

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF PROJECT MONITORING COMMITTEE
(PMC) HELD IN ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, CASTLEBAR, ON 10th AUGUST 2005
AT 11.00am.**

Chairman: Mr. J. Beirne, Deputy County Manager

Present: Mr. G. Costello, Shell E & P Ireland Ltd.
Mr. Leslie Finnegan, Shell E & P Ireland Ltd.
Mr. Gerard McDonnell, Community Representative
Mr. Nicholas Whyte, Community Representative
Mr. Enda McDonagh, Bord na Mona
Mr. Bryan Kennedy, NWRFB
Mr. Michael Hughes, NWRFB
Mr. Ray Smith, Environmental Protection Agency
Dr. Noel Kirby, National Parks & Wildlife Service
Mr. Pdraig Philbin, Mayo County Council
Mr. Martin Keating, Mayo County Council

Apologies: Mr. D. Mahon, County Manager
Mr. P. Mahon, Mayo County Council
Mr. P. Hynes, Mayo County Council
Mr. V. Roche, North Western Regional Fisheries Board
Mr. Donal Wynne, Bord na Mona
Mr. Denis Strong, National Parks and Wildlife Service
Ms. Agnes McLaverty, Shell E & P Ireland Limited

In Attendance: Ms. Muriel Finnerty, Mayo County Council

1. Minutes

The Minutes of Project Monitoring Committee Meeting held on 8th June 2005, which were already circulated, were approved, having been proposed by Mr. Costello and seconded by Mr. Finnegan.

2. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

3. Environmental Issues

Due to protest action all works on site have been stood down since 5th July 2005. Progress report which set out summary of works in general carried out up to 5th July

2005 together with the current position was circulated to the meeting and Mr. Finnegan and Mr. Costello elaborated on this report.

Mr. Finnegan stressed the need for tankers to be allowed on site in order to empty effluent tanks and also the need for bowzers to be allowed on site thus avoiding potential incidents.

A Proposal for the Treatment of Surface Water Runoff from the Bellanaboy Terminal Site was also circulated to the meeting. A detailed discussion took place on this proposal. It was agreed that a Temporary Water Treatment Plant should be provided to treat water to an acceptable surface water standard in agreement with the North Western Regional Fisheries Board. Mr. Finnegan undertook to liaise with North Western Regional Fishers Board regarding quality of water coming off site. It was agreed that details of the proposal be made available to the North Western Regional Fisheries Board, the EPA, Duchas, Bord na Mona and Mayo County Council for information purposes.

Mr. McDonnell informed meeting that protesters had indicated they would prepared to allow pumps to be brought on site provided Shell allowed protesters' nominee to visit site. The meeting was informed that the Project Monitoring Committee was set up under permission granted by An Bord Pleanala for the development in order to carry out monitoring function.

Mr. Costello indicated that he would have no objection to representatives of Agencies charged with monitoring environmental matters coming on site but he had some difficulty with nominees of the protesters coming on site in the present circumstances.

Details of results of testing of water in Carrowmore Lake were circulated to the meeting.

4. Updates:

▪ **Roadworks / Transportation**

Mr. Costello indicated that due to current protests taking place in the area, very little work is currently being undertaken.

▪ **Bord na Mona**

Mr. McDonagh indicated that no work is currently being undertaken by Bord na Mona due to protests. He outlined the position as set out in Environmental Management System Up-Date No. 5 (10/08/05) and also fortnightly progress report – week no. 31, which were circulated to the meeting.

5. Update on Terminal

This item was dealt with under item No. 3 above.

6. Court Cases

Mr. Costello outlined the position on Court Cases:

- Mr. Martin Harrington -v- An Bord Pleanala and others
Judgement was given in this case on 26th July 2005 in which the application for leave to bring Judicial Review was dismissed. However, Counsel for Mr. Harrington has indicated that he will appeal decision to Supreme Court.
- Mr. Peter Sweetman -v- An Bord Pleanala and others
This case was dismissed on 13th April 2005.

7. Community Fund

This item was deferred to September meeting. However, Chairman informed meeting that proposals for Community Fund, which are being prepared by Mr. Hynes, will be available for September Meeting of the PMC. Mr. McDonnell indicated that it is proposed to hold meeting with local communities in September to discuss proposals for this community fund.

8. Local Issues

Mr. Costello informed meeting that the Minister for Communications, Marine and Natural Resources is meeting Shell representatives today (10th August 2005) and is establishing a Technical Advisory Group to monitor the Corrib Gas Project.

9. Any other business

Mr. Keating highlighted the current unsatisfactory environment, caused by protesters, for Mayo County Council staff who require regular access to the sites in order to undertake monitoring, inspections, etc. Mr. Philbin pointed out that while County Council staff were not being denied access, they would wish to be in a position to gain uninhibited access at any time.

Mr. McDonnell informed the meeting that the protesters have indicated they have no problem with fuel being taken onto the site.

This concluded the business of the meeting.