



## Deer Park Community Advisory Council

September 28, 2020 Meeting

### COVID-19 Facts Shared with Deer Park Community Advisory Council

Deer Park Community Advisory Council (DPCAC) members attended a virtual forum on COVID-19 in late September, with facts from a variety of public health sources presented by Russell Suarez, MD, MPH, the Dow Chemical Health Services Physician Director. Dr. Suarez covered the Coronavirus's risks, symptoms, transmission, testing, and how to protect oneself from exposure. Readers may view his slides (attached).

Among the helpful information were charts showing the percentage of various symptoms experienced by pediatric vs. adult patients and graphs showing the percentage of patients who experience symptoms like fatigue, shortness of breath, and chest pain during the virus's acute phase and afterward. Illustrations showed how the virus can be transmitted and the effectiveness of physical distancing, masks, and eye protection to help prevent exposure and spread. Dr. Suarez also emphasized the importance of good hygiene, like handwashing. He used graphics to show how to wear masks properly, covering both nose and mouth. Members found helpful the explanations about different kinds of COVID-19 tests and when to use which type.

Dr. Suarez shared a list of travel do's and don'ts and how to protect oneself during travel. A chart prepared by the Texas Medical Association ranked from 1-10 the risk of contracting COVID-19 from 38 common activities. Least risky was opening mail. Most risky was going to a bar. Dr. Suarez ended his presentation with tips for families during the pandemic, emphasizing the importance of talking and listening to each other as we confront the Coronavirus together.

DPCAC's October 26 Zoom meeting will feature the Annual Report on Emissions from DPCAC Plants. For more information, contact [info@deerparkcac.org](mailto:info@deerparkcac.org).

Read about DPCAC meetings and see summaries of our most recent presentations at [www.deerparkcac.org](http://www.deerparkcac.org).

### OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

*Each CAC agenda offers time for Updates of various types. On a set schedule, at each meeting, two or three DPCAC plants provide written updates on safety and environmental performance and business news. At any meeting,*

*plants with significant news make verbal reports. Members report on community activities or ask questions related to the CAC. The CAC also makes decisions on organizational matters as needed. Highlights from Plant Updates are listed in the summary above. The updates below cover February – September 2020.*

## **Evonik Oil Additives USA, Inc.**

No reportable spills or releases and no permit exceedances since the last report. The Deer Park site is now assisting other Evonik sites in use of the Total Productive Management (TPM) program. TPM focuses on improving self-management, continuous improvement, and employee commitment to the site.

“Evonik Oil Additives manufactures lubricant additives for blenders of Gear Oil, Automatic Transmission fluids, Grease, Hydraulic Fluids and Engine Oils.”

## **Valvoline Deer Park**

No reportable spills or recordable injuries since January. Continue to promote safety by emphasizing reporting of “near misses,” analysis of incidents to find the root cause, and plant inspections. Working to improved sustainability and recycling.

“Valvoline Inc. (NYSE: VVV) is a leading worldwide producer and distributor of premium branded automotive, commercial and industrial lubricants, and automotive chemicals. The Deer Park plant primarily blends, packages and distributes premium lubricants to a wide range of customers including Original Equipment Manufacturer, Retailers and Warehouse distributors.”

## **Vopak Terminal Deer Park**

Five regulatory agencies conducted inspections or enforcement actions since the last update: 1) Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (comprehensive air, waste classification, air drone flyover, and Tier II); 2) Harris-Galveston Subsidence District (water well); 3) US Customs and Border Protection; 4) Texas General Land Office Oil and Spill Prevention; and US Department of Transportation.

“Vopak ensures safe, clean and efficient storage and handling of bulk liquid products and gases for our customers. Vopak Terminal Deer Park is a third party storage, import / export, and distribution facility handling the following products: Biofuels, Chemicals, and Petroleum products.”