

Deer Park Community Advisory Council

www.deerparkcac.org

Meeting Notes Monday, April 22, 2024

The 317th meeting of the Deer Park Community Advisory Council was held on Monday, April 22, 2024 at the Republic Grill. Facilitator Anne Gowan reviewed the agenda, which was accepted as proposed. The March 2024 meeting notes were approved without changes.

Deer Park CAC at Age 34 and How to Improve

Gowan said that DPCAC is a result of Responsible Care which was established in 1985 by the Chemistry Industry Association of Canada. This initiative was developed in response to growing public concerns about the manufacture, distribution, and use of chemicals, as well as their environmental and health impacts. The primary goal of Responsible Care was to improve the chemical industry's environmental, health, safety, and security performance, demonstrating the industry's commitment to corporate responsibility and fostering trust among the public, government regulators, and other stakeholders.

In 1988, Responsible Care was adopted in the United States by the American Chemistry Council (ACC). This adoption came three years after the initiative's inception, reflecting a growing international commitment to improving health, safety, and environmental performance in the chemical industry.

The Responsible Care Charter in the United States is a formal commitment made by ACC companies to uphold the initiative's guiding principles. Many DPCAC plants are members of ACC.

When joining ACC, companies sign a charter and pledge to do the following:

1. Continuously improve HSE performance.
2. Engage with stakeholders. Members agree to listen, engage, and seek to understand stakeholder concerns and expectations about their operations and products to improve trust and credibility. DPCAC is an outflow of this commitment.
3. Manage chemicals safely, from inception in the research laboratory, through manufacture and distribution, to ultimate reuse, recycling, and disposal.
4. Innovate for safer products and processes.
5. Reduce and, where possible, eliminate waste and emissions
6. Report performance. Companies must report on their environmental, health, safety, and security performance openly and honestly. This is why DPCAC has the Annual State of the Plant Report, Annual Report on Plant Emissions, as well as plant updates at each meeting.

Gowan also reviewed the DPCAC mission, purposes and objectives, membership criteria, meeting information and role of the Facilitator.

After the presentation, attendees had two small group sessions where they talked about:

- What they like about DPCAC
- What they don't like about DPCAC
- How we can improve DPCAC meetings

- What DPCAC can do to increase current member participation
- Information needed to “go and tell” others about DPCAC, and in what format
- Where they get news on events/ happenings in Deer Park
- Events in Deer Park that attendees regularly go to
- Organizations/ groups in which attendees and/or their families are involved
- 7 things we should do to increase membership and visibility

Small groups then proposed their top 7 ideas for increasing membership and visibility on flip charts. Attendees used sticky dots to prioritize the ideas they wanted to focus on first. Community and plant representatives used different colored stickers so that they could be tallied separately. Input is attached at the end of the notes. DPCAC members volunteered for the following committees:

Publicity Committee: Caroline Alcantar, Holly Kurth, Angela Smith

Membership Committee: Tommy Ginn, Ruth Boyd, and Wanda Morris

Events Committee: Holly Kurth, Angela Smith, and Wanda Morris

Updates

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 Oil Additives** – Jim Bentinck-Smith shared that there were no reportable spills or releases and no permit exceedances since the last report. They are finalizing their air permit with TCEQ. They have had no OSHA recordable injuries since the last report.
- **Kinder Morgan Rail Terminal** – Blake Wood clarified that Kinder Morgan has two facilities in Deer Park: The Rail Terminal with 32 employees and the Deep Water facility with 61 employees. He is speaking on behalf of the Rail Terminal. They have had no reportable spills or releases, and no permit exceedances since their last report. They completed an Internal Corporate EHS audit with zero significant findings. They celebrated 18 years injury free on 4/14/2024.
- **Valvoline** – Rob Shelton reported the facility suffered a lost time accident on February 2nd, 2024. The plant is preparing for an internal EHS audit that will be conducted May 13 - 17. A new high speed drumming line is to be installed in May 2024. New employees hired since the last update include: Jose Herrera, Plant Engineer, Hugo Paz, Production Supervisor, and Ernesto Soliz, regional EHS manager.
- **Vopak Terminal** – Gustavo Nery became the Site Director in January 2024. He reported no reportable releases and zero (0) reportable injuries. The facility did experience a non-process safety fire, caused by a faulty transformer. The fire was extinguished by their on-site emergency response team. The fire was limited to the ancillary power providing equipment and did not affect the process. Vopak recently prepared permit applications for the construction of three (3) new tanks being constructed for a growth project. They are currently working on plans for replacing bulkhead on multiple ship and barge dock areas. This is a three-year project starting this year.

Ozone Exceedance Days – Yayma Martinez shared that April typically begins the Ozone season as the temperature starts to increase. She reported in April there were four exceedances of the Houston Region 8-hour ozone standard, zero exceedance of the Houston Region 1-hour standard, zero exceedances of the Deer Park 8-hour standard, and zero exceedances of the Deer Park 1-hour standard. None of the recorded April exceedances were near the Deer Park area.

The other exceedance in 2024 occurred in February. There was one exceedance of the Houston Region 1-hour standard.

Totals for 2024 include four exceedances of the Houston Region 8-hour ozone standard, one exceedance of the Houston Region 1-hour standard, zero exceedances of the Deer Park 8-hour standard, and zero exceedances of the Deer Park 1-hour standard.

Plant Host

Evonik Oil Additives manufactures lubricant additives for blenders of Gear Oils, Automatic Transmission fluids, Grease, Hydraulic Fluids and Engine Oils. They have not had a lost-time injury and are focusing on capital investments in safety/ergonomics and product quality improvements.

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.

Monday, May 20, 2024 – Flaring 101

- Community members are interesting in learning the following about flaring:
- What is flaring and why is it necessary?
- What are the different types of flares and what they are used for?
- What is the difference between routine flaring and safety flaring?
- How can flaring be mitigated?
- How does flaring impact plant emissions?

Dates for 2024 - all Mondays

Jan. 22
Feb. 26
Mar. 25
Apr. 22

May 20
No June meeting
No July meeting
Aug. 26

Sept. 23
Oct. 28
Dec. 2
No December meeting

ATTENDANCE

DPCAC Community Members		DPCAC Plant Members		Guests/Resources	
X	Ruth Boyd	X	Clean Harbors , Bruce Riffel	X	Ruth Askine
	Steve Corry, DPISD	X	Dow Chemical Deer Park , Sharon Hulkan	X	Manny Cabrera, Dow
	Sheryl DaPron	X	Evonik Oil Additives , Jim Bentinck-Smith	X	John Collins
	Kristina DeWitty, SJC	X	GEO Specialty Chemicals , Steve Outlaw	X	Bubba Coxie, Harris County OEM&HS
	Ken Donnell	X	Intercontinental Terminals , David Wascome rep. by Michael Bargar	X	Danny Forest, ACC
	Jamie Galloway, DP OEM	X	Kinder Morgan , Blake Wood	X	Kwadwo Koosono, GEO Specialty Chemicals
X	Sherry Garrison	X	Lubrizol , Hector Acosta Rep by David Kayser	X	Holly Kurth, EHCMA
X	Tommy Ginn		NOVVI , Alan Kominek	X	Betty Lemley
X	Karen Guidry	X	OxyChem Deer Park PVC/KOH , Jeff Koetitz	X	Yayma Martinez, TCEQ
X	Paul Guidry	X	OxyChem Deer Park VCM , Josh Munn	X	Stuart Mueller, HCPC
X	Cara Herbeck	X	Pemex Deer Park , Guy Hackwell	X	Gerald Stewart
	Steven Horton		Pemex Deer Park , Jennifer Walsh	X	George Tullgren
	Gretchen Knowles, Harris Co. Pct. 2		Shell Deer Park , Nathan Levin	X	Wallace Ward, Native Praires Assoc. of TX
X	Wanda Morris	X	Shell Deer Park , Caroline Alcantar		
X	Bill Patterson, DP City Council	X	Texas Molecular , Jimmy Bracher, rep by Frank Marine		
	Ariel Pena	X	Valvoline , Robert Shelton		
	Randon Pierson		Vopak Moda , Jeff Sanford		
	Darrell Pinckard	X	Vopak Terminal Deer Park , Gustavo Nery		
	Vickey Roberts	X	Westlake Epoxy , Prashanth Hejmadi		
X	Andy Smith, San Jacinto Battleground				
X	Angela Smith, City of Deer Park		Support Staff		
	Charles Thomas	X	Anne Gowan, Facilitator		
	Cheyenne Valdez	X	Marilyn Bass, Secretary		
X	David Wade				
	Ernest Weedon				

Deer Park Community Advisory Council
Input on Membership and Visibility Brainstorming
 April 22, 2024

	Community	Plant	Total
Bring a friend night	23	18	41
Members inviting others to attend	18	4	22
Booths at community events	16	10	26
Social media, including Facebook	15	12	27
Educate on sustainability/ circularity and how chemicals impact everyday lives	9	14	23
Generic DPCAC video that we can share	9	12	21
Middle school and high school outreach	7	6	13
Publish information in Spanish	0	3	3
Handouts for restaurants/ realtors	1	0	1
PSA on jumbotron at football games	0	0	0