



Deer Park Community Advisory Council

Summary of October 24, 2016 Meeting

DPCAC Learns about Emergency Response in a Plant Incident

Deer Park Community Advisory Council (DPCAC) recently held the first of two meetings on emergency response to a plant incident and related communications—and who does what. The October meeting focused on *response*; the November 28 meeting, open to the public, will look at *communications*.

Plants like those in Deer Park are themselves equipped to handle fires, explosions, or other major incidents to a certain extent. The extent varies based on the size of the facility and the kinds of hazards it must be prepared to handle. Many local plants are members of Channel Industries Mutual Aid (CIMA) and would activate CIMA if additional help were needed. Some, mostly smaller, plants would turn to the Deer Park Fire Department and other city emergency services for assistance.

Mark Turvey, Lubrizol Fire Chief, described his company's emergency response capabilities. Lubrizol's emergency response team has about 140 volunteers at the Deer Park and Bayport plants who are trained to provide fire, medical, technical rescue, and hazardous materials response 24/7. They own a variety of emergency response vehicles and can manage an incident out of emergency operations centers at their Deer Park and Bayport plants. Lubrizol was one of the original 29 founding members of CIMA, formed in 1955 and now the largest mutual aid organization in the world. Turvey is the current chair of CIMA.

CIMA is a voluntary response organization whose 100+ members include private industry and government entities, including the Deer Park Fire Department. Operating out of an office in Deer Park, CIMA provides a second wave of support to member companies when requested. CIMA does not respond to 911 calls, and it does not take command of the incident when it assists. Incident command remains with the stricken facility. When a company needs help from CIMA, they may ask for equipment, trained personnel, and incident management specialists.

Visitors are welcome to attend the November 28 presentation on emergency communications in a plant incident. For details about the 6 p.m. meeting, contact Bruce Riffel at 281-930-2412.

Visit www.deerparkcac.org to read about recent meeting topics, find links to useful resources on emergency communications and the environment, see lists of DPCAC community and plant members, and read our mission and purposes.