



Deer Park Community Advisory Council

Monday, October 24, 2022

DPCAC Celebrates 32nd Anniversary in October

November Meeting on DPCAC and Deer Park Local Emergency Planning Committee History

Thanks to COVID, Deer Park Community Advisory Council (DPCAC) celebrated its 30th Anniversary 2 years and 7 months later than intended--with a recent banquet at the Monument Inn. Special guests included Joe Hodge, the plant manager at Lubrizol who worked with community leaders and three other plant managers to organize the group that first met in March 1990. Dean Eshelmann, a Shell plant manager in the early 2000s, joined 60 members and guests, as did former CAC member Russell Elfstrom. The charter members still active in the group—Norma Hysler and Ken Donnell—were thanked for their 32 years of service as was Diane Sheridan, the group’s facilitator since that first 1990 meeting, who retires at the end of this year.

DPCAC’s Nov. 28 meeting will feature presentations by Sheridan and by Sam Pipkin respectively on the common origin and the histories of DPCAC and the Deer Park Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC). Visitors are welcome! 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, 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 March-October 2022.

Clean Harbors – Recent permit modifications will allow an additional container storage area. Relocation of the outfall in the ship channel will allow off-site waters to be processed in the wastewater treatment plant. The current landfill will be full in the first quarter of 2023, so a rail

spur is being built to ship ash and filter cake from the Deer Park site to another Clean Harbors landfill in Oklahoma.

“Clean Harbors is a RCRA and TSCA permitted incineration facility. We store and treat hazardous, non-hazardous, TSCA, and medical waste. We also provide incineration services for witness burns to the DEA, DHS, and various police forces.”

Pemex Deer Park -- TCEQ continues to finalize the transfer of applicable permits, registrations, etc. resulting from recent divestments and renewals. Some have been issued, and others are still in process. PEMEX became a joint venture at the Shell refinery in 1993 with a 49.995% ownership interest. PEMEX bought out the remaining ownership interest on 1-20-22 to become the sole owner of the refinery.

“PEMEX Deer Park is refinery that can process 340,000 barrels per day of crude oil. The site employs about 1,100 full time employees and 550 contract workers. The refinery can process both heavy and light crude oils, which yields around 131,000 barrels of gasoline; 89,000 barrels of diesel; 21,000 barrels of jet fuel and 61,000 barrels of other products. The refinery’s top priority is operating in a safe and environmentally sound manner. We welcome feedback from our community and a member of our site can be reached at any time by calling our community hotline: **713-246-7301**.”

Shell Deer Park Chemicals– Shell welcomed two new operator classes in 2022 (31 employees) and also brought back the process technology internship program with intent to enable hiring directly after graduation. Over the 12-week program 7 students apply their classroom experience to a real-world operating facility involving specific units. Nine organizations recently received grants of up to \$5000 each from the Shell Community Grants Program, launched during the 90th anniversary in 2019.

“Shell Deer Park Chemicals powers progress by providing the building blocks that make everyday products and are the solutions for our future, all from the historic birthplace of Texas. Key chemical plant business categories include:

- *Light Olefins* – ethylene, propylene and butylenes for plastics, pharmaceuticals, insecticides, antifreeze, detergents, etc
- *Heavy Olefins* – isoprene, butadiene and piperylene for latex paints, adhesives, tapes, wire coating, synthetic rubbers, ink, etc.
- *Phenol* – phenol and acetone for plastics, wood preservatives, dyes, antiseptic products, agricultural chemicals and other products.”