

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Environmental Authority
Held on Wednesday 29 October 2025
At the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Botanical Gardens, Paget
and Remotely using Teams Teleconference**

PRESENT: Ms. Davida Morris, Chair (in person, then remote access)
Mr. Eugene Saunders, Deputy Chair
Ms. Debby Correia, Member
Dr. Tom Sleeter, Member
Mr. Jonathan Starling, Member

ADVISORS: Dr. Geoff Smith, Director, DENR
Ms. Patricia Hollis, Environmental Officer, DENR
Dr. Shaun Lavis, Hydrogeologist, DENR
Mr. Armell Thomas, Acting Chief EHO, Health (remote access)
Ms. Crystal Baxter, Environmental Health Officer
Mr. Tarik Christopher, Chief Engineer, Works & Engineering (remote access)

ABSENT: Mr. Andrew Barnes, Member
Mr. James Morrison, Member
Mr. Paul McDonald, Assistant Director, Dept. of Planning

IN ATTENDANCE: BELCO Representatives:
Mr. Mark Pacheco, Director of Operational Support Services
Ms. Kascia DaSilva, OHSE Manager
Ms. Hannah Lampit, Environmental Technician
Mr. Shane Robinson, Environmental Technician

1. Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of the meetings No. 409 and 410 held on 19th August and 30 September 2025 were approved and signed by the Chair.

2. Matters Arising

2.1 BELCO Complaints—September 2025

The Authority **TOOK NOTE:**

that there were 5 soot complaints over 2 confirmed complaint days, and no odour complaints in September 2025. It was noted that the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) had received a comment from a resident near St. John's Road that they were tired of submitting complaints of odours of oil when there has been little improvement.

2.2 MPW & E Disposal of Expired Explosives and Detonators

The Authority **TOOK NOTE:**

that the demonstration burn and detonation of expired explosives and detonators at the Government Quarry, Baileys, Bay, Hamilton Parish on 21 September was successful. No complaints of noise or smoke were received by DENR.

The Authority **APPROVED:**

the issuance of a Permit to Burn Prohibited Debris for disposal of the expired explosives and detonators at the Government Quarry until 31 May 2026 subject to the same conditions as before.

2.3 TBWEF Consideration of Operating Licence Conditions

The Authority **DISCUSSED:**

the conditions attached to the Tynes Bay Waste To Energy Facility. Further discussions were held over.

The Authority **TOOK NOTE:**

of the need to consider amending the conditions for when the TBWEF undergoes major renovations to replace one of the existing streams. In particular, the need to store bales of garbage for up to a year in a location or manner so the odour does not affect neighbours.

3. Presentation of BELCO Annual Report

The Belco representatives gave an overview of the BELCO operations during the 2024-2025 licencing period.

- Bulk Generation: There was little change in their controlled plant in 2024, with there being 8 diesel engines, 4 gas turbines and one oily water treatment facility. The maximum generation capacity increased slightly to 150.5 MWH (including the battery energy storage system, BESS).
- Fuel Consumption: Heavy fuel oil (HFO) consumption was 648,575 barrels, light fuel oil (LFO) was 67,592 barrels. The fuels met the sulphur limit of 2.00% for HFO and 0.5% for LFO.
- Transmission, Distribution & Retail: BELCO was progressing its programme to replace 50% of underground transmission cables and installing increased capacity to support large-scale renewable energy projects.
- Environmental Management:
 - Opacity Monitoring: 6 of 8 engines are equipped with continuous in-stack monitors; certified visual and camera-based observers were on-site
 - Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Programme: three monitoring stations (BDA1, BDA2, BDA3) measured pollutants and meteorological conditions
 - Oily Waste Management Programme: 127,670 US gallons of waste oil was recovered from plant operations in 2024. This was shipped overseas and processed in a licenced facility in the USA. Oily wastewater treatment facility was operated to separate oil/water mixtures.
 - Subsurface hydrocarbon recovery programme: 19 remaining wells and 11 newly licenced wells formed a part of BELCO's Environmental Remediation Obligation (ERO) project.
 - Environmental Complaints Management and Roof Painting programmes continued.
 - Ambient Vibration Monitoring programme continued.
 - Spill Prevention and Response Programmes continued, including inspection, repair, alteration and reconstruction of tanks and pipelines in accordance with API standards. Monthly rectifier readings and annual cathodic protection survey were completed for above ground petroleum storage tanks.
 - Spill Reporting: In 2024, Belco had 3 spill events that required reporting to DENR. In total, there were 41 spills totalling 3094.5 US gallons: 33 pole mounted transformers, 2 pad mounted transformers and 6 within the central plant.
 - Environmental Management System: BELCO continues to conform to the requirements of ISO 14001:2015.
 - Training: skill specific training and Standard Operating Procedure awareness training were given to relevant personnel
 - Major Environmental Pollution Plan was tested as a planned field exercise in October 2024.
 - Stack Emissions Testing was conducted in July 2024. The testing report was submitted to DENR on 18 November 2024.
 - Site Waste Management: waste is segregated, stored, logged and tracked to the appropriate disposal facility.

It was reported that BELCO has met compliance obligations of all operating licence conditions except for one during 2024 calendar year. The one non-compliance (5.3.2) was an excursion of the opacity limit during engine startup.

There were discussions on the continuing emissions of large soot particles and further abatement options. Mr. Pacheco said that there are few options remaining to modify the engines. Electrostatic precipitators are not effective for soot from fuel combustion. Potential alternative fuels, such as methanol and liquefied natural gas (LNG) are being examined. Additionally, the installation of a swirl stack system that vacuums out the flues near elbows

is being assessed. This process, which can be noisy, requires a large footprint and generates bags of soot that will need appropriate disposal.

The Authority **REQUESTED:**

that another sample of large particle soot be analysed to confirm it is only composed of carbon and that it does not contain any hydrocarbons.

The Belco Representatives were thanked for their presentation.

4. Applications for Construction Permits and Operating Licences (New)

4.1 CP-855, OL-1309 Miles Brewer

The Authority was reminded that at the August 2025 meeting, it granted approval for a generator at 20 Salt Kettle Road, Paget. Subsequently, the applicant applied to relocate the generator on the property.

The Authority **APPROVED:**

the application for a 22 kW lpg-fired generator at the amended location at 20 Salt Kettle Road, Paget, subject to standard conditions.

4.2 CP-851, OL-1306 Sardis Development II, 55-59 Cataract Hill West, Paget

Sardis Development applied to upgrade to the existing sewage disposal system (cesspits) for Fritholme Gardens, Paget. The 67 Garden Estates units will be connected to a Bionest tertiary grade wastewater treatment plant. Some of the treated wastewater may be used for irrigation; the remainder will be discharged into a deep sealed borehole

The Authority **APPROVED:**

the application, subject to standard conditions.

4.3 CP-854, OL-1307 Hasco Construction, Port Royal Golf Course, Southampton

The Authority **APPROVED:**

the retroactive application for a construction permit and operating licence for sand sifter at Port Royal Golf Course, subject to standard conditions.

4.4 CP-856, OL-1310 C-33 Ltd, 31-33 Church Street, Hamilton

The Authority **APPROVED:**

application for a construction permit and operating licence for a 750 gpm diesel fire pump, subject to standard conditions.

5. Applications for Construction Permits and Operating Licences (Reissues)

5.1 The Authority **APPROVED:**

the applications for reissue of operating licences listed on the one-page printout, subject to standard conditions.

It was noted that approval was granted for four wastewater treatment plants (OL-305 RWTP Management; OL-478 Newstead Lantana Spa, OL-1192 BHC 60 South Road, Warwick; and OL-1278 Fairmont Southampton Princess), subject to the same conditions as before.

6. Applications for Water Rights (New)

The Authority **APPROVED:**

6.1 WR 5862 submitted by Zanzara Trust for a domestic Water Right for a well to supply one unit at Whale Bay Road, Southampton, subject to standard conditions.

6.2 WR 5865 submitted by Bermuda Stripping & Refinishing for a domestic Water Right for a well to supply one unit at 8 Marsh Lane, Devonshire, subject to standard conditions.

6.3 WR 5866 submitted by Mr. Mocklow for a domestic Water Right for a supply well for 4 units at 12 Middleton Lane, Paget (retroactive), subject to standard conditions.

7. Applications for Water Rights (Reissues)

7.1 The Authority APPROVED:

the reissuance of Water Rights on the two-page printout, subject to standard conditions, with the exception of four indicated as withdrawn.

8. Greenland Dairy, Middle Road, Smith's Parish

The Authority **TOOK NOTE:**

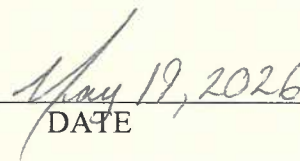
- that the Department of Health had recently issued a warning to the dairy because of the high somatic cell count in the milk
- that the Dept of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) had recently issued a warning to the dairy to stop dumping manure into the pond onsite to prevent pollution of public water including pond water. The dairy was instructed to take manure to Marsh Folly for appropriate disposal.
- that the Dairy will regularly empty the manure pit to minimise odours.

9. Date of the Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for 3pm, Wednesday, 26 November 2025.



CHAIRMAN



DATE