



## Deer Park Community Advisory Council

### Summary of April 25, 2016 Meeting

#### DPCAC Seeks Overview of Plant Safety and Environmental Programs

When Deer Park Community Advisory Council (DPCAC) wanted a review of the major components of a plant's safety and environmental programs—and an understanding of the resources dedicated to them-- they asked Lubrizol to speak because it is one of the DPCAC plants that is a Star site in the OSHA Voluntary Protection Program (VPP). VPP, a partnership between management, labor, and the federal safety agency, was just one of the programs discussed.

Lubrizol Plant Manager Tanya Travis and Health and Safety Manager Ben Mitchell provided the overview. Travis said the path to sustainable safety and environmental programs begins with the leadership team creating a vision that shapes strategies and helps set goals. It is imperative that the culture, strategy, and structure of the plant be aligned so expectations can be met. The vision, strategies, and goals are then clearly communicated to all employees and contractors so they understand the "how" and the "why." Leadership must establish and model the right behaviors and set the expectation that employees are "all in." Travis said that, at Lubrizol, the resources dedicated to health, safety, environment, and security (HSES) programs have increased over the last 5 years and are a significant part of their budget.

Mitchell described the key components of an HSES program. A management system defines how the organization will operate and ensures proper policy, annual compliance reviews and submissions, and records management. It promotes consistency and standardization. A solid risk assessment and management system must be adopted after evaluation allows risks to be ranked and proper controls to be established. Employees must be trained on hazard identification, mitigation, and elimination so that when a hazard is identified, an employee can take the necessary steps for prevention and elimination. Other key components of an HSES program are incident investigation, knowledge sharing, auditing, and a scorecard with both leading and lagging indicators that allows one to regularly assess whether the vision, strategies and goals are being carried out as intended. Using safety as an example, Mitchell explained that tracking injuries after they occur is a lagging indicator, but investigating near misses before they become injuries is a leading indicator that may help such accidents from ever occurring.

The next regular meeting of DPCAC will be August 22. Members will be touring the US Coast Guard Station in May. Visit [www.deerparkcac.org](http://www.deerparkcac.org) to read recent meeting summaries, find links

to useful resources on emergency communications and the environment, see lists of DPCAC community and plant members, read our mission and purpose statements, and offer input.