

QUARRIES NATIONAL JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the 25th meeting of the Quarries National Joint Advisory Committee held on Tuesday 22nd March 2005 at 10.30am in HSE Rose Court, London

<u>Present</u>	<u>Representing</u>
James Barrett	Chair – HSE
Rob Pearce	Secretary - HSE
John Lewis	Geological Society of London
Wolfgang Pichl	Atlantic Alliance (StBG)
Elizabeth Clements	QPA
Malcolm Downey	HSE NI
John Dungey	University of Exeter (CSM)
Steve Williams	Road Haulage Association
Malcolm Mellow	Imerys T&G
Neal Reynolds	GMB
Geraint Morris	Lafarge Aggregates Ltd
Paul Fairlamb	COALPRO
Brian Rostron	COALPRO
Steve Cole	BAA
Richard Allen	ESA
Colin Nottage	Stone Federation
Graham Gilmour	HSE (MI)
Martin Isles	QPA
Patrick Griffin	H S A
Lynda Thompson	SMEs (Bucbricks)
Richard Claydon	QPA
Peter Ward	Atlantic Alliance
Steve Spalding	Kaolin and Ball Clay Association
Stuart Hunneyball	British Drilling Association
Martin Khan	NaturalSlate Quarries Association
Helen Turner	HSE
Anne Rayner	Minutes Secretary - HSE
Pat Foster	IMMM
<u>Apologies</u>	

David Cather	QPA
Andy Wetherelt	Higher Education
Mike Smith	Institute of Quarrying
Robert LeClerc	SAMSA
Clive Webb	EPIC
1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES	
1.	<p>The Chair welcomed new members, Lynda Thompson representing SME's and Stuart Hunneyball representing the British Drilling Association.</p> <p>David McClelland, Brian Stringer and Carl Kirby had resigned since the last meeting.</p> <p>Speakers: Geraint Morris – representing Lafarge Aggregates Ltd, Elizabeth Clements – representing QPA, John Dungey – representing the University of Exeter (Camborne School of Mines).</p> <p>Deputies: Colin Nottage for David Sharman, Steve Cole for Ian Glendinning, Graham Gilmour for Ian Waugh.</p>
2. PREVIOUS MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING HELD ON 5TH OCTOBER 2005	
2.1	<p>The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate copy.</p> <p>Matters Arising from previous meeting</p> <p>NVQ – P Brain item now overtaken by events and dropped</p> <p>Accident aetiology on agenda - Item 7</p> <p>Hard target on agenda – Item 11</p> <p>Draft COP ANFO security produced</p> <p>Electricity ACOP gone to Health and Safety Commission for removal</p> <p>Atlantic Alliance 3 members to speak – Item 6</p> <p>Mobile plant subcommittee to be discussed by Geraint Morris on agenda – Item 4</p> <p>Shotfiring courses on agenda – Item 12</p> <p>MIRO bids no actions needed</p> <p>Stake holder partnership, paper was circulated with Agenda</p> <p>Quarries website live</p> <p>Sheeting guidance revised twice and republished on web site</p> <p>Accidents on earth moving machinery data distributed with last minutes</p> <p>Access systems – on agenda Item 4</p>

3	PLAY SAFE, STAY SAFE – Elizabeth Clements
3.1	Ms Clements introduced this item, which explained the QPA's campaign to warn of the danger of using quarries as recreational venues.
3.2	A video designed to warn young people of the dangers of playing or 'hanging out' in quarries, has been produced called 999.
3.3	Ms Clements told members that it would be helpful if they could report cases of accidents involving members of the public (MOPs) in quarries to QPA.
3.6	Mr Cole asked about maintenance of fencing and was told that a record of maintenance should be kept. John Lewis spoke about a case published in the Geological Society journal involving fencing and an injured MOP. The company appealed to the House of Lords and the law lords ruled that they had taken 'due care'.
Agreed Action:	3.2. Details of the 999 video to be sent out with the minutes. 3.5. Link to 'Play Safe, Stay Safe' page to be sent out to members with the minutes 3.6. Mr Lewis to forward link to article to be sent out with the minutes.
4.	VEHICLE SPECIFICATION
4.1	Mr Morris informed the meeting that the Working Party had set out the guidance in final draft format. The final view was to aim high and not compromise.
4.2	Mr Hunneyball asked if air conditioning had been found to be useful in the reduction of noise and dust. Peter Ward said it was standard in America and had been found to increase production.
Agreed Action:	Copy of the presentation to be circulated with the minutes for members comments.
5.	RCS – EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENTS
5.1	Mr Isles introduced this item on the exposure limit for Respirable Crystalline Silica (RCS). He explained that there were two possible ways of doing this either by: Revision of the Carcinogens Directive Or by a Social Dialogue Agreement where employers and employees come together and form an agreement that is legally binding. Agreement is to be reached by mid December 2005.
5.2	Discussion on what the level should be set at, 0.05 or 0.1. Mr Ward

	said that in the USA exposure limits were not scientifically validated and that there was no evidence to support value of a level of 0.05. The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) had test data going back 10 to 15 year that could be shared with QPA if necessary.
Agreed Action:	Copy of Mr Isles' presentation to be circulated with the minutes
6	ATLANTIC ALLIANCE
6.1	<p>Wolfgang Pichl</p> <p>6.1.1 Mr Pichl explained some work being done in Germany. He told the meeting that they were forming a working group made up of Health and Safety companies and manufacturers to set earth moving machinery safety standards in Germany and possibly Europe. They had also reduced the number of regulations in 2003 from 43 to 15, producing instead a clear pictorial guide to good health and safety practice for extractive industry workers. This would be made available to the QNJAC once complete (summer 2005). Mr Pearce said he would look into the possibility of having the guidance translated from German to English for UK use.</p>
6.2	<p>Peter Ward</p> <p>6.2.1 Mr Ward informed members that the Atlantic Alliance Conference would take place on September 22nd to September 23rd in Orlando, Florida, as a satellite to the World Congress. Mr Pearce to co-ordinate speakers for the non-US delegations and arrange for the draft agenda to be circulated with the minutes. Accompanying partners will also be catered for with trips etc organised during the conference.</p> <p>6.2.2 Mr Barrett said that due to organisational changes to the manufacturing sector he would be able to say if there would be funding for HSE representation soon. The World Congress was being attended by HSE so it was looking hopeful.</p> <p><u>Update: A representative of the Sector will be attending the Atlantic Alliance Conference. Other QNJAC members intending to go are asked to inform Anne Rayner.</u></p> <p>6.2.3 The Atlantic Alliance website address has been reserved, www.quarryhands.org. The idea is not to replicate information on other websites but to act as a central hub for information via topic links. Ideas from QNJAC members as to its structure are now invited. Mr Pichl forwarded to Mr Ward some ideas on this from StBG.</p>
6.3	<p>Pat Griffin</p> <p>6.3.1 Due to the increasing trend of fatalities in the industry a steering committee had been organised. Legislation was being consolidated with a reduction of 6 sets into one set. Detailed guidance, a yearly quarry safety week and a national safety</p>

	<p>seminar each year. The material would be targeted specifically to workers. This would then be re-visited in last quarter of the year. Over lunch a video produced by HSA was shown, "Preventing Fatalities in Quarries", and Mr Griffin circulated to members present at the meeting a flyer with details of how to obtain copies. Copy of flyer also to be attached to minutes.</p>
Agreed Action:	<p>6.1.2 Mr Pearce said he would look into the possibility of having the guidance translated from German to English for UK use.</p> <p>6.2.1 Mr Pearce to arrange for the draft agenda for the Orlando meeting to be circulated with the minutes.</p>
7.	ACCIDENT AETIOLOGY RESEARCH
7.1	<p>Mr Dungey introduced this item, which involved a study into the underlying causes of accidents in quarries. The work was funded partly by HSE and partly by the European Social Fund). Key risk areas include:</p> <p>Traffic management</p> <p>Faulty or incorrect equipment</p> <p>Control of contractors</p> <p>Lack of or inadequate guarding</p>
7.2	There was a general discussion about the results of the research.
Agreed Action:	Copy of presentation to be circulated with minutes.
8.	QUARRY MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE
8.1	This item was deferred due to lack of time.
Agreed Action:	Item to be put onto the agenda for next meeting
9	RAISING THE PROFILE OF SAFETY REPRESENTATIVES
9.1	<p>In the absence of Mr Mellish Mrs Turner gave a brief report as follows:</p> <p>A meeting has taken place involving Neal Reynolds, Malcolm Mellow Tom Mellish, QNJAC TUC representatives, Helen Turner HSE and Jackie Williams, TUC Education Officer to discuss what was working well or not so well in terms of worker representation in the quarry industry and the progress of the QNJAC course, Safety in Quarrying. Mr Mellow, Mr Reynolds and Mrs Turner also attended a seminar about the current projects involving roving safety representatives and worker safety advisers in other industry sectors, which provided further ideas. A QNJAC subcommittee will be formed to report back on ways forward – possibly one output could be a charter setting out best practice as has been done recently by the Education sector.</p>

Agreed Action:	Subcommittee to be formed
10.	QUARRY DESIGN AND GEOTECHNICAL ISSUES
10.1	<p>Mr Isles on behalf of the QPA stated that one of the diagrams in the centre page spread of Quarry Fact File 32 , December 2004, on the height of operating benches was misleading and that this article had caused some consternation in the industry. He asked if the committee could see and approve the content of Quarry Fact File before publication in future. The Chairman suggested that any issues about Quarry Fact File should be raised as soon as the publication was issued and where necessary HSE would then be able to take immediate action.</p> <p>Mr Pearce said he couldn't speak about fatals/accidents or the situation at specific quarries as several incidents are sub judice. But that there was nothing in the Factfile article that had not been in previous guidance dating back 18 years. He had been concerned that people were continuing to be put at risk, and action was required by HSE. Mr Pearce said the DAPS course has no input on quarry design or geotechnical issues.</p> <p>Mr Isles – said that the QPA view is that these and similar matters should be discussed round the table first before the publication of such articles.</p> <p>Mr Rostron spoke in support of the HSE view.</p> <p>Mr Lewis – the understanding of people has been “Mr Pearce wants everyone to reduce face heights” – which is not the case. This has caused enormous impact in the industry as it has economic consequences.</p> <p>The Chairman closed down discussions on this item by saying that HSE would look at making a very clear statement on this issue and if necessary to include it on a future agenda.</p> <p>(Note: This issue was previously discussed at the October 2003 QNJAC meeting – see minutes)</p>
Agreed Action:	10.1 Mr Pearce to put out a statement on requirements
11.	TARGET ZERO
11.1	<p>Only part of this item was addressed due to time constraints. Copy of full presentation to be circulated with the minutes.</p> <p>QNJAC Occupational Health sub committee chaired by Andy Crawshaw. The QNJAC have already agreed that we should be managing health risks according to the guidance published on the QNJAC web site. Looking at having a numerical health indicator</p>

	<p>eventually. The Committee had met two or three times and discussed the wording of a surrogate target in the mean time. They had come up with the following two possible forms of wording for discussion and agreement by the full committee. These were:</p> <p>1) 'Providing workplaces free from occupational health risks'</p> <p>2) 'Providing workplaces with the lowest possible levels of occupational health risk'</p> <p>The final agreed wording was:</p> <p>'Providing workplaces with the lowest possible levels of foreseeable occupational health risk'.</p>
Agreed Action:	11.1 Presentation to be circulated with the minutes.
12.	SHOTFIRING COURSES
12.1	In the absence of Clive Webb this item is to be fulfilled by a paper to be circulated with the minutes.
Agreed Action:	12.1 List of courses to be circulated to members
13.	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>Mr Hunneyball asked about compatibility of the construction standard for drilling contractors with the EPIC safety passport scheme, to avoid unnecessary duplication. He was referred to the EPIC webpage on their Scheme which lists those other schemes which are acceptable</p> <p>Mr Isles said that the QPA Hard Target had completed 5 years and accident reduction was 68% (for largest 6 companies in the QPA).QPA was in the final stage of developing its next Targets – tackling contractors in future, to be announced on June 21st at Hillhead and looking at 50% reduction.</p> <p>Mr Griffin said there had been a fatality in Ireland when workers at an illegal quarry were undercutting the face. There was a collapse and one worker was killed. This supported HSE's position further to Item 10.</p> <p>Mr Spalding asked if there were any relevant changes proposed as part of the current review of RIDDOR. Mrs Turner said she would send him a copy of her comments and suggestions made to the review regarding the quarry-specific requirements.</p> <p>Mr Morris asked when the new Work at Height regulations came into force – summer 2005 with details on the HSE web site in the near future.</p>
14.	<p>DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING – October 4th 2005</p> <p>Globe Room, Rose Court booked for this meeting.</p>

	Close
--	--------------