

Pasadena Citizens' Advisory Council

Annual Report on Worker Safety in PCAC Plants

March 28, 2023

The *21st Annual Report on Worker Safety in the 18 Pasadena Citizens' Advisory Council (PCAC) Plants* was presented by facilitator Diane Sheridan, who emphasized that the *numbers* in the report tell the stories of *people* injured, and not injured, in PCAC plants. Plants reported data for calendar year 2022. Highlights follow:

- In the 18 PCAC plants, there were **12.3 million work hours** in 2022, which represents an estimated **2651 employees and 3245 contractors**. Plants worked **~2 million** more hours in 2022 compared to 2021.
- **PCAC plants ranged in size from 14,560 work hours at the smallest facility to 3,087,725 hours for employees and contractors at the largest.** That is approximately 7 workers compared to 1,485 workers. 68% of the total hours were worked in 4 of the 18 plants: LyondellBasell Houston Refinery, Chevron Phillips Chemicals, Next Wave Energy Partners (under construction), and Chevron Pasadena Refinery. Each of those worked more than a million hours in 2022.
- **22 OSHA recordable workplace injuries or illnesses** occurred during the 12.3 million hours of work, the same number as 2021. There were **no fatalities** in the 18 PCAC plants in 2022.
- **The weighted average was 0.36.** A rate of 1.00 means 1 injury per 100 workers in a year, so 0.36 is well less than 1 injury per 100 workers in a year. That is the same as saying 3.6 injuries per 1000.
- **10 of the 18 plants had a 0.00 recordable rate**, meaning no employee or contractor workplace injuries or illnesses in 2022. "Zeros are Heroes" in CAC terms. The 10 were Afton, Air Products, Albemarle, Enterprise Products, Ethyl, Gulf Coast Authority, Intercontinental Terminals, Kinder Morgan Export Terminals, LyondellBasell Houston Refinery, and Sekisui. For the first time in its more than 100 years of operation, the LyondellBasell Houston Refinery had 0.00 for its employees and contractors.
- **0.37 was the simple average.** The simple average is based on the number of plants, not on the hours worked. Thus, it treats big plants and small plants the same, rather than recognizing the differences in the number of hours worked. It is affected mostly by small plants, in which a single injury can result in a high recordable rate. Compared to the 0.37 in 2021, the simple average was 2.64 in 2000.
- The **median was 0.00**. The median is the middle of the range when plants are listed from 0.00 to the highest rates. The recordable rates ranged from 0.00 to 1.85 this year.
- There were **5 restricted duty cases** in 2022. Restricted duty means the worker is given another assignment after an injury because he or she cannot perform the usual one.
- There were **8 lost-time cases** in 2022, compared to 16 in 2021 and 31 in 2008. Lost-time cases mean the worker was unable to come to work due to the injury.
- For the second year in a row, **none** of the injuries came from **chemical contact or exposure**. The most common injuries were trips, slips, falls, or walking into something.
- **In 2022, 17 of the 18 PCAC plants had recordable rates better than companies nationwide in the same general kind of business**, when compared by North American Industry Classification System codes, using Bureau of Labor statistics from 2021.
- Comparing its 0.36 rate in 2022 and its 0.43 rate in 2021 to state and national data from 2021, Pasadena plants had a lower rate than the 0.69 rate of American Chemistry Council (ACC) member

companies employees. ACC is the trade association for most of the large chemical manufacturers in the US. OSHA data show a rate of 2.0 for chemical manufacturing in the US. In Texas, that rate was 1.20, better than the chemical industry as a whole.

- **PCAC's 0.36 recordable rate in 2022 was also better than the 2021 national record of businesses typical in Pasadena;** e.g. 6.10 hospitals, 3.50 education and health services, and 1.90 for auto repair and maintenance.
- OSHA data may be found at the Bureau of Labor Statistics website www.bls.gov under "workplace injuries."

Emphasizing that the safety report *numbers* are really about *people*, Sheridan said 22 out of approximately 5895 workers in PCAC plants were injured in 2022, and no one wants injuries. Twenty years ago, the work hours were nearly identical, but 73 workers were injured.