



Deer Park Community Advisory Council

Monday, January 24, 2022

Annual “State of the Plant” Reports Given to DPCAC

Asked to report their 2021 challenges and achievements and their 2022 goals and plans, all 15 Deer Park Community Advisory Council (DPCAC) plants shared their assessments. Reports about their Deer Park sites were made by Clean Harbors, Dow Chemical, Evonik Oil Additives, GEO Specialty Chemicals, Hexion, Intercontinental Terminals Company (ITC), Lubrizol, NOVVI, the Oxy Vinyls Deer Park PVC/KOH and VCM plants, Pemex, Shell Chemicals, Texas Molecular, Valvoline, and Vopak. NOVVI is a new DPCAC member. The recent sale of the Shell refinery split that facility into two separate companies: Shell Deer Park Chemicals and Pemex Deer Park.

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 a 12-month period. Evonik, GEO, NOVVI, Texas Molecular, and Valvoline had total recordable rates of 0.00 in 2021. Lubrizol achieved its best safety rate ever, 0.27. No environmental events occurred at Evonik, GEO, Hexion, NOVVI, and Texas Molecular.

The impacts of Winter Storm Uri, raw material supply shortages, and truck driver shortages were common challenges in 2021. Achievements last year in addition to environmental and safety performance included construction projects, permit renewals, hiring, and strong demand for products. In 2022, plants will continue their focus on COVID prevention and their emphasis on environmental and safety performance.

Visitors are welcome to DPCAC’s Feb. 28 Zoom meeting at which census data will be used to characterize communities within 10 and 30 miles of refineries. For an invitation, contact info@deerparkcac.org.

Read about DPCAC meetings and see summaries of our most recent presentations at www.deerparkcac.org.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Each CAC agenda offers time for updates from community and plant members. 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 here. They cover August 2021 – January 2022.

Hexion -- Hexion has entered into an agreement with Westlake Chemicals for sale of its Epoxy business, including a manufacturing unit in Deer Park. The sale is not expected to impact operations or staffing. Hexion continues its “Get Zero-Get Home” program with Making Safety Personal, practicing safety 24/7 and in all aspects of life.

“Products produced at Deer Park Hexion Plant include Bisphenol Acetone (BPA) and various grades of liquid and solid epoxy resin. BPA’s primary use is as a feedstock for epoxy resin and polycarbonate production. Primary uses for epoxy resin include various protective coatings applications in the construction, automotive and electronics industries and as a binder in a wide range of composite applications.”

Intercontinental Terminals Company (ITC) – On-site soil remediation inside the 2nd 80s tank farm is complete with the exception of the northern border, which is pending pipeline relocation. The next areas to be remediated include the following: (1) the onsite areas immediately adjacent to the tank farm, (2) Tucker Bayou South of Tidal Road, and (3) Independence Parkway ditches. The remediation of the Independence Parkway ditches and Tucker Bayou (south) are expected to commence before the summer.

“Intercontinental Terminals Company (ITC) is a for-hire bulk storage facility located on the Houston Ship Channel in Deer Park, Texas. The facility covers 265 acres and has a total storage capacity of over 11,858,136 barrels in 226 storage tanks. The facility is served by vessel, barge, rail, tank truck, and pipeline modes. ITC presently employs 313 at the Deer Park terminal.”

Lubrizol Deer Park – In its journey to continuously improve safety, the plant is emphasizing its focused-recognition program, personal safety accountability, and hazard recognition. In Q4 2021 they initiated the use of Human Performance Improvement (HPI) tools, which put the necessary barriers in place to prevent events. HPI was developed by and has been used in the nuclear/energy, airline, and medical industries.

“Lubrizol Deer Park produces specialty chemicals (lubricant additives) used in motor oils, gear oils, automatic transmission fluids and greases to improve their performance. Our customers include Castrol, Chevron, Citgo, ConocoPhillips, ExxonMobil, Imperial Oil, Mobil, Shell, Total, Valvoline and many, many others. When you go into your local Auto Zone or other auto supply store and look at the many rows of motor oils, automatic transmission fluids, gear oils and greases, our chemistry is in many of those products.”