



Community Advisory Panel
MINUTES
April 10, 2008
7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Dofasco – First Floor, Conference Room E

Present: Jessica Aird, Martha Allan, Carolyn Barnes, Dwayne Alexander Brown, Mike Brown, Mark Dunn, Gord Gilmet, Debbie Levo, Karen Logan, Linda Lukasik, Tom McGuire, Lorna Moreau, Linda Pickvance, Bob Savage, Shawn Selway, Sandra Rogers, Pat Thiessen, Steve Walsh, Brian Young.

1. Welcome and introductions

2. Review Past Minutes:

There were no changes to the minutes. Pat proposed acceptance, Dwayne seconded. They are posted on the website.

3. ArcelorMittal Dofasco Presentation: Mike Brown

Mike described some of the history leading to the current structure of the company. They now report through the Chicago offices and offered copies of the 2007 corporate review. He indicated that there is a local environmental report to the community being prepared for publication very soon. There was a 15-minute video that showed all parts of the steel making process.

Mike reported on a number of parameters that are monitored including Greenhouse Gases, Suspended Solids etc. Using 1990 as the base year all parameters show a dramatic decline in loadings although production levels have remained fairly level in that same time period. Dofasco shipped 3.37 million metric tons in 1990 and 3.64 million metric tons in 2007.

There was a question regarding the delay in the installation of observation cameras. Mike explained the current process – there are full time trained personnel who monitor all areas of the plant. When there is a visible release they identify the source and contact the appropriate Business Unit personnel to take corrective action and contact the Fuel Coordinator. The MOE is notified daily. The company is still trying to identify suitable sites for cameras as well as the appropriate technology. If cameras were installed they would still require trained staff to monitor and maintain the cameras. The target is to not have visible emissions for >99% of the time. Last year there were 637 reportable air incidents and the target for 2008 is 502.

Bob Savage (General Manager – Primary Manufacturing) described some of the reasons for the current issues in the plant. This winter they did have quality issues with their raw materials, which then caused difficulties throughout the process and resulted in several incidents to air. They identified this problem and have been working to find ways to minimize the impact. Bob and his staff have been meeting regularly with members of the Steelmaking and Ironmaking teams to monitor improvements. There have been a number of equipment failures in the plant, which they have been working on.

Most of the incidents have been related to the secondary fume collection hood at the KOBM. It has been determined that repairs have not been successful and some of the ducting must be replaced. The company will shut down the KOBM for 7.5 days while they take off the plant roof to allow a crane enough room to remove the old damaged duct section and install new ductwork. This is expected to start on April 27. This operation will also allow them to install a temperature feedback system that will measure energy in the new stack enabling them to better monitor and control the process.

There has been concern that the #2 CPCM may have been the source of the odours recently. The entire system was steam cleaned and they have changed the roll coolant being used. The odour is still sometimes noticeable so AM Dofasco has hired a consultant to evaluate the situation and look for options. They are not able to begin this investigation until some time in May when the air temperature is consistently above 70°F.

4. Air Quality review – Steve Walsh – City of Hamilton Public Health

Steve presented information on air quality and related health impacts in the Hamilton community. He discussed how air quality impacts different health issues including cardiovascular and respiratory illnesses. He referenced a number of studies as well as the Clean Air Hamilton annual report. Many of these reports and studies can be found on the Clean Air Hamilton website: <http://www.cleanair.hamilton.ca>.

There was a question about the air quality index monitors and why there wasn't one in East Hamilton. The monitor that was there was removed some time in the mid 1990's and never replaced. It was suggested that the monitor was not providing useful information. Hamilton has more air quality index monitors than most communities – Toronto has only one, Hamilton has three.

Steve explained that ozone has the biggest impact on the air quality index in Hamilton. Ozone is usually considered a long-range transport parameter most of which comes to Hamilton from the United States. Public Health is working closely with city hall and council to improve urban planning and public transportation to find ways to improve air quality. Urban sprawl is a leading source for poor air quality and there are studies looking at ways to correct this problem.

5. Roundtable

Earth Day – April 23 and 24 – Royal Botanical Gardens – CAP members were invited to participate in the workshops that HIEA provides for the school students. Anyone interested is asked to contact Karen who is arranging the volunteer schedule.

Dwayne provided information about a proposed event – “Cyclovia” which has been tentatively scheduled for May 24.

6. Next CAP Meeting

- Date:** Thursday May 8, 2008
Place: Dofasco first floor conference room E
Possible Topics: – City of Hamilton Spill Response Process
– Roundtable

Reported by Karen Logan