

Deer Park Community Advisory Council

www.deerparkcac.org

Meeting Notes Monday, October 25, 2021

The 296th meeting of the Deer Park Community Advisory Council was held on Monday, October 25, 2021 via Zoom video conferencing. Anne Gowan filled in for Diane Sheridan as the Facilitator. Gowan reviewed the agenda, which was accepted as proposed. The September 2021 meeting notes were approved without changes.

ATTENDANCE

DPCAC Community Members		DPCAC Plant Members		Guests/Resources	
	Ruth Boyd	X	Clean Harbors, Bruce Riffel	X	George Baker
	Steve Corry		Dow Chemical Deer Park, Monty Heins	X	Carla Bass
	Deer Park OEM		Dow Chemical, Whitney Bolger	X	Trilby Cressman, Evonik
	Ken Donnell	X	Evonik Oil Additives, Jim Bentinck-Smith	X	John Collins
	Beverly Ferguson-Cooper	X	GEO Specialty Chemicals, Steve Outlaw	X	Rick Deel, HCOHS&EM
	Bobby Garcia	X	Hexion, Marlene Mercado	X	Betty Lemley
	Sherry Garrison	X	Intercontinental Terminals, David Wascome, rep. by Rich Howes	X	Scott Malm, CTEH (Speaker)
X	Tommy Ginn	X	Lubrizol, Doug Moore	X	Stuart Mueller, HCPCS
X	Cara Herbeck	X	OxyVinyls VCM, Josh Munn	X	Susan Newman, Hexion
X	Steven Horton	X	OxyVinyls PVC/KOH, Eric Delgado, rep. by Richard Bergeron	X	Jana Pellusch
X	Norma Hysler	X	Shell Deer Park, Jessica Blackmore	X	James Ragaisis, San Jacinto College
	James Ragaisis	X	Shell Deer Park Manufacturing Site, Guy Hackwell	X	Wallace Ward, Native Prairies
	Ariel Pena	X	Texas Molecular, Jimmy Bracher, rep. by Frank Marine	X	Willie Wells
	Buddy Rice		Valvoline, Robert Shelton	X	Blake White, Harris County OEM
	Vickey Roberts	X	Vopak Terminal Deer Park, Kathy Stewart, rep by Michael Perkins	X	Dennis Winkler
	Robert Segelquist				
	Andy Smith		Support Staff		
	Charles Thomas		Diane Sheridan, Facilitator		
X	David Wade	X	Cynthia Wotipka Boland, Secretary		
	Ernest Weedon	X	Anne Gowan		

Update from Shell re: Sale of Refinery to Joint Venture Partner Pemex

Shell Deer Park General Manager (GM) Guy Hackwell updated the CAC on the current status of the sale of the refinery to joint venture partner Pemex. Hackwell said that although he will continue to be the GM of the refinery after the deal closes, currently he is still a Shell employee and cannot speak on behalf of Pemex. The sale is expected to close in the late 4th quarter, pending regulatory approvals, although an exact date is unknown. Hackwell added that Shell will still be the owner and operator of Deer Park Chemicals and that the site will remain integrated. Following the completion of the sale, Nathan (Nate) Levin will be General Manager of the Shell Deer Park Chemicals plant.

The chemical plant will retain the Shell Deer Park name and be called Shell Deer Park Chemicals. Hackwell said that Levin has a strong manufacturing background, is a good choice for the position, and has already begun handing chemical-related items over to Levin. Hackwell said Levin is getting to know the Deer Park Community and will be attending a DPCAC meeting in the near future. Hackwell will remain a member of the CAC and will represent the refinery and Levin (or one of his colleagues) will represent Shell Deer Park Chemicals.

Hackwell showed members a map of the site and explained which sections of the complex will be sold to Pemex and what portions of the site will be Shell Deer Park Chemicals. Hackwell said Pemex would continue to provide emergency response services to the entire complex, including to Shell Deer Park Chemicals, Hexion, part of Lubrizol, and Calpine.

Hackwell said they received numerous questions about their workforce and whether jobs will be lost as a result of the sale. All refinery employees were offered employment with Pemex, although some have elected to retire. Employees whose primary responsibilities are with the refinery division will continue to work for the refinery, and those whose job duties are primarily chemical related will continue to work for the chemical plant. Employees who support both the refinery and chemical plant will go to the site where they spend the majority of their time. Hackwell anticipated additional job creations in the future. Hackwell reminded attendees that Pemex has been Shell's joint venture partner at the facility for almost 30 years, and as such Pemex is familiar with the facility, personnel, the focus on safe and stable operations and of course, the importance of local community and businesses.

Hackwell said since the divestment announcement, Shell's Contract and Procurement teams have been diligently working with the many vendors, suppliers, and companies at the site to ensure that both the refinery and chemicals facilities are properly equipped with the skilled contract workforce and vendors needed to ensure safe and stable operations of the site.

Hackwell announced that Jessica Blackmore would continue to work for Shell Deer Park Chemicals and that he will be recruiting a Public Affairs manager for the refinery. In order to ensure continuity, Blackmore is helping in the transition. Additionally, Hackwell said that he would provide another update after the transaction was finalized.

Following the presentation, Hackwell responded to community members' questions that were submitted prior to the meeting. Information may also be found at <https://www.shell.us/about-us/projects-and-locations/deer-park-manufacturing-site/shell-deer-park-news/shell-deer-park-update-and-community-meetings.html>

INVOLVEMENT WITH COMMUNITY AND OTHER INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES

1. *What is Pemex is going to do for the city?* Hackwell said that he cannot speak on behalf of Pemex as he is still currently employed by Shell.
2. *How does Pemex plan to be a part of/interact with industry neighbors?* Again, Hackwell said that he cannot speak on behalf of Pemex.
3. *Will Pemex be active in the Deer Park Community Advisory Council? Are they familiar with the group already?* Pemex has committed to continuing to be a part of the DPCAC. Once the deal is final, Hackwell will continue to participate in the DPCAC as the Pemex representative.
4. *Will Shell continue its strong community outreach events? Or will its city footprint shrink now that they're only a Chemicals business and not a refinery also?* Hackwell believes this venture will be good for the community as there will now be two large entities running large plants. Deer Park will now have both Shell and Pemex as community partners. Hackwell said that Shell has been very clear that they will remain active in the community.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND COMMUNICATIONS

5. *Who will handle emergency response and communications? Will they be shared or independent from each other?* Hackwell said the refinery, and thus Pemex, will continue to handle emergency response for the complex and complex partners which include Shell Deer Park, Chemicals, Hexion and Lubrizol.
6. *Will Pemex be active in the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)?* The refinery will continue to be active in the LEPC.

TIMING OF CHANGE

7. *When will the changeover occur, meaning when will the CAC, LEPC, and city expect Pemex involvement as their own company?* Although a firm date has not yet been announced, the deal should close late this quarter.
8. *When can we expect communications from Pemex to start?* Hackwell said that he cannot speak on behalf of Pemex as he is still currently employed by Shell.

JOBS

9. *Will jobs be lost?* No job will be lost as a result of this sale; instead, more jobs should be created. Pemex has offered all current refinery employees employment, although some have opted for retirement.
10. *Will a retirement package be offered to avoid job loss?* Although some employees have opted for retirement, retirement packages were not offered.

11. *Will most of the staff and hired workers be transferred to here from Mexico?* The current Shell Deer Park leadership team will continue to lead the refinery as Pemex employees once the sale is finalized.
12. *How many employees are currently at the complex?* Currently, there are 1350 total employees. The new split will be approximately 950 employees to the refinery and 400 employees to the chemical plant.

NAME

13. *What will be the name of each plant be? Will the name Shell be retained?* Shell will be called Shell Deer Park Chemicals. Hackwell said that he cannot comment what the refinery will be called as he currently an employee of Shell.

IMPACTS ON STOCKHOLDERS

14. *How will the change affect the stockholders?* There will be no impact on the shareholders.

Factors to Consider When Trying to Find a Cause For Cancer

Scott Malm, Ph.D., a Project Toxicologist with CTEH spoke about cancer and factors researchers consider when seeking a cause for cancer. Malm provided a general overview of cancer, how it occurs, and discussed the various risk factors. Malm reviewed questions to ask when figuring out a cause for cancer, high-quality scientific journals where information can be found, the various types of studies in scientific literature, and authoritative bodies for cancer guidance.

Updates

Ozone Exceedance Days - TCEQ's Karen Lewis-Holmes was unable to attend the meeting but sent the following report. There were four exceedances of the 8-hour standard for the month of October in the Houston region, one of which was in Deer Park. There was also one exceedance day of the 1-hour standard for the month of October, none of which were in Deer Park. Year-to-date, there have been thirty-two 8-hour ozone exceedance days, six of which were in the Deer Park area. There were also five 1-hour ozone exceedance days, one of which was in Deer Park.

Written Facility Updates - Members received regular periodic plant updates in advance of the meeting but the facilitator asked the plants who reported this month to share one or two highlights from their update that they wanted members to know about.

- **Clean Harbors** - Bruce Riffel said that since March, they have had 2 lost time incidents. He also said that the TPDES Permit Modification was in the process. This permit would give the site additional ability to process customer's non-hazardous wastewater through their wastewater plant. Riffel expects the draft permit to be approved next month.
- **Shell Oil Company** - Guy Hackwell reported that in early October, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) awarded a \$4 million grant to study the suitability of carbon capture and storage (CCS) at Shell's Deer Park Chemicals complex in Texas. In September, the Shell Deer Park Rescue Team conducted refresher training in Trench Rescue. Workers at the site were challenged with

completing more than 3,000 proactive safety observations as a way to recognize safe behaviors and decrease incidents. For every ACE observation completed, Shell contributed to fund a Make-A-Wish child’s dreams. Thanks to the workforce’s dedication, they met their \$15,000 goal to build a wheel-chair accessible treehouse for Carolyn, who battles Rett’s Syndrome, a rare neurological genetic disorder that causes a severe muscle movement disability.

Plans for Future Meetings

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

- **Monday, November 29** (delayed due to Thanksgiving) -- Find out what the Texas Cancer Registry (TCR) knows about cancer in Deer Park by analyzing information on the Texas Department of State Health Services website. Review summary of what DPCAC learned from TCR analyses in 1995, 2000, 2004, and 2008. At the end of this meeting, there will be a ZOOM toast to get out of 2021 and hopefully back to meeting in person.

Dates for 2021 - all Mondays

Jan. 25	No June meeting	Nov. 29 (delayed due to Thanksgiving)
Feb. 22	No July meeting	No December meeting
Mar. 22	Aug. 23	
Apr. 26	Sept. 27	
May 24 (before Memorial Day)	Oct. 25	

Dates for 2022 - all Mondays

Jan. 24	May 23	Sept. 26
Feb. 28	No June meeting	Oct. 24
Mar. 28	No July meeting	Nov. 28 (delayed due to Thanksgiving)
Apr. 25	Aug. 22	No December meeting