

# Terms of Reference

For the Preparation of an  
Environmental Impact  
Assessment for the  
Proposed Cemetery  
Development at Burnt  
Ground, Hanover.



# Purpose of this Meeting

1. Advise the community of the Environmental Study and Schedule for completion.
2. Provide an opportunity for community members to have input into the EIA.



# What Environmental Study?

- ◆ NEPA has contracted *emc<sup>2</sup>* to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the Cemetery Development at Burnt Ground.
- ◆ EIA is a standard tool that is used to give the permitting authorities information needed to make a sound decision on whether a development proposal may be permitted, and if so, how its implementation should be regulated.



# When are EIAs appropriate?

- ◆ when there is some concern that a project may negatively impact on the environment.
- ◆ prior to permitting and implementation so that potential impacts can be predicted, and measures put in place to minimize the predicted impacts.



# What is the EIA Schedule?

- ◆ Award of Contract: 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan 2007
- ◆ Work Plan (based on ToR): 5<sup>th</sup> Jan 2007
- ◆ Progress Report: 12<sup>th</sup> Feb 2007
- ◆ Draft EIA (public): 15<sup>th</sup> March 2007
- ◆ Public Meeting: April 5<sup>th</sup> 2007
- ◆ Meeting Report: April 9<sup>th</sup> 2007
- ◆ Final Date for comment: April 30<sup>th</sup> 2007
- ◆ Revised Final EIA: May 2007



# Opportunities for Input

- ◆ 1st Public Meeting (today).
- ◆ Community Survey (next few weeks).
- ◆ Direct communication with emc2 by phone, mail or email or meeting (up to March 5<sup>th</sup>).
- ◆ 2<sup>nd</sup> Public Meeting - April 5<sup>th</sup>.
- ◆ Review of the EIA document (March 15<sup>th</sup> + 7 weeks).



# What's in an EIA:

1. Project Description
2. Analysis of Alternatives
3. Legal and Institutional Framework
4. Environmental Baseline
5. Stakeholder Consultation Process
6. Environmental Impacts
7. Environmental Management Plan



# 1. Project Description

- ◆ Project overview and justification.
- ◆ Project study area and location.
- ◆ Site Plan.
- ◆ Development schedule/phasing
- ◆ Design and planning specifications.
- ◆ Impact-causing aspects of activities.



## 2. Analysis of Alternatives

- Examine alternatives (project and previous land use) for land use, scale or design.
- Highlight benefits of and general rationale for the project against potential environmental cost.
- Compare options (lowest costs and most benefits criteria): environmental impacts, social acceptability, economics and engineering feasibility.



# 3. Regulatory Framework

- ◆ **Development Control:** Permitting, construction and physical planning and land use controls.
- ◆ **Environmental Conservation/Quality:** water resources (groundwater and surface waters) and soil and sub-surface resources.
- ◆ **Waste Management and Health and Safety:** air quality, noise levels, public health, effluents and solid waste



# 4. Environmental Baseline

- ◆ Document the status of sensitive environmental receptors.
- ◆ Allows for evaluation of existing environmental stresses.
- ◆ Assessment of the actual impact of the project (future monitoring).
- ◆ Use to assess significance (degree of change predicted).



# 5. Stakeholder Consultation Process

- Public participation methods, schedule, information provided to stakeholder groups.
- Public participation program for the project.
- Key environmental concerns arising during the stakeholder consultations:
- The degree of public concern with specific issues.
- Public input incorporated into the proposed project design; and environmental management systems.



# 6. Analysis of Impacts

- ◆ Extent.
- ◆ Ecological Scale
- ◆ Secondary Effects.
- ◆ Resilience/Sensitivity of the Environmental Receptor/Valued Eco-system Component (VEC):
- ◆ Environmental Persistence (Temporal scale)
- ◆ Effect Reversibility.
- ◆ Divergence from Baseline (change).
- ◆ Manageability.
- ◆ Uncertainty.
- ◆ Acceptability to stakeholders



# A significant negative environmental impact is one that

- ◆ Is located in proximity to any sensitive or protected areas and has been determined to impact negatively on these.
- ◆ Is extensive over space or time
- ◆ Is intensive in concentration or in relation to assimilative capacity.
- ◆ Is not consistent with national plans for the general land use
- ◆ Contributes to the endangerment of threatened species.
- ◆ Reduces the stocks of commercially important species.
- ◆ Permanently damages habitat quality or creates ecological barriers.
- ◆ Threatens cultural or heritage resources.
- ◆ Alters community lifestyles or requires long-term adjustments of local people in respect of traditional values and resource use.
- ◆ Represents a long-term nuisance or significant safety/public health risk to other users.



## 7. Environmental Management Plan

- ◆ Mitigation schedules
- ◆ Monitoring plans
- ◆ Recommendations for resource use and best practices.



# The End

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