

## **PORT DEVELOPMENT; DOING THE RIGHT THING**

WEDA Environmental Commission  
Panel Presentation – Tuesday June 16/09  
WEDA 29 – Tempe, Arizona

Gary McFarlane – Topic of 1<sup>st</sup> Segment – “Port Development- from raw land to functional use via environmental safeguards”

My segment is solely related to the development of raw land, located in a harbour, for the purpose of providing back-up serviced lands to accommodate new seaway depth marginal wharf construction. The raw land use is assumed to have evolved over the years from various industrial uses and as such would contain the normally expected assortment of contaminants and associated hot spots.

The initial approach must be to consider the Site to be self contained and design capable of absorbing its own construction i.e.dredgeate from the wharf construction and pregrading to maintain self containment of run-off from storm water. The Concept must, by necessity, consist of design parameters that will,

- provide for processing/containment of all storm water run-off,
- provide areas/zones for dredgeate stockpiling and ongoing processing into usable port lands,
- ensure that the construction process is isolated from impacting the harbour water environment,
- ensure that the initial concept criteria are carried forward throughout the development to the completion of the Site.

Environmental safeguards such as water quality monitoring during dredging and containment of all water run-off and construction procedures must be determined and put into written form of an Agreement, with conditions, which will govern the construction phases. Progress reports/tests are to be part of the Agreement.

The design, if done properly, should have as close to zero impact on the adjacent lands/water environment as is possible to realistically achieve.