

MEETING NOTES

PASADENA CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL

www.pasadenacac.org

Thursday, March 25, 2021

Via Zoom Video/Teleconference

The 280th meeting of the Pasadena Citizens' Advisory Council (PCAC) was held on Thursday, March 25, 2021 via Zoom Video/Teleconference. The meeting notes from February 23, 2021 were approved without change. Facilitator Diane Sheridan reviewed the agenda, which was accepted as proposed.

ATTENDEES *italicized*

PCAC Members

Ruth Askine
Diane Barnes, CTHS
Charles Beckman
Raul Camarillo, Harris Co. Pct. 2
Emilio Carmona
Azell Carter, City of Pasadena OEM
Monica De La Portilla
Tammy De Los Santos, City of Pasadena
Parks and Rec.
Ninfa Herrera, City of Pasadena
Neighborhood Network
Albert Gonzales
Rick Guerrero
Ken Jackson
Mike Jackson
Regina Lindsey, Economic Alliance
Houston Port Region
Luz Locke
Loretta McCarthy
Royce Measures

Ellis Orozco
Ernesto Paredes
Margie Pena
Dominick Rezza
Giovanna Searcy
Leon Searcy
Richard Sims
Sue Sims
Joe Valdivia
Christina Womack, Chamber of
Commerce
Jack Womack

Support

Diane Sheridan, Facilitator
Tiffany Miller, Secretary

Observers or Resources

Andrew Aleman, City of Pasadena OEM
George Alger
Vanessa Ayala

Frank Borrego
Jerry Caraviotis, HCPCS
John Collins
Les Crnkovic, San Jacinto CPET
Jake Ezerski
Lisa Gossett, UHCL
Pat Van Houte
Matt Van Vleck, HCPCS
David Wade, HCOHSEM
Blake White, HCOHSEM
Corey Williams, Air Alliance Houston

CAC Plant Members

Afton Chemical, Hari Sundaram, Scott Kolb, Emem Okoye
Air Products, Rachel Glenn, Ken Miller
Albemarle, Paul Hernandez for Lisa Fruge, Doug Thompson
BASF, Brad Hardy for Wendel Langley
Chevron Pasadena Refinery, Angela Fall

for Matt Postage, Rebecca Froedge, Rajni Yadav
Chevron Phillips, Mark Garza for Chad Jennings
Enterprise Products, Chris Ruggles
Ethyl, Hari Sundaram for Antonio Salinas
Evonik, _____
Gulf Coast Authority, Phyllis Frank
INEOS Phenol, Ana Partin for Amy Narvaez
Intercontinental Terminals, _____
KM Export Terminal, _____
KM Liquids Terminal, Alex Rendon
LyondellBasell Refinery, Clint Titzman
OxyVinyls, Scott Halbrooks, Michael Shirey
PCI Nitrogen, Casey Parsons for Scott Lange
Sekisui, Scott Stephens for Jeff Thompson

HARRIS COUNTY'S NEW COMMUNITY AIR MONITORING PROGRAM

Matt Van Vleck, Air Supervisor for Harris County Pollution Control Services (HCPCS), presented an overview of the new Community Air Monitoring Program (CAMP). CAMP is designed to: measure pollution levels that affect environmental health and public health across Harris County; identify emission sources that adversely impact local communities; inform the public and elected officials on priorities related to clean air and environmental sustainability; and highlight patterns and trends that may support environmental regulatory activities. Van Vleck described both the types of fixed and mobile monitors and the areas chosen for the fixed monitor stations, and the reasons for each location. It was noted that Phase 1 locations are currently operational as are Phase 2 monitoring stations 1-3. Four of the five Phase 2 locations are being funded by a grant to Harris County Pct. 2 from the American Chemical Council Foundation. Van Vleck reminded the group that the new on-line compliant form is active: <https://webapps2.harriscountytexas.gov/PCSComplaintForm/complaint-form>.

Van Vleck said on the CAMP dashboard, users could click one of HCPCS's monitoring sites to see the daily and yearly average for VOCs and daily particulate matter (PM) values for PM 1.0, PM 2.5 and PM 10. Users can also look back in time and see the history for VOCs and PM at each monitoring location. Additionally, users can utilize the Houston Regional Monitoring (HRM) Dashboard to see the long-term and short-term air monitoring comparison values (AMCV) for 50+ chemicals at HRM monitors located throughout Harris County. Links to the CAMP and HRM dashboards can be found at <https://pcs.harriscountytexas.gov/Pages/default.aspx>.

- *How are monitoring sites chosen?* Sites were placed in areas where HCPCS believed they were needed; 2 miles away from any current monitors (to provide greater coverage); near neighborhoods. Phase 1 sites make a ring around the greater Houston area. Phase 2 sites were placed in neighborhoods closer to industrial sites. Van Vleck mentioned that HCPCS is evaluating where additional monitors will be placed in the future.
- *Is there any protocol for sharing data with others? Trigger levels to file complaints or alert local authorities, for example?* The process is currently being developed. HCPCS is currently working on developing an email alert system for CAMP that subscribers can be alerted to a "high alert" for one or more pollutants.
- *What are the differences in the types of monitors used by HCPCS, TCEQ and Houston Regional Monitoring (HRM)?* CAMP monitors are fast response monitors that collect data every 20 seconds. These monitors are relatively inexpensive (\$5-6K) and analyze for total volatile organic compounds (VOC) and particulate matter. HRM and TCEQ monitors collect samples over a 40-minute period every hour, can identify 45 separate compounds, and are very expensive (\$100K). They monitor for things like annual compliance with air standards.

UPDATES

CAC Meeting Time- Meeting attendees agreed to Diane Sheridan's suggestion that the PCAC Zoom meeting times be changed to 5:45 pm login and having the meeting start at 6:00 pm. This will allow for more time for programs and updates.

Natural Gas Odor – Blake White and David Wade, Harris County HSOEM, and Azell Carter and Andrew Aleman, City of Pasadena OEM, provided an update on the intermittent natural gas odor that has been present on and off in East Harris County for the last few weeks. The odor was first noticed on 3/1 and could be smelled in La Porte, Deer Park, Pasadena, Webster, League City, and Channelview. HCPCS has been actively working with local fire departments and HC HSOEM to identify the source; to date a source has not been located. Pipeline odorizing stations are a possible source for natural gas odors, so the county has started working with CenterPoint to map all of them, which might help them responders track down a natural gas odor in the future.

City of Pasadena Residential Document Shred Event- The City is offering a document shred event on April 17, 2021 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm at 1211 Southmore. Please refer to attached flyer for further information.

Follow-up on Noise Issue- Rachel Glenn, Air Products Plant Manager, reported on the plant’s follow up with a PCAC member and a visitor regarding noise that has bothered them for some time. After a meeting in February, both parties wanted to continue the dialogue and committed to meeting on a regular basis. Glenn said Air Products has researched and engaged a potential contractor to install sound barriers on the southern side of the facility as a good faith effort to help alleviate the concern. Jake Ezerski explained why he believes Air Products is the source of the noise and provided video of the sound.

FACILITY UPDATE SUMMARY

Acronym List on PCAC website

Plant representatives reviewed highlights of the written reports projected on the screen, and they responded to questions. The update summary was mailed to members and other attendees before the meeting. Direct questions to Diane Sheridan facilitator, dbsfacilitator@gmail.com, 281-326-5253.

In a Nutshell:

- Updates were received from 15 of 18 plants (none from Evonik, Kinder Morgan Export Terminal, or PCI Nitrogen)
- **5** had reportable environmental incidents (1 each at Air Products, Albemarle, and Kinder Morgan Liquids Terminal; 3 at LyondellBasell Houston Refinery; and 4 at Gulf Coast Authority). These updates should cover most emissions events connected with the big freeze.
- **4** had OSHA recordable injuries. (1 each at Afton Chemical, LyondellBasell Houston Refinery, and Sekisui; and 3 at Chevron Pasadena Refinery)
- **7** had neither environmental nor safety incidents

10 plants had no environmental incidents:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Afton Chemical | 6. Ethyl |
| 2. BASF | 7. INEOS Phenol |
| 3. Chevron Pasadena Refinery | 8. Intercontinental Terminals |
| 4. Chevron Phillips | 9. OxyVinyls |
| 5. Enterprise Products | 10. Sekisui |

11 plants had no safety incidents:

- | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Air Products | 5. Enterprise Products | 9. Intercontinental Terminals |
| 2. Albemarle | 6. Ethyl | 10. Kinder Morgan Liquids Terminal |
| 3. BASF | 7. Gulf Coast Authority | 11. OxyVinyls |
| 4. Chevron Phillips | 8. INEOS Phenol | |

FUTURE PCAC MEETINGS

Meeting Login begins at 5:45 pm. Meetings are from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. via Zoom video conference unless otherwise indicated.

Tuesday, April 27, 2021 – The Big Freeze: Plant Experiences, Lessons Learned, What They Will Do Differently

- CAC plants will be asked to describe their experiences in the Big Freeze, the lessons learned, and what they may do differently to be prepared for such weather in the future.

DATES FOR 2021

Tues. Jan. 26
Tues. Feb. 23
Thurs. Mar. 25
Tues. Apr. 27

Tues. May 25
No June or July meetings
Thurs. Aug. 26
Tues. Sept. 28

Tues. Oct. 26
Thurs. Dec. 2 (delayed due to Thanksgiving)
No December meeting