MEETING NOTES

PASADENA CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL

www.pasadenacac.org

Tuesday, September 26, 2023

Revive! Church

The 301st meeting of the Pasadena Citizens' Advisory Council (PCAC) was held on Tuesday, September 26, 2023, at the Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. The agenda was adopted as presented. The meeting notes from August 22, 2023, were accepted without change.

ATTENDEES *italicized*

PCAC Members
Andrew Aleman, City of Pasadena OEM
Jed Aplaca, City of Pasadena Parks and Rec.
Ruth Askine
Diane Barnes, CTHS
Hal Burke, City of Pasadena Neighborhood Network
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.
Tish Eubanks, City of Pasadena
Albert Gonzales
Rick Guerrero, Pasadena Economic Development Corp.
Mike Jackson
Chad Carson, Economic Alliance Houston Port Region
Luz Locke
Loretta McCarthy
Lupita Monreal, City of Pasadena Neighborhood Network
Ellis Orozco
Ernesto Paredes
Margie Pena, Baker Ripley
Brenda Pritchard, City of Pasadena Neighborhood Network
Dominick Rezza
Giovanna Searcy
Richard Sims
Sue Sims
Joe Valdivia
Christian Rocha, Chamber of Commerce
Cristina Womack, Chamber of Commerce
Jack Womack

Support
Diane Sheridan, Facilitator
Emily Morris, Secretary

Observers or Resources
Vanessa Ayala Medina
Chris Baecke, Harris Co. Pollution Control
Bianca Carrizal, State Rep. Mary Ann Perez
Jim Bruggers, Inside Climate News
John Collins
Brett Conaway, Harris County OHSEM
Juan Flores, Air Alliance Houston
Patricia Gonzales
Lisa Gossett, UHCL
Jen Hadayia, Air Alliance
Ninfa Herrera
Holly Kurth, EHCMA
Aubrey Mayo, UHCL student
Shawn McNair
Kevin Miller, UHCL student
Virginia Pate
George Perrett
Diamond Pham, Air Alliance
Ramon Rodriguez, HCA Health Care
Sharlissa Truett-Willis, TCEQ
Steve Zach, Pasadena Public Library

CAC Plant Members
Afton Chemical, Hari Sundaram, Maryam Shekari
Air Products, Brian Farhadi
Albemarle, Lisa Fruge rep by Doug Thompson, Kevin Paul, Paul Hernandez
BASF, Abe Ahmed
Chevron Pasadena Refinery, Jennifer Silva, Angela Fall, Joe Ebert, Nathan Kangas
Chevron Phillips, Andy Woods, William Rutherford
Enterprise Products, Mike McNallen, Karla Arriaga
Ethyl, Hari Sundaram, Maryam Shekari
Evonik, Nathan Locklar, Donovan Phelan
Gulf Coast Authority, Denise Ehrlich
INEOS Phenol, Mike Meyer, Pedro Hermandez
Intercontinental Terminals Co., Robert Surguy rep by Jesus Davila, Gary Sterkel
Kinder Morgan Pasadena Terminal, Robert Hammons, Scott Eady, Marlin Collins
KM Export Terminal, Mike Dugger, *Scott Eady*
LyondellBasell Refinery, Clint Titzman, Lauren Gonzales
Next Wave Energy, Shane Presley rep by *David Muscat*, Ken Livengood
OxyChem, Eric Delgado
Sekisui, Jeff Thompson, *Kevin Therault,* Scott Stephens

OVERVIEW OF RECYCLING IN PCAC PLANTS

In a round robin format, all PCAC plants were asked to list examples of recycling activities at their plants and any planned in their companies. Plants were asked not to repeat what another plant said but instead offer a new example during each round. This allowed community members to get a broad sense of what plants recycle. During the small-group discussion, attendees were encouraged to list recycling practices they would like to learn more about. Listed below are activities mentioned by the plants. They include recycling and recovery related to the products the plant makes or handles, as well as recycling of materials in common use, such as paper.

1. Found another use for an off-spec material so it no longer has to be disposed of as a hazardous waste
2. Send vent gases to the boiler to use as fuel to make steam, which also reduces the amount of natural gas needed to fuel the boiler
3. Found outlets that could use waste left from PVC resin manufacturing
4. Changed maintenance practices so that some things that would have been replaced at 50% of their useful life, even if working, are now repaired until 80% or so of their useful life
5. Recover solvents and reuse them several times
6. Remove solids, treat, and disinfect wastewater to reuse it in the treatment process
7. Working with a sister plant, plastic waste is turned into an oil through pyrolysis and then returned to the Pasadena plant to be made into polyethylene again
8. Use a lot of catalysts. Some are sent to be regenerated, then reused. Copper is extracted from one and sent for recycling.
9. Make hydrogen and sell the steam to a customer; previously had to vent the excess. Now this steam is injected back into the process rather than vented to the atmosphere.
10. Focused on finding ways to recycle construction waste while building a new plant
11. Found customers for off-spec product so it is no longer a waste.
12. Fuel distribution company is taking part in EPA Renewable Natural Gas initiative that harvests gas from landfills that may be used for fuel instead of natural gas.
13. Reuse heat in the plant to offset need for steam
14. Receive one raw material in 5-gallon jugs. Invested in a jug chipper that allows the plastic chips to be sent for recycling
15. When samples are sent to the lab for testing, the lab may not need all of the sample for the test. Rather than disposing of the leftovers, they are now returned to the production process.
16. Found an asphalt supplier that can use plastic waste from the plant
17. Some gases from use of hot oil heaters are captured and reused in the heater
18. Designed a new plant that will not need a boiler and will be net zero for nitrogen oxides (NOx) and carbon dioxide (CO_2) because steam will be obtained from a neighboring facility that had excess steam capacity.

19. Oil is used in a lot of plant equipment, including pumps, compressors, and gear boxes. Collect the used oil and send it to be recycled.
20. Reuse water by recovering condensate and using it again as boiler feed water.
21. Send unreacted raw material from one cut of a distillation column back to the process.
22. Use a customer's spent caustic to neutralize incoming wastewater that is acidic.
23. Operate a flare gas recovery system
24. Use a slop tank to capture oil in the refinery so it can be reused
25. Recycle 15-20 tons a year of materials like paper, plastic, cardboard.
26. Recycle "universal waste," sending fluorescent light bulbs off site for recycling rather than disposing of them
27. Recycle used tires.
28. Consume a lot of batteries of many types in a plant, including forklift batteries. Now recycle them.
29. Send computers and electronic equipment for recycling.

NOTE: LyondellBasell Houston Refinery was unable to attend the meeting. Attendees asked about their plans for the Houston Refinery. Sheridan contacted them after the meeting, and they provided the following status report on evaluation of options:

> "One of the three pillars of the company's new strategy is to build a profitable Circular and Low Carbon Solutions business. In support of this strategy, LyondellBasell is developing future plans for the Houston Refining site.
>
> "Multiple options are being evaluated including recycled and renewable-based feedstocks and green and blue hydrogen. The growth projects under development would connect to existing assets in the Houston area and use existing infrastructure on the refining site including hydrotreaters, pipelines, tanks, utilities, buildings, and laboratories. In the future, LyondellBasell expects the 700-acre refining site will be part of a Houston regional hub for its Circular and Low Carbon Solutions business and support the growth of the LyondellBasell Circulen product portfolio."

Small Group Discussion

Anything you were surprised about?

- Diversity of recycling options
- None of them admitted they released VOC
- Surprised there is so much recycling
- They recycle steam – wow
- Whatever is not used after sampling put back into process
- Industry tries to be a good neighbor w/ the amount of recycling that is done
- The number of repurposed waste products that stay with the facility vs. used as a new product
- So much recycled and it is impressive. The plants are doing a great deal to increase all the recycled materials.
- Power reused or shared is a very good use.

Anything of concern?

- Would have loved to hear from Lyondell
- What carcinogens released in air
- What is the pressure limit - when releasing the steam
- Community understanding of flare
- Steam: Community perception that what is coming out of a plant as steam is bad – not typically the case
    - Member remembered a facility with contaminated water. Issues were addressed; suspicion was/is lingering
- Community trust perception of emissions regardless of reality
- Permitting process 4 new technologies
- Our ability to ever be in compliance with NAAQS
- Highly technical/exploratory process that community members are not aware of
- How much plastic from home actually gets recycled?
- How much work does it take and how much of what we send to be recycled ends up just being trashed or sent to landfill?

Anything you want to know more about?

- Pyrolysis
- How do you transport recycled materials out of plants
- How often does your company recycle? Annually – often, etc.
- Is company meeting all the permits/requirements to meet all the TCEQ standards.
- Future plans
- Flares and flaring events: what is good and what isn't
    - Permit limits within flaring
- When there are smells @ specific times of day/night without knowledge of an event or upset
- Plans 4 advanced recycling at plastic-2-plastic and plastic-2-fuel as separate /new function of facilities
- Community member asked - what are reformers – unsure about what they are.
- Overview of how process (& different pieces of equipment) works, like coker units, reformers, distillation towers, boilers, cooling towers, etc. (I hear your husband does a great presentation.)

Anything about anything else?

- Also a lot of energy reduction initiatives.
- More reliable to reduce/eliminate flaring.
- Recycling challenge to neighbors
    - Batteries etc.
    - Community recycle day
- We enjoyed the "lightning" rounds!
- It could be nice to visit and learn about recycling process at Waste Management.
- What energy does it take?
- How much waste is there left?

HOST PLANTS' INTRODUCTION

Slides for Afton and Ethyl will be posted at www.pasadenacac.org

Hari Sundaram presented for host plants Afton and Ethyl.

Afton Chemical

Afton purchases raw materials to produce lubricants and additives that are marketed to oil companies and retail dealers in a $16 billion global market. Afton's lubricants include dispersants/detergents, friction modifiers, antiwear agents, and corrosion inhibitors. Afton formulates HiTEC® additives that help vehicles run more efficiently, machines last longer, and fuels burn cleaner. Afton's products are purchased by such companies as ExxonMobil, Shell Oil, and Valvoline, as well as Ford, Mercedes Benz, and Tesla.

Ethyl Corporation

Ethyl is a fuel additive distributor and has been a terminaling partner in the Houston Ship Channel since the 1950s. Ethyl distributes such products as aviation gasoline components, automotive gasoline performance additives (Afton), and metallic sodium. Ethyl has earned multiple TCC and ACC awards for its exemplary safety and environmental performance.

PLANT UPDATES

Plant Update Summary was mailed to attendees shortly before the meeting and mailed to all members the day afterward. Direct questions to Diane Sheridan facilitator, dbsfacilitator@gmail.com, 281-326-5253 or raise questions at the next meeting.

In a Nutshell:

- Updates were received from all 18 plants
- **4 of 18** had reportable environmental incidents
- **0 of 18** had OSHA recordable injuries
- **14 of 18** had neither environmental nor safety incidents

14 plants had no environmental incidents:

1. Afton Chemicals
2. Air Products
3. BASF
4. Chevron Phillips
5. Enterprise Products
6. Ethyl
7. Evonik
8. Gulf Coast Authority
9. Intercontinental Terminals
10. Kinder Morgan Export Terminal
11. Kinder Morgan Pasadena Terminal
12. Next Wave Energy Partners
13. OxyChem
14. Sekisui

18 plants had no safety incidents:

1. Afton Chemicals
2. Air Products
3. Albemarle
4. BASF
5. Chevron Pasadena Refinery
6. Chevron Phillips
7. Enterprise Products
8. Ethyl
9. Evonik
10. Gulf Coast Authority
11. INEOS Phenol
12. Intercontinental Terminals
13. Kinder Morgan Export Terminal
14. Kinder Morgan Pasadena Terminal
15. LyondellBasell
16. Next Wave Energy Partners
17. OxyChem
18. Sekisui

LyondellBasell Houston Refinery 9-3-23 Environmental Event: An attendee asked if Volatile Organic Compounds were released in the spill that was reported. The facilitator said she would contact the plant for a response. The plant updates are to include reportable quantity releases and permit exceedances. (***NOTE***: Sheridan checked with the plant, which said the oil spill to water "did not trigger air reporting requirements due to de minimis VOC (air) emissions from the small quantity of heavy oil spilled."

LyondellBasell Houston Refinery Flaring: An attendee said there seems to be constant flaring on the north side of the plant in recent months and asked why. (***NOTE***: Sheridan checked with the plant, which said, "The Houston Refinery has experienced elevated flaring this year due to maintenance and/or problems at our gas take customers' facilities. Flaring has become more noticeable following a customer's fire event in May of this year. The customer has started taking our gas again and we anticipate them returning to pre-fire event gas take rates in the fourth quarter of 2023.")

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

TxDOT public meetings – PCAC members and friends may take part in the next stage of the TxDOT SH225 and I-610 East Planning and Linkages (PEL) Study either online or by attending one of the in-person meetings. The closest of the two public meetings is on **Tuesday, October 17 from 5:00 - 7:00** p.m. at the Deer Park High School North Campus. Click this link for more information about the Deer Park meeting, another meeting in Galena Park on **October 19**, and how to provide input online by the **November 3 deadline**.

In Memory of Jackie Welch – On behalf of PCAC, Sheridan has expressed sympathy to the family of longtime member Jackie Welch. A donation will be made to charity in her memory. As she did for many groups, Welch took hundreds of photos for PCAC over the years.

Oct. 14 Team Up to Clean Up – For details about the Neighborhood Network's annual community clean up event, contact Brenda Pritchard at BPritchard@pasadenatx.gov.

Dec. 2 Fields of Honor at San Jacinto Monument – Knowing that some PCAC members assisted with the 2021 event, Sheridan announced that more than 1,000 volunteers are needed for this event, which placed 21,500 luminarias around the battleground in 2021 to commemorate the sacrifice of Texans who gave their lives in armed combat. For more information and to volunteer for the 2023 event, complete the "Volunteer Form - Fields of Honor: A Luminous Tribute at San Jacinto" at this link.

East Harris County Manufacturers Association – Holly Kurth announced that details may be found at www.ehcma.org about an Oct. 17 webinar for plants about rebuilding relationships after a crisis and about an Oct. 27 golf tournament that raises money for scholarships.

Shell Pipeline Safety Resources – Because Shell Pipeline once spoke to PCAC, they send us pipeline awareness information sent annually by pipeline companies to those living within a certain distance of pipelines. This link will take you to "Pipeline Safety Resources for You and Your Community."

FUTURE PCAC MEETINGS

Dinner available at 5:30 pm. *Meetings are from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise indicated.*

Tuesday, Oct. 24, 2023 – An Introduction to Carbon Capture and Storage

- Ramanan Krishnamoorti, Professor of Petroleum Engineering at the University of Houston, will provide basic information about carbon capture and storage (CCS), an approach to reducing greenhouse gases in the atmosphere about which members may be hearing.
- Scott Castleman will introduce PCAC to the Houston Carbon Capture and Storage Alliance, a group of local companies promoting CCS in the Houston area.

Nov. 28 – Annual Report on Emissions from PCAC Plants

- Data from PCAC plants will be compiled and presented to show Pasadena industry trends in the EPA Toxics Release Inventory releases to the air and the TCEQ air emissions inventory of criteria pollutants.

DATES FOR 2023 ----- All 4th Tuesdays

Tues., Feb. 28
Tues., Mar. 28
Tues., Apr. 25

Tues., May 23
No June or July meetings
Tues., Aug. 22
Tues., Sept. 26

Tues., Oct. 24
Tues., Nov. 28
No December meeting