Deer Park Community Advisory Council Meeting Notes Monday, September 25, 2023

In lieu of a regular meeting, the Deer Park Community Advisory Council met on Monday, September 25th at the Shell Deer Park plant for a tour of the unit where the May 5th fire occurred. Meeting notes from August were approved without change.

	DPCAC Community Members		DPCAC Plant Members	Guests/Resources	
	Brian Babin, US Rep 36	х	Clean Harbors, Bruce Riffel	х	Renee Baker, Shell Deer Park
х	Ruth Bovd		Dow Chemical Deer Park. Sharon Hulgan	х	Brett Conawav. Harris Countv OEM&HS
	Steve Corry, DPISD	х	Evonik Oil Additives, Jim Bentinck-Smith- rep by Duke Ogega	х	Rob Perrotta Shell Deer Park
х	Sheryl DaPron	х	GEO Specialty Chemicals, Steve Outlaw	х	Dennis Winkler
х	Kristina DeWitty, SJC		Intercontinental Terminals, David Wascome		
	Christine DiCosimo, TX Hse. Dist. 128		Lubrizol, Hector Acosta		
х	Ken Donnell		NOVVI, Alan Kominek, rep. by Bob Wolff		
	Jamie Galloway, DP OEM	х	OxyVinyls PVC/KOH, Jeff Koetitz		
	Sherry Garrison		OxyVinvls VCM. Josh Munn		
	Tommy Ginn	x	Pemex Deer Park, Guy Hackwell, rep. by Kelly Soudelier		
	Karen Guidrv		Pemex Deer Park, Jennifer Walsh		
	Paul Guidry	х	Shell Deer Park, Nathan Levin		
х	Cara Herbeck	х	Shell Deer Park, Jessica Blackmore		
	Steven Horton		Texas Molecular, Jimmy Bracher		
	Gretchen Knowles, Harris Co. Pct. 2		Valvoline, Robert Shelton		
	Maves Middleton. TX Sen. Dist. 11		Vopak Moda. Jeff Sanford		
	Paula Moorhaj, DP Chamber		Vopak Terminal Deer Park, Kathy Stewart,		
х	Wanda Morris	х	Westlake Epoxy, Marlene Mercado		
	Tyler Padgett, SJC				
	Bill Patterson, DP City Council				
	Ariel Pena		Support Staff		
	Randon Pierson	х	Anne Gowan, Facilitator		
	Darrell Pinckard	х	Marilyn Bass, Secretary		
	Vickey Roberts				
_	David Sanchez				
	Maria Sanchez				
	Andy Smith, San Jacinto Battleground				

ATTENDANCE

Angela Smith, City of Deer Park		
Charles Thomas		
Chevenne Valdez		
David Wade		
Ernest Weedon		

Tour of Shell Deer Park

Attendees gathered at the Shell Deer Park administration building, boarded a bus, and took a driving tour of the unit where the May 5th fire occurred. The fire was a result of a failed motor operated valve that resulted in a loss of containment and fire. The ignited product included cracked heavy gas oil, cracked light gas oil and gasoline. The emergency response team was immediately activated, and Channel Industries Mutual Aid (CIMA) was asked for assistance. Although the fire was extinguished early on May 6th, the remaining product reignited later that day around 3:15 pm and extinguished May 7th. Unified Command, which included US Coast Guard, EPA, Texas General Land Office, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, and Harris County Pollution Control, was established on May 7th at the Shell Deer Park complex.

Within 30 minutes from the start of the event, all employees and contractors were accounted for with no major injuries. Air monitoring was conducted throughout the duration of the event and until end of day on May 16th by CTEH for Shell Deer Park and did not detect any harmful levels of chemicals affecting neighboring communities. Other agencies also conducted air monitoring during the event. Water management during the event was difficult because large amounts of water were used to extinguish the fire and cool the equipment, in addition to heavy rainfall in the region.

After the tour, a brief overview of the site and an update on the rebuilding of the unit where the fire occurred were provided by Shell Deer Park General Manager Nate Levin and Production Manager Rob Perrotta.

Below are a few of the many interesting things DPCAC learned during the tour and rebuilding update:

- On the driving tour, attendees saw the following: blast resistant buildings and tents, the fire house, flares, cooling towers, operations unit where the fire occurred, maintenance building, laydown yard, and various tanks.
- Shell has approximately 450 employees and 1,000 contractors.
- Although Pemex provides emergency response for the entire complex, Shell has a minimum of four employees per shift on the Emergency Response Team (ERT).
- Shell's ERT has a drill each quarter.
- Shell has numerous blast resistant buildings and tents around the site that serve as office buildings, conference rooms and lunch tents.
- The area impacted by the fire is approximately the size of 4 football fields. Most of the equipment and piping from that area was demolished and disposed of according to the site's waste procedures.
- All of the equipment needed for the rebuild was sourced in the United States and only fabrication shops in Texas were used.
- Before equipment installation could start, most of the foundation had to be rebuilt. At the time of the tour, almost all of the large pieces of equipment necessary for rebuilding the unit had been installed.
- In order to decrease heat related injuries, Shell adjusted work hours so that contractors were not working from 2pm- 6pm during the hottest part of the day.

- Shell Deer Park has a workforce that desires to come to work and do a good job each and every day. Employees are encouraged to speak up when they see a behavior that is not safe and feel safe doing so. As a result of this culture, Shell has been conducting an in-depth investigation with input from all levels of the organization.
- Shell subject matter experts from around the globe came together quickly after the event to ensure that all risks in the process area were eliminated. Employees from operations, procurement, engineering, and planning all worked together so that the unit could be demolished and rebuilt quickly, but safely.
- Before the process is restarted, operations and maintenance personnel are receiving enhanced inperson training on process isolation.
- The unit is scheduled to be commissioned and start up in November. During startup, flaring will occur for an estimated 1-2 weeks, and the site will update the community on what to expect closer to that timeframe.
- Numerous equipment upgrades are being made to the unit.
- Please consider adding the CAER APP to your cell phones: <u>https://www.ehcma.org/public-safety/caeronline/</u> for real time information and alerts. You may also follow Shell Deer Park on Facebook and X, formerly known as Twitter.

Updates

<u>Written Facility Updates</u> - Plant incident reports were submitted as usual and mailed to members prior to the meeting. Reports were not presented, but attendees with questions or comments were encouraged to contact Anne Gowan so she could connect them with the appropriate plant contact.

Plans for Future Meetings

DPCAC meets at Republic Grill at the City of Deer Park Battleground Golf course from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

October 23rd – Annual Report on Emissions

November 27th- Program Planning, "Sticky Dot Exercise"

Remaining Dates for 2023 - all Mondays

Oct. 23

Nov. 27

No December meeting

Dates for 2024 - all Mondays

Jan. 22	May 20	Sept. 23
Feb. 26	No June meeting	Oct. 28
Mar. 25	No July meeting	Dec. 2 (for November)
Apr. 22	Aug. 26	No December meeting