

# MEETING NOTES

## PASADENA CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL

[www.pasadenacac.org](http://www.pasadenacac.org)

Thursday, December 2, 2021

Via Zoom Video/Teleconference

The 286<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Pasadena Citizens' Advisory Council (PCAC) was held on Thursday, December 2, 2021, via Zoom Video/Teleconference. The meeting notes from October 26, 2021, were approved without change. Facilitator Diane Sheridan reviewed the ground rules and agenda, which were accepted as proposed.

### ATTENDEES *italicized*

#### PCAC Members

Andrew Aleman, City of Pasadena OEM  
*Ruth Askine*  
Diane Barnes, CTHS  
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.  
*Lupita Monreal, City of Pasadena Neighborhood Network*  
Albert Gonzales  
*Rick Guerrero, City of Pasadena Neighborhood Network*  
Mike Jackson  
Chad Carson, Economic Alliance Houston Port Region  
Luz Locke  
Loretta McCarthy  
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

*Jerry Caraviotis, HCPCS*  
*Juan Flores, Air Alliance Houston*

*Bradley Flowers, AECOM/Houston Regional Monitoring*  
*Jennifer Hadayia*  
*Jon Haire*  
*Ninfa Herrera*  
*Blythe Mansfield, Speaker*  
*Stephany Mgbadigha, Air Alliance Houston*  
*Michelle Partin*  
*Samantha Salas*  
*Pat Van Houte*  
*David Wade, HCOHSEM*  
*Blake White, HCOHSEM*

#### CAC Plant Members

*Afton Chemical, Hari Sundaram, Mario Troncoso*  
*Air Products, Brian Farhadi*  
*Albemarle, Doug Thompson for Lisa Fruge, Paul Hernandez*  
*BASF, Wendel Langley*

*Chevron Pasadena Refinery, Matt Postage, Angela Fall, Rajini Yadav*  
*Chevron Phillips, Andy Woods, Michelle Pritchard, Ravi Kaggal*  
*Enterprise Products, Karla Arriaga, Heather Makarczyk*  
*Ethyl, Hari Sundaram for Antonio Salinas*  
*Evonik, Juan Soto for Nathan Locklar*  
*Gulf Coast Authority, Denise Ehrlich*  
*INEOS Phenol, Derrill Pruitt for Amy Narvaez*  
*Intercontinental Terminals, \_\_\_\_\_*  
*KM Export Terminal, \_\_\_\_\_*  
*KM Liquids Terminal, \_\_\_\_\_*  
*LyondellBasell Refinery, Clint Titzman*  
*OxyVinyls, Tom Taft for Scott Halbrooks, Liliana Sarpong*  
*PCI Nitrogen, \_\_\_\_\_*  
*Sekisui, Jeff Thompson, Scott Stephens*

## Effects of Pollution on Health

Slides are posted on [www.pasadenacac.org](http://www.pasadenacac.org)

Blythe Mansfield, MD, Chief Medical Officer for Unilever, NA, formerly of Kelsey Seybold Occupational Medicine, shared information about what air pollution is, kinds of exposure, and specifics about the EPA's criteria pollutants, benzene, and 1-3, butadiene. She also described environmental and occupational causes of health problems and EPA's proposed actions to advance environmental justice related to the topic. Dr. Mansfield's professional background includes working with chemical companies to reduce employee exposure and engage employees in their own health; and working in the public health sector.

### Q & A

- *Are NO<sub>x</sub>/SO<sub>x</sub> pollutants because they combined with water to form acids?* Yes. They form nitric acid and sulfuric acid.
- *What would you suggest is the most pressing issue in need of further research?* There are numerous areas to research including ozone, PFAS/PFOA, etc.
- *Is carbon dioxide (a greenhouse gas) a pollutant and is it regulated?* It is not considered a pollutant nor regulated. Carbon dioxide is given off by humans, etc. and is not as problematic as carbon monoxide.

- *You mentioned the impact of burning coal. Has this been an issue for the Houston metropolitan area?* No. This impact would be most prominent in areas of the northeast.
- *You said vehicle exhaust is the worst pollutant. I am assuming that this nationwide. What is the worst in the north Pasadena area? What health issues from these pollutants are worst in this area.* Both vehicle emissions and plant emissions have an impact on allergies and asthma rates.
- *Tell me more about Air Alliance. How is it financed?* Air Alliance Houston is a non-profit advocacy group that works to reduce the public health impacts from air pollution and advance environmental justice. The projects that Air Alliance works on are funded through grants.
- *How do the lungs flush dust particles or do they?* Some small particles can succeed in passing through the nose to reach the airways that lead to the lungs. Most of the dust particles will be caught and moved out into the throat, where it is either coughed up and spat out, or swallowed. For those particles that reach the inner part of the lungs, special cells (macrophages) will essentially swallow the particle and move it to the throat area to be expelled.

### **Additional Comments from Breakout Rooms:**

- Most of the group was familiar with the industry and did not have too many questions regarding the general topic of the overall meeting.
- Group overall thought that the presentation was very informative and covered a lot of different topics that are important and relevant to today.
  - Focused discussing PFAs and their recent spotlight.
    - Discussed several restrictions in various areas around the country. One of these areas being California since PFAs are found in firefighting foam.
- Member had grown up in the area and father worked on the ship channel in the oil and gas sector. Has seen large improvement in air quality over the last 40 years. Remembers a time when driving into Pasadena would include a distinct pollution difference once you passed 610 and 225. There was an almost a distinct division of the Houston and Pasadena areas via a haze cloud. That distinction is gone, and ship channel industry has made several positive improvements to aid in this change.
- The public is becoming more interested in the potential hazards from surrounding industry. As their interest grows, so does their demand for knowledge. The public requests for air readings during upsets and actual/perceived events continues to increase. The industry concern is around the understanding of those reading and at what point there is an actual threat to human life or health. There is also a need to educate the public on emission sources. Where industry has their share of emissions, industry hazardous air pollutants are regulated. Air emissions are also generated publicly, and the identification of a single/multiple sources is a challenge. Broad public understanding of emissions/ pollution beyond public media is important.

## **UPDATES**

**Closure of Fred Hartman Bridge Southbound lanes from December 3-6:** Diane Sheridan shared information regarding the closure and indicated that an email had been sent to the group regarding detours.

**PCAC Community Outreach Presentation:** Sheridan was invited by PCAC Community member Ruth Askin to share information about the PCAC with her church group on November 17. Sheridan is actively seeking additional opportunities to get the word out about PCAC.

# 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 attendees before the meeting and then to the membership on December 3. Direct questions to Diane Sheridan facilitator, [dbsfacilitator@gmail.com](mailto:dbsfacilitator@gmail.com), 281-326-5253.

## In a Nutshell:

- Updates were received from 17 of 18 plants (None from PCI Nitrogen)
- **2** had reportable environmental incidents (1 each at Albemarle and LyondellBasell Houston Refinery)
- **2** had OSHA recordable injuries. (1 at Chevron Phillips and 2 at OxyVinyls)
- **13** had neither environmental nor safety incidents

### 15 plants had no environmental incidents:

- |                              |                                    |             |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Afton Chemicals           | 8. Evonik                          | 15. Sekisui |
| 2. Air Products              | 9. Gulf Coast Authority            |             |
| 3. BASF                      | 10. INEOS Phenol                   |             |
| 4. Chevron Pasadena Refinery | 11. Intercontinental Terminals     |             |
| 5. Chevron Phillips          | 12. Kinder Morgan Export Terminal  |             |
| 6. Enterprise Products       | 13. Kinder Morgan Liquids Terminal |             |
| 7. Ethyl                     | 14. OxyVinyls                      |             |

### 15 plants had no safety incidents:

- |                              |                         |                                     |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Afton Chemicals           | 6. Enterprise Products  | 11. Intercontinental Terminals      |
| 2. Air Products              | 7. Ethyl                | 12. Kinder Morgan Export Terminal   |
| 3. Albemarle                 | 8. Evonik               | 13. Kinder Morgan Liquids Terminal  |
| 4. BASF                      | 9. Gulf Coast Authority | 14. LyondellBasell Houston Refinery |
| 5. Chevron Pasadena Refinery | 10. INEOS Phenol        | 15. Sekisui                         |

## 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, January 25, 2022 – Plant Communication with Community When It Plans a Major Plant Maintenance Turnaround**

- PCAC would like to know how plants keep the city and the public informed about a major planned maintenance turnaround and whether any consideration is given to road construction in the affected area when choosing the timing of a turnaround.
- LyondellBasell Houston Refining will explain the typical timeline and steps for planning a major turnaround.
- PCAC members will describe the impacts a turnaround may have on the community. Examples include traffic congestion and impacts on residents, other businesses, the school district and also opportunities for small businesses from turnaround purchasing as well as the influx of contractors.
- The plant will consider when in their timeline information could be shared with the city or community to help them prepare for both the positive and negative impacts.
- PCAC will give plants ideas for how to keep the *community* informed about big turnarounds.
- The facilitator will find out how one gets permission to put messages on the overhead signs on major roads.

## Tuesday, February 22, 2022 – Annual Report on Worker Safety in PCAC Plants.

- PCAC will collect and present OSHA recordable injury and illness data for PCAC plants, covering both employees and contractors.
  - The report will contain details about each plant plus summaries showing the totals for all plants and the trends.
  - We will discuss any patterns in the Type of Injuries and related best practices.
- 

### DATES FOR 2022

Tues. Jan. 25  
Tues. Feb. 22  
*Thurs.* Mar. 24  
Tues. Apr. 26

Tues. May 24  
No June or July meetings  
*Thurs.* Aug. 25  
Tues. Sept. 27

Tues. Oct. 25  
*Thurs.* Dec. 1 (delayed due to Thanksgiving)  
No December meeting