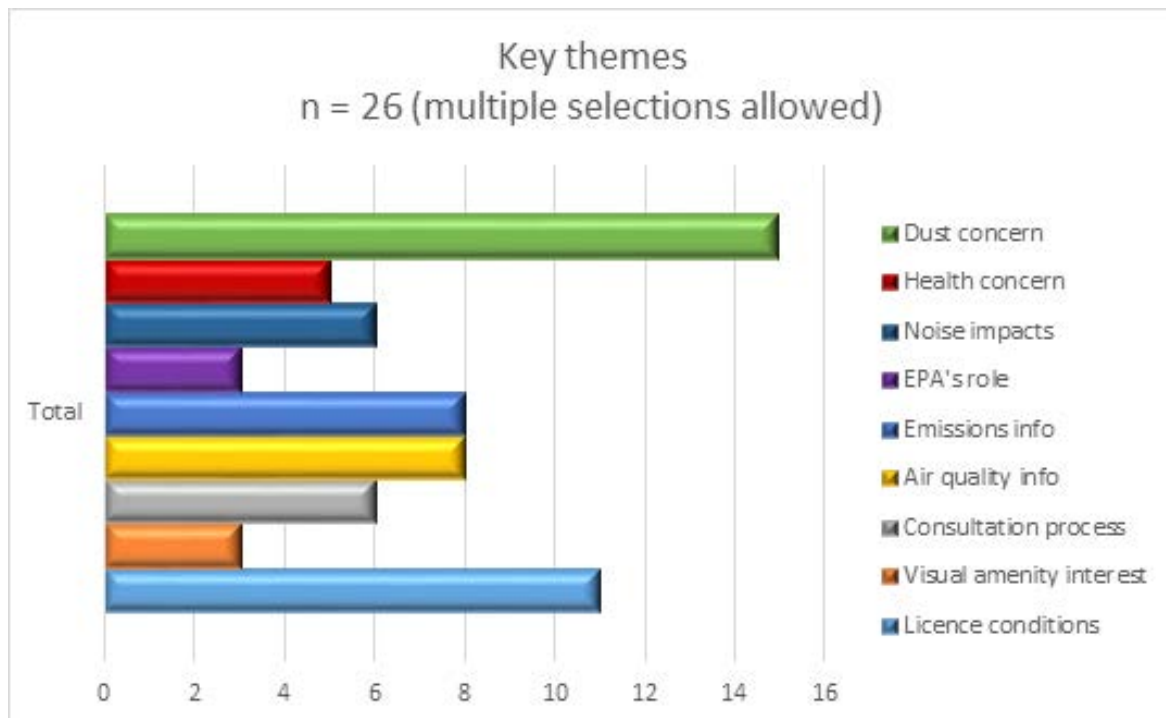
- Letter of invitation sent to ABC staff
- Development of an ABC [licence overview fact sheet](#)
- Development and regular update of the EPA website
- Advertisements in Messenger (placed in the two weeks leading up to the session)
- Community Drop in Session
- Development of a Submission Template
- Development and maintenance of a stakeholder database.

Community information session

A total of 41 people attended the community information session and 26 feedback forms capturing the main areas of interest were completed on site with follow-up actions by the EPA staff member recording the conversation.



Main areas of interest



The community information session was based on two key principles:

- thorough and pertinent information; and
- attended by the EPA and with key contacts from SA Health and Adelaide Brighton Limited also present.

This prompted polite and honest discourse with the vast majority of the people the EPA spoke to. Feedback from the community was that most people who attended left the event feeling that they were provided with relevant information on the topics they came to discuss.

Feedback

Taken from the Feedback Forms and emails received after the event, the following positive comments are indicative of the general atmosphere experienced by staff and residents at the information session. This was despite the high level of concern about the topics residents came to discuss:

Community engagement - great event

Thanks for all your work on this - the mix of experts was good – and fantastic to see CEO out front literally. I thought it went really smoothly – and unhurried and potential for in depth conversation good from my perspective. I really appreciate the very significant EPA investment of staff time and planning for the event. Much appreciated.

How many people did you calculate as coming along?"

Conclusions

All submissions will be considered by the EPA in finalising the renewed EPA licence.

The Community Information Session was an opportunity for the EPA, SA Health and ABC to seek individual comments and understand community perception surrounding the ABC licence renewal process, the results of which can be seen in the data. The participation of the public in this process was a significant reason this event was such a success.

The objectives of the community information session were to provide information, to clarify information, to listen to and gather feedback from the public, encourage written submissions to be made and record how many people attended. These objectives were achieved.

Overall the EPA and other staff involved reported that the conversations with community participants were valuable in understanding community perceptions and would assist in decision-making processes regarding the licence renewal. The majority of questions raised by participants were able to be answered at the session and participants appeared to be satisfied with both the information provided and the format of the session. Those questions that could not be answered were taken on notice and responded to in the week following the session.

A total of 13 written submissions were made in relation to the proposed renewed licence and conditions for ABC. A summary of these are publicly available via the EPA website.