



Deer Park Community Advisory Council

Summary of August 24, 2015 Meeting

Keystone XL Pipeline Gulf Coast Impacts Reviewed at DPCAC

Deer Park Community Advisory Council (DPCAC) members asked to learn about the impacts the Keystone XL pipeline might have on the refining section along the Gulf Coast. A general presentation by Vijay Barreto, Shell Deer Park Business Manager, and comments by an aide to Member of Congress Brian Babin answered many questions.

Many pipelines current run from Canada to the United States, carrying more than 1.5 million barrels a day of crude oil. The Gulf Coast became an important market in recent years because crude from western Canada will exceed demand in that nation and in parts of the Midwest, where it is currently shipped. While Texas produces the lighter West Texas Intermediate crude, Texas refineries are built to process heavy crude like that from Canada.

The "Market Link" pipeline from a major distribution center in Cushing, Oklahoma to Nederland, Texas was completed last year. Currently under construction is a spur from Nederland to the Houston area. Trains and existing pipelines currently are carrying crude from western Canada to Cushing, but the controversial northern segment of the Keystone XL has not been built. Unless there is sufficient federal support to overturn a Presidential veto or make it part of some other successful legislation, some of that Canadian crude will to different parts of the US or other parts of Canada for export.

Before the pipeline presentation, members received an update from Shell Chemical on an August 9 release and discussed the need for improved communications in such events.

Visitors are welcome to the Sept. 28 DPCAC meeting to hear the annual report on DPCAC plant emissions and the annual air quality report. For information about the 6:00 p.m. meeting, contact Max Rutz at 281/680-4105. Visit www.deerparkcac.org to read 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 purpose statements.