

Deer Park Community Advisory Council

www.deerparkcac.org

Meeting Notes Monday, September 26, 2022

The 303rd meeting of the Deer Park Community Advisory Council was held on Monday, September 26, 2022, at the Republic Grill. Prior to the meeting, group photos were taken by photographer Megan Drummond of SunKissed Studios. Facilitator Diane Sheridan reviewed the agenda, which was accepted as proposed. The August 2022 meeting notes were approved without changes.

ATTENDANCE

DPCAC Community Members		DPCAC Plant Members		Guests/Resources	
X	Ruth Boyd	X	Clean Harbors , Bruce Riffel	X	Rick Bergeron, OxyVinyls DP PVC/KOH
	Steve Corry, DPIISD	X	Dow Chemical Deer Park , Monty Heins	X	John Collins
X	Kristina DeWitty, SJC	X	Evonik Oil Additives , Jim Bentinck-Smith	X	Sheryl DaPron
	Christine DiCosimo, TX Hse. Dist. 128	X	GEO Specialty Chemicals , Steve Outlaw	X	Gary Jackson, Vopak Terminal
X	Ken Donnell	X	Intercontinental Terminals , David Wascome, rep. by Corey Sledge	X	AJ Jones, Lubrizol
	Beverly Ferguson-Cooper, US Rep 36	X	Lubrizol , Tanya Travis, rep. by Hector Acosta	X	Frank Marine, Texas Molecular
	Jamie Galloway, DP OEM	X	NOVVI , Alan Kominek, rep. by Bob Wolff	X	Yayma Martinez, TCEQ
X	Bobby Garcia	X	OxyVinyls PVC/KOH , Eric Delgado	X	Wanda Morris
X	Sherry Garrison		OxyVinyls VCM , Josh Munn	X	Christina Perez, Texas Molecular
X	Tommy Ginn	X	Pemex Deer Park , Guy Hackwell	X	Randon Pierson
X	Cara Herbeck		Pemex Deer Park , Jennifer Walsh	X	Jon Powell
X	Steven Horton	X	Shell Deer Park , Nathan Levin	X	Nicole Roper, Shell
X	Norma Hysler	X	Shell Deer Park , Jessica Blackmore	X	Cheyenne Valdez
	Gretchen Knowles, Harris Co. Pct. 2	X	Texas Molecular , Jimmy Bracher	X	Blake White, Harris County OEM
	Paula Moorhaj, DP Chamber	X	Valvoline , Robert Shelton		
	Bill Patterson, DP City Council		Vopak Moda , Jeff Sanford, rep. by Duane Campbell		
X	Tyler Padgett, SJC	X	Vopak Terminal Deer Park , Kathy Stewart		
	Ariel Pena	X	Westlake Epoxy , Marlene Mercado		
	Vickey Roberts				Support Staff
	Andy Smith, San Jacinto Battleground Historic Site			X	Diane Sheridan, Facilitator
X	Angela Smith, City of Deer Park			X	Anne Gowan, Facilitation Associate
	Larry Taylor, TX Sen. Dist. 11			X	Marilyn Bass, Secretary
	Charles Thomas				
X	David Wade				
	Ernest Weedon				

Annual Report on Emissions from CAC Plants

Full presentation posted at www.deerparkcac.org on Member page

Richard Bergeron of OxyVinyls Deer Park PVC/KOH presented the Air Emissions Inventory and Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) for the Deer Park CAC plants. The Air Emissions Inventory is the collection and evaluation of criteria pollutants, which include total suspended particulates, sulfur oxides, carbon monoxide, and the ozone precursors volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and nitrogen oxides. The information is submitted to the TCEQ. The Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) is submitted to the EPA and tracks the management of certain toxic chemicals that may pose a threat to human health and the environment. Highlights from the Emissions Inventory and TRI are as follows. The “full presentation” includes explanations from each reporting plant for significant increases or decreases from 2020 to 2021. All CAC plants that must file one or both inventories provided data for the report with the exception of ITC.

After the presentation, attendees participated in small group discussion at their tables. Input is listed at the end of the notes.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2021 DATA ON EMISSIONS

Winter Storm Uri was the major reason for increases, as was a change in the type of chemical stored at a terminal.

Air Emissions Inventory of Criteria Pollutants	Increase or Reduction from 2017-2021	Increase or Reduction from 2020-2021
Total Criteria Pollutant Emissions	-7%	+2%
NOx – nitrogen oxides	-17%	-3%
VOCs – volatile organic compounds	-22%	+5%
SOx – sulfur oxides	-11%	-1%
CO – carbon monoxide	+17%	+3%
TSP – total suspended particulates	+3%	+17%
Toxics Release Inventory (TRI)	Increase or Reduction from 2017-2021	Increase or Reduction from 2020-2021
Total releases to the air	-16%	+6%
Benzene	+23%	+33%
1,3-Butadiene	-27%	+37%
TRI releases to air from 1987 (9 plants) to 2021 (13 plants) are down 61%		

Questions

- 1) Are power plants required to submit a TRI? Yes, power plants are required to submit a TRI to the EPA.
- 2) After reviewing the data, is there an event that seemed to create issues across the board for our local plants? Winter storm Uri in February of 2021 negatively impacted the local plants.

Updates

Ozone Exceedance Days – TCEQ’s Yayma Martinez reported that there were ten exceedances of the 8-hour standard for the month of September for the Houston region, none of which were in the Deer Park area. September is the peak time for ozone exceedance days.

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.

- **Evonik** – Jim Bentinck-Smith reported no reportable spills or releases or permit exceedances since last report. The site is in the process of renewing one of their air permits. The facility reported their first COVID case, which was an OSHA recordable illness. The site also completed the process of revalidating their process hazard analyses (PHAs).
- **Valvoline** – Rob Shelton said that effective August 1, 2022, Valvoline Manufacturing will be Valvoline Global Products (VGP) and is in the process of being acquired by Saudi Aramco. The site will run as a stand-alone unit. Headcount has increased by 7 people.
- **Vopak** – Kathy Stewart said Vopak has a total recordable injury rate (TRIR) of 0.00 for 2022. They have achieved over 2,500,000 manhours of work without a recordable incident.

Committees

Treasury Committee – The 2023 Budget will be on the November agenda. There are two terms that will be open for the Treasury committee. Steve Horton’s term is ending and he would not like to continue. Marlene Mercado is happy for someone else to have this opportunity or to do it again. Let Diane know if you are interested in helping with the Treasury Committee.

Program Planning Committee – Ruth Boyd and Steve Horton have volunteered to serve on the committee. Sheridan would like a plant representative as well. The committee will meet via Zoom for approximately 2 hours.

Plans for Future Meetings

Monday, October 24 – DPCAC Banquet at the Monument Inn.

- Invitations will be sent to Members, Plant managers, and a few other guests. Invited guests are encouraged to bring a spouse/guest. RSVP is required.

Monday, November 28, 2022 – How It All Began: The Origins and History of the Deer Park Community Advisory Council and the Deer Park Local Emergency Planning Committee

- Both DPCAC and Deer Park LEPC had their roots in an industrial catastrophe in Bhopal, India in 1984.
- Sam Pipkin will speak about the formation of the LEPC and its history. A former DPCAC member and City of Deer Park Emergency Services Director, Sam has been involved in the LEPC for many years.
- In her last meeting as DPCAC's only facilitator, Diane Sheridan will talk about the formation of DPCAC and share highlights from its history.

No December Meeting

Dates for 2023 - all Mondays

Jan. 23	May 22 (before Memorial Day)	Sept. 25
Feb. 27	No June meeting	Oct. 23
Mar. 27	No July meeting	Nov. 27 (following Thanksgiving)
Apr. 24	Aug. 28	No December meeting

Small Group Input

Input on Annual Emissions Report

September 26, 2022

1. Ask the plants at your table to share one of their emissions reduction goals.

- Lubrizol: replacing old boilers with new low-NOx boilers. Consolidating incinerators.
- Valvoline: hot oil burner returned and new burner ring.
- Dow: absorber off-gas (AOG) to boiler project which will reduce off-gas to flare.
- PEMEX: every turnaround is an opportunity to improve.
- GEO: replaced boiler.
- Evonik: doesn't measure the same things.
- Westlake Epoxy: has a flare.
- Shell: looking to start carbon sequestration to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Texas Molecular: emissions dependent on customers receipts so it is difficult to set these kinds of goals.
- Texas Molecular: back-up flare, equipment to burn off and back-up generators to keep all equipment running to help burn off gases.
- Improve nitrogen gas control system to reduce emissions from flares.

2. Anything you were happy to hear?

- General improvement in emissions reductions for long haul (75%) and improvement in the last 5 years.
- TRI: 61% reduction from 1987-2021 (*Note: chart showed 1998-2021*)
- Trend downward.

- Overall reduction since 1998.
- Long-term data shows a significant decrease. Community members recognize that the decreases are greater than shown in the presentation because production is theoretically higher than it was 20 years ago.
- Numbers decreased. 75% decrease since 1998. 61% decrease in TRI since 1987. (*Note: chart showed 1998-2021*)
- Carbon monoxide was the only increase of all emissions.

3. Any concerns about what you heard?

- Winter Storm Uri
- Continuously reduce emissions
- Fix power grid
- Benzene increase
- 1,3 butadiene increase
- Increase in total suspended particulates.
- Are the numbers being cross checked against destruction efficiencies?
- How numbers are checked and verified.
- More non-routine reporting vs. routine and non-routine together

4. What can we do to improve the report, itself, both materials and presentation? Consider the orientation packet and Full Presentation mailed before the meeting to members and others who RSVPed as well as the presentation tonight.

- Good representation, easy to understand.
- Great reporting. Enjoyed presentation.
- Visually appealing with graphics.
- The presentation/ graphs were well organized and it was easy to understand.
- Appreciate explanations about weather/ Winter Storm Uri impact.
- Green and red worked well.
- Bergeron's method of presentation was good.
- Consider showing how our plants contribute to state attainment or non-attainment emission concerns.
- Consider adding greenhouse gases to annual report.
- Recommend black titles/ headers if going to keep green/ red concept.
- Last slide states 13 plants, but think that there are fewer plants reporting. May need clarification.
- Maybe a little more detail on drivers on ups and downs.

5. Any input on anything else?

- Food was good.
- Food was great.
- Food was good but next time we want chicken.