

CHRONICLE

What's Inside



Dow Altona's
Water Saving
Initiatives



Qenos/AGL
Co-Generation
Overview



Flare
Noise
at Qenos



International
Interest in Altona
Site Improvement



Altona Revamp

June 2011
Volume 22
Number 1

*Qenos CEO
Jonathan Clancy
recently announced
investment of up to \$195
million to expand and modernise
the Qenos manufacturing facilities
at the Altona Chemical Complex.*

This substantial investment in the Australian plastics industry will position Qenos for future growth and development. It means that Qenos has a long term future which is great news for our employees and the broader community," Mr. Clancy said.

It will increase Altona's manufacturing capacity by 20 per cent without increasing the sites environmental footprint ensuring it remains competitive in the global market.

"The Altona expansion project will secure 15 years' supply of feedstock worth more than \$2 billion. We add significant value to ethane and LPG to produce polyethylene which is then used to develop a range of high quality plastic products, both domestically and for export," said Mr. Clancy.

"For our valued customers, this significant investment will provide benefits through enhanced reliability of supply, coupled with our ability to increase capacity in line with the growth of the Australian polyethylene market, providing a sound base for future growth."

In this project Qenos will install modern acetylene conversion technology and increased ethylene fractionation capacity while AGL will install a cogeneration facility to replace one of the existing boilers and the purchase of electricity from the grid.

The cogeneration facility on the Olefins site and supply Qenos with all its electricity needs and up to 50% of the steam needs and will improve the security of utilities supply to Qenos facilities. This along with improved operational availability of the modern acetylene conversion facilities will reduce the incidence of flaring from the plants.

This major investment reinforces Qenos's commitment to the Australian polyethylene market and further strengthens its position as a competitive and sustainable long-term local producer of polyethylene resin securing employment in the Altona facilities for the next 15 years.

Significant environmental benefits will be realised from the improved production efficiency of the project and are shown in the table below

Environmental Aspect	Expected Change from the project	Outcomes
Energy Consumption	- 10 Gigajoule/Tonne Ethylene	20% reduction
Greenhouse gas emissions	- 90000 Tonnes CO2/Year	15% reduction
Sulphur dioxide emissions	- 15 T/Y	25% reduction
Flaring	Reduced flaring	5% reduction
Fugitive emissions	No discernable change	No change
Wastes to sewer	No Change	No change
Water Consumption	No Change	No change
Transported wastes	No discernable change	No change
Noise	No change	No change

Workplace safety has been improved for the maintenance workers with a lot on heavy ergonomic unfriendly work being eliminated by the installation of the new acetylene converters.

The projects will have a minor impact on the skyline with the installation of the third ethylene fractionation tower being installed. The towers position will be almost central amongst the existing towers and at approximately 68 meters high is just a little higher than the existing SCAL-2 ethylene Fractionation tower of 62 meters.

Design work is well advanced and discussions with City of Hobson's Bay and the Environment Protection Authority are underway to obtain all the necessary approvals. Construction is expected to commence later this year with commissioning of the various project phases of the project to occur in 2012 and 2013.

Photo Above LtoR: Deputy Premier of Victoria Rob Hulls MP, Jonathan Clancy Qenos CEO, Denis Hargreaves Shift Team Leader and Jill Hennessy MP Local Member for Altona on their recent visit to the Olefins Main Control Room.

Qenos/AGL Co-Generation Overview



Existing AGL cogeneration facility.

AGL is committed to being the leading energy services provider in Australia.

Qenos and AGL have agreed to work together to develop a Cogeneration Facility at the Altona site. AGL will build, own, and operate the new Cogeneration Facility, which will be situated on the Qenos petrochemical complex in Altona Victoria. The Cogeneration Plant will operate 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and will supply process steam and electricity for Qenos. Surplus power will be exported to the Victorian Electricity Grid.

The co-generation plant will bring a number of benefits to Qenos, the surrounding residents and the environment in general. These are:-

- The heat energy (exhaust gases) generated by the gas turbine is recovered and used to produce steam for the Qenos process, making it highly energy efficient.
- As a result of the above, the co-generation facility will reduce

CO2 emissions by around 100,000 tonnes/annum

- There will be a reduction in CO and NOx emissions due to higher efficiency power generation ("state of the art" combustion technology) and waste heat utilisation.
- There will be a reduction in flare light offs and associated noise, as the co-generation facility will continue to supply steam and power to the plant in the event of grid failures.
- The overall cost savings to Qenos will improve the plant efficiency and operational viability.

AGL are currently obtaining EPA Works approval and Town Planning approval, with construction due to commence in July of this year and commissioning being completed in November of 2012.

Mario Bortolotto - 13 May 2011
Senior Project Manager - AGL - Energy Services

NEW Manufacturing and Operations Manager for BASF Altona Site



Hello Everyone,

My name is Tony Cram and I would like to introduce myself to the Altona community as the new Manufacturing and Operations Manager for the BASF Altona Site. I have had an extensive career in the petrochemical industry for 19 years and for the most part with Huntsman Chemical Company Australia in West Footscray.

My career has been very diverse as a Chemical Engineer working through all of the production facilities at Huntsman (7 business units) as a Process / Project / Plant engineer, Plant Manager, Senior Plant Manager and Operations Manager. Sadly, Huntsman made the decision to close the West Footscray site in early 2010.

I joined BASF in early April and I am very excited to impart my experiences and knowledge into the future with them.

The challenges in this industry are very familiar and I look forward to making progress in areas like continuous improvement and engagement of the workforce. I feel very strongly about raising the awareness of all personnel on our site and the importance of the role we play in the community and the environment.

When I am not working I am a very keen car enthusiast, enjoy watching football (I am a Geelong supporter) and spending time with my family.

I look forward to meeting you all who attend the ACNCG meetings in the near future.

Kind Regards,
Tony Cram.

Introducing



STYRON™

On June 17, 2010, Dow Chemical sold its latex, plastics and rubber business division to the Boston-based private equity firm Bain Capital. The new company 'Styron' is a leading global materials company with more than 2100 employees and 40 global locations. Styron's global head office is located in Berwyn, Pennsylvania, in the US.

Dow Chemical's latex plant, on its Kororoit Creek Road Altona site, including plant operations, sales, and technical service, were all part of the divestiture. Styron is proud of its past but excited by its future dedicated to collaborating with its customers to deliver diverse next generation products.

Flare Noise at Qenos

Qenos recently commissioned an energy efficiency/greenhouse gas abatement project.

The project that installed new steam supply pipelines from the Olefins site (east of Maidstone Street) to the Plastics and Resins sites (west of Maidstone Street), provides for energy reductions of 215,000 GJ and greenhouse abatement of 11,000 tonnes per year by utilising surplus medium pressure steam from the Olefins site.

The elevated flare at the Qenos Plastics site uses the new steam supply for smoke suppression control. During June, there have been four noise complaints related to the Plastics flare when the elevated flare has been in use for plant start ups. This flare's operation has not generated any complaints for a number of years and when checked in the past, was inaudible in residential areas.

During the complaint investigation process, some Qenos personnel also noted that they thought it now sounded slightly louder than it had in the past.

A special internal team has been formed to address the issue and has carried out some initial test work. The team has modified the flare steam controls to reduce the noise generated by the flare while a full investigation is completed. This should avoid any further off site noise in residential areas and related complaints until the investigation is completed and any mitigating measures are implemented.

If you require any further information please refer to the Qenos website (www.qenos.com) for contact details.

What are Flares?

Flares are a key safety and environment management tool used in refineries and petrochemical facilities. They will safely burn flammable waste gases which cannot be recovered or recycled in the processing plants and therefore avoid the release of emissions and odours.

The flares are generally of two types

1. Elevated flares - where the flare tip is approximately 30 metres above ground.
2. Ground flares - where the flare tip is at ground level, which is fenced off with heat shields to keep people at a safe distance from the heat produced when the flare is operating.

The use of flares is minimised to the extent that is possible. This is to reduce any impacts the flaring has on the community and to maximise the efficiency of operations. Examples of when the flares need to be used include:

- Taking the process plants off line for maintenance
- Starting the process plants up following maintenance
- When safety shutdowns activate
- Purging of gases during plant operations
- Utility interruptions such as power failures.

Where are Flares at the Complex?

Qenos has four flare facilities in operation at the Altona Petrochemical Complex. These are:

- Two elevated flares on the South side of Qenos Olefins, 200m east of Maidstone street
- One elevated flare at the Plastics site 500m west of Maidstone Street
- One Ground flare at the Plastics site 500m West of Maidstone Street.

The community is familiar with the operation of the elevated flares and is able to recognise when they are being used.

The ground flare at the Plastics site is rarely used and when activated may be mistakenly identified as a fire in the Plastics plant by people who are not familiar with its operation.



What Impact do the Flares Have?

The flares can have the following impacts off site:

1. Light/Flames
2. Smoke
3. Noise
4. Emissions/odours.

Members of the community may sometimes become concerned when there are large flares and may mistake them for a fire or emergency at the plant. This happened on the 21st of July 2009 when the Plastics' site ground flare activated to safely combust the waste gas from the plant equipment.

The elevated flare is readily recognised by the community as flaring, as the location of the flame at the flare tip is apart from the plant facilities. The photo above to the right is of the Plastics elevated flare in operation.

The ground flare has a series of small burners in an enclosure at ground level. When waste gas is sent to the ground flare the initial ignition of all the small burners makes a rumbling sound similar to a loud roll of thunder. Community members have sometimes described this noise as a "series of small explosions". The flames from the ground flare, from ground level are sometimes visible to the community and have been mistakenly identified as a fire in the plant. Flames from ground level West of the Plastics plant is the ground flare in operation. The photo above to the far right is of the Plastics ground flare in operation.

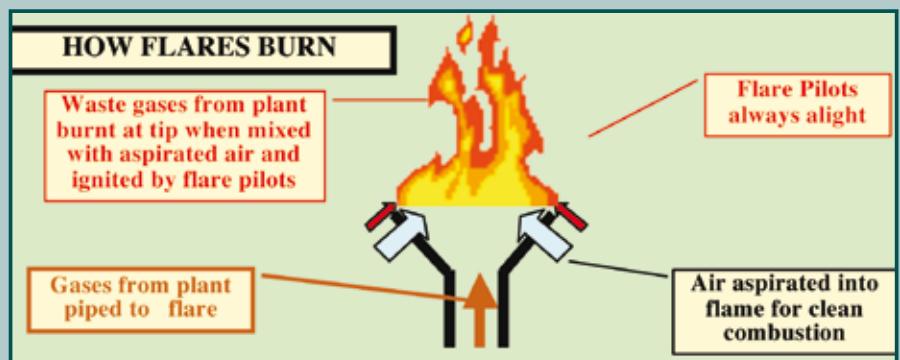


How do the Flares Work?

Each flare has pilot lights to safely ignite waste gases when they are sent to the flare. The gas needs air to burn correctly and this is either aspirated by the gas flow to the flare (like a barbecue burner) or with steam aspirators to provide adequate air. The mixture of air and gas ignited by the pilots is safely burnt.

Inadequate air flow will cause the flare to be smoky. There maybe some smoking when the flares initially light until enough air is added by the control system. The control systems operators use cameras to monitor the flame and adjust the amount of air to ensure that it is not smoking. For significant plant shutdowns such as those caused by power failures the flares may smoke for several minutes.

The noise from the flares increases as the rate of flaring increases. This is caused by the extra steam to the flare and the combustion of a larger amount of gas. The flare impact is generally only noticed in the community during larger flaring when the shutdown systems are activated such as those caused by power failures.



How is Qenos Minimising the Flare Impact?

Qenos uses the flare as little as possible as any gas that is flared is a loss of valuable feedstock and reduces the overall efficiency of our production. Regrettably at times the frequency and volume of flaring is higher than Qenos and the community would like.

The Qenos use of the flare is managed in the following ways to minimise community impact when it is in operation:

1. Carry out the flaring in daylight hours as much as possible to minimise 'out of hours' impact
2. Limiting the size of flares for planned flaring
3. Rapid reduction of plant processing rates for significant interruptions to operations such as power failures
4. Regular performance monitoring and reviews of flare operation to improve the flares' operation and identify ways of reducing the level of flaring.
5. Public reporting of complaints via the ACNCG process.



Chemical manufacturing has the potential to use large amounts of water – as part of the chemical process itself, and also for heating, through steam, and for cooling. As a result, chemical companies are very aware of how much water they use and how much water is discharged as waste.

Dow at Altona places a very high priority on water conservation – to meet the standards demanded by Government agencies and also to meet Dow’s corporate commitment to long term sustainability.



Though the amount of water used and discharged varies annually due to commercial and business demands, Dow’s concerted efforts via a range of individual improvement plans have delivered significant savings in water use. Some recent improvements that have resulted in water savings include:

- Automated TDS (Total Dissolved Solids) blow down and metering on the cooling towers
- Automated TDS(Total Dissolved Solids) blow down on the boilers
- Reuse of Reverse Osmosis backwash water in cooling towers
- Improved condensate return to boilers from the Styron plant

Each of these water-saving initiatives were developed in consultation with the local community and other stakeholders as part of Dows Environment Improvement Plan.

At Dow Altona we take water very seriously, because that’s the only way to ensure a sustainable future.

Key outcomes of Dow Altona’s Water Saving Initiatives			
Reduction	1999	2010	Environmental Impact
Water Usage	270 M Lts	110 M Lts	Water saved can fill approximately 64 Olympic Pools per annum
Wastewater Discharge	171 M Lts	65 M Lts	Water saved can fill approximately 42 Olympic pools per annum

International Interest in Altona Site Improvement

It’s easy to forget that cutting edge research is being done in your own backyard. But when an expert delegation from China visited Australia to see the latest developments in site remediation they wanted to come to Altona.

The visit by top Chinese academics and regulatory authorities was organized by Victorian EPA and hosted by Dow Chemical in Kororoit Creek Road to inspect a working remediation project, and to showcase state-of-the-art new work in bioremediation, which uses natural processes and organisms to break down contamination in groundwater.

A keynote presenter was Dr Mike Manefield of the University of New South Wales, a world authority on bioremediation, who has been working with Dow to help clean up contamination from historic operations on the site.

Also speaking to the group was Altona resident Judy Hindle, who described for the visitors the importance of community involvement with local industry. “The Chinese were extremely interested in the idea of industry working with volunteer community advisory groups like ours,” she told the Chronicle. “They felt that Chinese industry might not yet been ready for this approach, but they certainly wanted to learn about it and they told me they hoped that eventually it could be introduced in China.”

She added that Dr Manefield’s presentation was a true revelation about the new techniques being developed. “He has an amazing ability to make complicated science interesting and easy to understand,” she said, “and I hope that he can visit Altona again to speak to the Altona Complex Neighbour Consultative Group.

EPA Victoria has a lengthy history in dealing with contaminated sites, and is strengthening their involvement by identifying contaminated sites as a priority area. As such, the Authority was pleased to demonstrate this commitment by hosting the Chinese delegation for the day.

“It was useful to share knowledge and experiences with experts from the international community,” said EPA Director Future Focus, Stuart McConnell. “Both EPA and the delegation found the day to be highly valuable.”



TO ALL RESIDENTS . . . ACNCG NEXT MEETING - All Welcome

Thursday July 14, 2011 commencing at 5.30 p.m. at Altona Civic Centre, Civic Parade Altona 3018

إشعار لكل السكان في المنطقة
هل أنت مهتم بما يحدث في مجمع
الطونا للصناعات الكيماوية؟
تفضل واحضر إجتماع تقدمه
اللجنة الإستشارية للسكان
المجاورين لمجمع الطونا للصناعات
الكيماوية.
يُعد الإجتماع مرة كل شهر.
نرحب بالجميع.
الإجتماع القادم

Obavijest svim stanovnicima
Zanima li vas što se događa
u kemijskom kompleksu u
Altoni?
Dođite na sastanak na
kojem će se razgovarati o
problemima koji se odnose
na ovaj kemijski kompleks.
Sastanak se održava svaki
mjesec.
Svi su dobrodošli.
Sljedeći sastanak ...

Ανακοίνωση προς όλους τους
κατοίκους
Ενδιαφέρεστε με το τι συμβαίνει
με αυτό το εργοστάσιο που
κατασκευάζει χημικά (δηλ. το
Altona Chemical Complex)?
Ελάτε σε ένα συνέδριο-φόρουμ
της συμβουλευτικής ομάδας, προ-
σκληρωμένη απαρτίωση/προβλεπόμενη
που τυχόν υποθέσεις και προ-
σφοδρών το εργοστάσιο υπαρκτών.
Τα συνέδρια γίνονται κάθε μήνα.
Όλοι είναι ευπρόσδεκτοι.
Το επόμενο συνέδριο θα
γίνει στις

Avviso ai residenti
Vi interessa sapere che cosa
succede nel Complesso Industriale
di Altona dove si producono
prodotti chimici (Altona Chemical
Complex)?
Venite ad una riunione del Gruppo
di consultazione della zona, che si
occupa della discussione dei
problemi riguardanti il Complesso
Industriale di Altona.
Le riunioni si tengono ogni mese.
Siete tutti benvenuti.
La prossima riunione

Известување до сите жители
Дали сте заинтересирани да
знаете што се случува во
фабриката за производство на
хемикалии Altona Chemical
Complex?
Дојдете на состанок на групата
каде што се дискутира за
проблеми во врска со
хемиските производи.
Состанокот се одржува секој
месец.
Сите се добродојдени.
Идниот состанок ...

Avvis ghar-residenti kolha
Tinteressa ruheh f'dak li qed
jigri l-Altona Chemical
Complex, li-post l-Altona fejn
jagħmlu prodotti tal-kimika?
Ejja għal-lagħha ta' l-Altona
Complex Neighbourhood
Consultative Group, il-forum
għad-diskussjoni dwar
thassib/problemi li għandhom
x'jaqsnu mal-post fejn jagħmlu
l-prodotti tal-kimika.
Il-lagħha ssir kull xahar.
Mistieden kulhaad.
Il-lagħha li gejjja se ssir
f'din id-data

Обавештење свим
жигтељима
Дали сте заинтересовани за
оно што се догађа у
Хемијском комбинату у
Алтони (Altona Chemical
Complex)?
Дојдите на састанак
Савјетодавне групе за
суседство Комбината у
Алтони (Altona Complex
Neighbourhood Consultative
Group).
Одржава се сваког месеца.
Свако је добродошло.
Следећи састанак ...

Thông báo gửi toàn thể cư dân
Nếu muốn biết những gì đang
diễn tiến trong Cơ Xưởng Chế
Tạo Hóa Chất tại Altona (Altona
Chemical Complex)?
Xin mời quý vị đến tham dự
buổi họp của Nhóm Tham Khảo
Ý Kiến Cộng Đồng về Cơ
Xưởng Hóa Chất Altona (Altona
Complex Neighbourhood
Consultative Group).
Được tổ chức hằng tháng.
Xin mời toàn thể cư dân đến
tham dự.
Buổi họp tiếp theo sẽ được tổ chức
vào ngày...

ACNCG Members

RESIDENTS/COMMUNITY

Percy Fernandez Deputy Chair 9391 1383
 Judy Hindle OAM Deputy Chair 9395 8565
 Paul Cassar 9391 0223
 Ivan Board 9749 3808
 Valerie Gemmel 8307 8764
 Max Kidd 9398 3521
 Margaret Kidd 9398 3521
 Greg Dow 9398 1103
 Kimberley Foss 9734 6966

COMPLEX

BASF - www.basf.com
 Tony Cram 9281 6335
 Dow Chemical - www.dow.com
 Julian West 9226 3911
 Qenos - www.qenos.com
 Iain Gilmore 9258 7333
 Styron - www.styron.com
 Patrick Pedrotti 9226 3908

COUNCIL

Cr Tony Briffa - Chair 0428 549 642
 tbriffa@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au

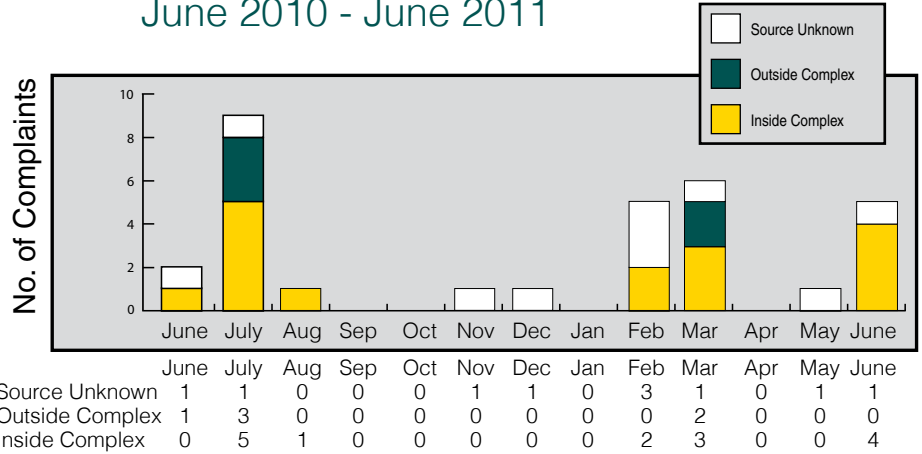
ACNCG

Sarah Bartolo - Minute Secretary 9932-1504
 Craig Bruckner - 9932 1000
 Community Services

REGULATORY AUTHORITIES

Environment Protection Authority
 Myles Whelan 9695 2689
 Worksafe Victoria
 Jenny Kislser 9641 155
 Rob Yeoman
 City West Water
 Nathan Bennett 9313 8740

Community Environmental Complaints June 2010 - June 2011



Seventeen complaints have been received since the last issue of the Chronicle in December 2010. The Environmental Action Line had eleven calls directly to it with the other six coming via the EPA Pollwatch line. Seven of the complaints related to odour and were as follows.
 11th Dec 2010 at 00:30 from Finley Road. An effluent treatment plant odour was not detected during the investigation and was classified as source unknown.
 9th Feb 2011 at 20:30. Green Court. A burnt rubber smell was not identified and classified as source unknown. Wind direction from SW not consistent with the complex.
 26th Feb 2011 at 10:23 & 11:23. Civic Pde & Maidstone Street. Two odour complaints for hydrocarbon and sulphur

type odours were not confirmed and were classified as source unknown.
 7th March 2011 at 21:25. Somers Parade. An unconfirmed burning plastic smell was also classified as source unknown.
 8th March 2011 at 19:00 & 19:10. Finley Road. A pesticide type odour was detected by two locations in Finley Road. The odour didn't last long and was not believed to be from the complex and was classified as outside complex.
 The other five complaints related to the Qenos Olefins flare operation as follows.
 4th Feb 2011 at 17:10. Charles Road 1 complaint accepted for flare noise which was in operation due to an unplanned shutdown of a converter.
 16th Feb 2011 at 17:30. Finley Road. 1 complaint accepted for flare noise which was in operation due to compressor shut downs.
 1st Mar 2011 at 16:50. Three complaints were received for black smoke from the Olefins flares. A shutdown of the sites boilers required most of the plant to be shutdown and there was no steam available to operate the flares smoke suppression system for a period. Qenos called the EPA at the time of the event with details of what had happened.
 5th June 2011 at 16:17 Finley Road a hot plastics smell was not detected during the investigation and was classified as source unknown.
 During June 2011 the Qenos Plastics site flare has accepted four noise complaints in June. This was discussed in the Flare noise at Qenos article in this edition of the Chronicle.

Altona Complex Community Siren

If you hear this siren outside of the specified test time of 10.00am on the first Sunday of every month, do not attempt to evacuate, unless told to by Emergency Services.

- Go Inside any building:-** Close external doors and turn off air conditioners.
- Close windows and shut curtains and blinds.**
- Turn on the radio STEREO 97.4 (97.4FM) or television ABC Channel 2 for Police messages**
- Remain indoors until you are given the all clear.**
- Avoid using the telephone:-** Unless it's really urgent
- Co-operate fully with emergency services**

The warning siren is an undulating two tone siren (similar to an air raid siren). The all clear is a continuous siren.



يرجى الاتصال بمركز ويستغيت لموارد المهاجرين هاتف 93913355 للحصول على الترجمة الفورية للمعلومات أعلاه.

Za pojašnjeje gore navedenih informacija kontaktirajte Westgate Migrant Resource Centre (Centar za pitanja emigranata Westgate) na 9391 3355.

Για διερεύνηση των παραπάνω πληροφοριών, επικοινωνήστε με το Μεταναστευτικό Κέντρο Πληροφοριών Westgate στο 9391 3355.

Per un aiuto nell'interpretazione delle informazioni sopra riportate, si prega di rivolgersi al Westgate Migrant Resource Centre al numero 9391 3355.

Ikuntattja liċ-Centru tar-Riżors ta' l-Immigrant ta' Westgate, 9391 3355, għall-interpretazzjoni tat-taġirif li jidher hawn fuq.

Свяжитесь с Вестгейтским Центром Мигрантских Ресурсов (Westgate Migrant Resource Centre) по тел. 9391 3355 для выяснения вышеуказанной информации.

Контактирајте Вестгејт центар за пружање подршке доселеницима (Westgate Migrant Resource Centre) на 93913355 ради интерпретације горе наведених информација.

Muốn nhờ dịch thông tin ở trên, xin điện thoại cho Trung Tâm Tiền Ích Di Dân Westgate qua số 9391 3355.

Editorial Sub Committee: Les Harman (Editor Altona Complex), Judy Hindle, Paul Cassar, Percy Fernandez, Max Kidd, Kimberley Foss & Margaret Kidd.

Contact Details: Phone 9258 7333 Email: acnccg@qenos.com Website: www.acnccg.info

For nuisance odours or noise suspected of coming from the Complex, remember the quicker you call the better the chances to identify the cause quickly . . .

EPA POLLUTION WATCH LINE
9695 2777

CITY OF HOBSONS BAY COUNCIL
9932 1000

ENVIRONMENTAL 24 HOUR ACTION LINE
1800 061 050

Visit our Website
www.acnccg.info

Printed by Keima Press - 9398 2277

Printed on Recycled Paper - www.keimapress.com.au