

Deer Park Community Advisory Council

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Meeting Notes Monday, January 25, 2021

The 289th meeting of the Deer Park Community Advisory Council was held on Monday, January 25, 2021 via Zoom video conferencing. Facilitator Diane Sheridan reviewed the agenda, which was accepted as proposed. The November 2020 meeting notes were approved without changes.

ATTENDANCE

DPCAC Community Members		DPCAC Plant Members		Guests/Resources	
X	Ruth Boyd	X	Clean Harbors , Bruce Riffel	X	Jason Allred
X	Steve Corry	X	Dow Chemical Deer Park , David Herrington	X	Richard Bergeron, OxyVinyls PVC
X	Ken Donnell		Dow Chemical , Whitney Bolger	X	Chad Burke, Economic Alliance, HPR
	Beverly Ferguson	X	Evonik Oil Additives , Jim Bentinck-Smith	X	John Collins
X	Bobby Garcia	X	GEO Specialty Chemicals , Steve Outlaw	X	Trilby Cressman, Evonik Oil Additives
X	Sherry Garrison	X	Hexion , Marlene Mercado	X	Rick Deel, Harris County
X	Tommy Ginn	X	Intercontinental Terminals , David Wascome	X	Karen Lewis-Holmes, TCEQ
	Robert Hemminger	X	Lubrizol , Sarah Arroyo, rep by Doug Moore	X	Frank Marine, Texas Molecular
	Cara Herbeck	X	Lubrizol , Tanya Travis, rep by Doug Moore	X	Emily Morris, UHCL
X	Steven Horton	X	Oxy Vinyls VCM , Josh Munn	X	Stuart Mueller, HCPC
X	Norma Hysler	X	Oxy Vinyls PVC/KOH , Craig Horak	X	Jana Pellusch
	Bill Irwin	X	Shell Deer Park , Jessica Blackmore	X	Rick Pitman, HBR
	Katherine Mitchum	X	Shell Deer Park Manufacturing Site , Guy Hackwell	X	Derrick Stanley, Shell Deer Park
	Mike Mitchum	X	Texas Molecular , Jimmy Bracher	X	Kathy Stewart, Vopak Terminal DP
X	James Ragaisis	X	Valvoline , Robert Shelton	X	Wallace Ward, Texas Prairies
	Ariel Pena	X	Vopak Terminal Deer Park , Paul Kanters Rep by Michael Perkins	X	Willie Wells, HBR
	Vickey Roberts			X	Blake White, Harris Co. OHS&EM
	Robert Segelquist			X	Dennis Winkler, EHCMA
	Andy Smith				
	Charles Thomas		Support Staff		
X	David Wade	X	Diane Sheridan, Facilitator		
	Ernest Weedon	X	Cynthia Wotipka Boland, Secretary		

Annual “State of the Plant” Reports from DPCAC Plants

Asked to report their 2020 challenges and achievements and their 2021 goals and plans, all 13 Deer Park Community Advisory Council (DPCAC) plants shared their assessments. All plants commented on their OSHA recordable rate. According to the US Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), a rate of 1.00

means one person per 100 had an injury or illness requiring a doctor's intervention in 2020. A rate of 0.10 means is a rate of one per 1000.

Highlights from each report follows:

- Clean Harbors Deer Park - One recordable injury in 2020 gave the site its best OSHA recordable rate in at least 5 years. The site is proposing a new rail spur and new building to consolidate and solidify waste so it can be incinerated on site. Employee level is relatively stable and there will possibly be 4-6 new positions in 2021.
- Dow Chemical Deer Park – Despite all the adjustments made at the site to cope with the pandemic, the site achieved a 0.12 recordable rate for its employees and contractors. The site is experiencing a demand recovery and is off to a good start for 2021. A large turnaround is scheduled for the 1st quarter, bringing in 1200+ contractors.
- Evonik Oil Additives – The combination of employees and contractors have worked more than 6 years without an OSHA recordable injury. The site successfully completed recertifications of ISO9001 & RC14001.
- GEO Specialty Chemicals – Zero OSHA recordables for employees and embedded contractors. The 4th quarter brought a very high demand for glycine. The site will continue to focus on its safety record in 2021. GEO and the La Porte Gulbrandsen plant, through a joint venture, formed a new water treatment chemicals plant called G2O, based in La Porte. It will not affect GEO's participation in Deer Park CAC.
- Hexion – Will focus on its “Making Safety Personal” program in 2021. One employee injury in 2020 for a 0.74 rate for employees. Demand was affected by COVID during the 2nd and 3rd quarters, but started recovering in 4Q 2020. The site expects staffing increases in Operations and Administrative in 2021. A CAC member questioned the hiring increases and the site representative said that Hexion hires Product loaders a few times a year and they require a Process Technology certification. Employees are hired through GoJohnson recruitment. The USW Collective Bargaining negotiations will occur in 4Q 2021.
- Intercontinental Terminals Company – A recordable injury in 2020 was the first in 4 years. Recently completed Stage 1 of the OSHA Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) Challenge program. The site is having a lot of construction on the tank farm and they are looking for ways to do things better and safer. On April 1, 2021, Bernt Netland will transition to the role of Vice Chairman of the Board and Brent Weber will become the new Chief Officer.
- Lubrizol – Using the LEAD employee engagement tool to help reduce recordable injuries. In 2020, there were fewer recordables than in 2019, and the recordable rate was the second best in plant history (0.69). The site began rebounding production in the 4thQ, ending December with the strongest performance ever.
- Oxy Vinyls Deer Park VCM – Received multiple awards for 2019 safety performance but had first recordable injury in 8 in 2020 for an employee rate of 1.35. Stable business conditions are anticipated for 2021 and the site will roll out a new permitting system.
- Oxy Vinyls Deer Park PCV/Caustic Plant – Completed one year without an OSHA recordable injury on 1-8-21 after having one early in 2020. The corporation recently worked 6 months without a recordable

at any of its 23 manufacturing sites. The site had 25 operators in a new hire class.

- Shell Deer Park Manufacturing Complex – Worked 80 days without a recordable injury after 17 in 2020. Had its best year ever for environmental compliance. The site implemented a new peer-to-peer safety program. For every safety observation that is recorded, Shell will donate \$5 to the “Make-A-Wish” foundation in Deer Park.
- Texas Molecular – Has worked 15 years without a lost-time injury, in which the worker is unable to return to work for a day or more. The site has implemented a contactless delivery experience where there is no contact with the drivers. It involves an automated system that is geared to eliminate everyone moving around a lot of paperwork. Their support staff is still working remotely and there was a small decrease in business, but it has rebounded, resulting in December being the best performance on record.
- Valvoline – Reached one year without a recordable on 1-9-21 after experiencing one a year ago, the first then since 11-15-16. The facility underwent a weeklong internal EHS audit in October. The results from the audit were the best in 6 years. The site is focusing on producing more fluids for electric vehicles. Despite the pandemic, 2020 was a record year for the facility.
- Vopak Deer Park Terminal – Recordable injury rate of 0.47. Part of 2020 business included storage of chemicals used in the production of disinfectants and personal protective equipment related to COVID-19. The facility had 12 environmental violations and 3 recordables. Seven additional tanks will be added by mid-2021.

Plants uniformly will continue their emphasis in 2021 on COVID prevention as well as safety and environmental performance.

Updates

Level 2 Watches or Level 3 Warnings

None were reported

Written Facility Updates

Hexion - reported that the site received the Hexion Gold EHS award for safety performance in 2019. The resident mechanical contractor on site reached a milestone of 13 years injury free in May 2020. The Site continued its implementation of three new high-level initiatives to further improve worker and process safety. These initiatives focus on Improved Operational Discipline, Plant operations, ergonomics assessment and improvements, and creating a culture of leak elimination for process and utilities.

Intercontinental Terminals - The TCEQ conducted a Title V deviation report investigation from September 22, 2020, to December 17, 2020. ITC received a Notice of Violation (NOV) and Notice of Enforcement (NOE) based on the investigation findings. ITC is developing a response to both and the final outcome is pending. Soil remediation of the 2nd 80s incident site has been initiated and is expected to continue into the summer of 2021. Since the last report, ITC has hired 21 associates to support new positions and attrition.

Lubrizol - The facility had two (2) virtual Air Permitting and Compliance TCEQ inspections since the last update. The inspections resulted in a total of nine (9) NOV's for issues that had previously been self-reported to TCEQ prior to the inspections and corrected. Both inspections have been closed. Since the last report, the Deer Park plant experienced four (4) recordable injuries that included: 3 injuries related to walking/working surfaces and 1 injury related to a chemical dust exposure to an employee's eye.

Ozone Exceedance Days

TCEQ's Karen Lewis-Holmes reported there were no new ozone exceedance days in the Houston Region in the month of January. There have been none since October but typically the ozone season is March to October. In 2020, there were 28 exceedances of the 8-hour ozone standard in the Houston Region vs 33 for 2019.

Other Updates

A member brought up a recent article in the *Houston Chronicle* that describes a study conducted by researchers at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston. Their research found an association between cancer rates and those living within 30 miles of an active Texas refinery. The researchers said the findings "stimulate further research questions." Members were interested in learning more. Diane polled the attendees to see if they wanted to use the March CAC meeting to assemble their questions and decide whom to invite or form a committee to create a list of questions for the speakers to address and to decide which speakers to invite to a DPCAC meeting. The majority preferred to form a committee to put together a meeting, so Diane will poll members for volunteers to serve.

Houston Business Roundtable – Rick Pitman presented on the hydroblasting cleaning process noting that it is one of the quickest and best methods of removing sludge, rust and scale that build up on the surface of process equipment. Hydroblast water streams at a tremendous amount of force and can cause injuries that are almost always severe. Training requirements for hydroblasting operators can vary and on occasion, do not even exist. Therefore, the Water Jet Technology Association (WJTA) has partnered with the Houston Area Safety Council (HASC) to develop a two-pronged approach to ensure hydroblasting craft certification. The training is the result of many end users, manufacturers, vendors and clients collaborating to provide the best safety and operational knowledge at the lowest possible cost. HBR recommends that hydroblast operations personal obtain a valid WJTA or waterjet craft certification before performing automated or manual industrial cleaning activities. Utilizing this standard and training process will help attain the goal to reduce the risk of injury to personnel and improve production. East Harris County Manufacturers Association (EHCMA) has endorsed this training certification.

ZOOM Chat - A community member asked if any of the companies represented tonight foresee continuing remote work for any employees after the COVID virus is no longer an active threat. Several representatives responded saying that work patterns will have changed permanently and that most have learned to do things remotely that were never done that way pre-COVID. The days of thinking that you have to be in the office every day to be productive are probably gone. There will definitely be more flexibility in work schedules. Many said that they would envision more work that is a blend of remote and in-office based on capturing the values of both. Some responded that they are alternating schedules of working from home or at the facilities and that will continue until there is a significant drop in COVID positive cases. For many employees, being at the facility provides chances to see and discuss issues more thoroughly than is possible at home. Some sites are looking forward to have all staff return to the plant to work in person when it's safe to do so. However, going forward, most agreed that working from home will be considered much more than it was before 2020.

Plans for Future Meetings

Until DPCAC decides otherwise, the group will meet by Zoom videoconference from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY, February 22nd - EPA Risk Management Plan- Jeff Anderson, Oxy Vinyls

- The EPA Risk Management Program requires facilities with extremely hazardous flammable or toxic substances to develop Risk Management Plans aimed at protecting communities from serious accidents.
- Jeff Anderson of OxyVinyls Deer Park PVC/Caustic Plant will present an historical overview of RMP, to whom it applies, and what a plant must do to meet its requirements.

Dates for 2021– all Mondays

Mar. 22

Apr. 26

May 24 (before Memorial Day)

No June meeting

No July meeting

Aug. 23

Sept. 27

Oct. 25

Nov. 29 (delayed due to Thanksgiving)

No December meeting