



Community Advisory Panel

MINUTES

February 14, 2008

7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Dofasco – First Floor, Conference Room E

Present: Jessica Aird, Martha Allan, Carolyn Barnes, Dwayne Alexander Brown, Gord Gilmet, Tim Jessop, Henri Kori, Debbie Levo, Karen Logan, Shaun Selway, Pat Thiessen, Brian Young

1. Welcome and introductions

2. Review Past Minutes:

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

3. VFT Presentation: Gord Gilmet

Gord provided an overview of VFT – what the company does and where it is located. His presentation included a number of excellent aerial shots of the area. The company was built in 1958 with expansions in 1973 and 1992. The company was originally called Domtar. They produce approximately 240,000 metric tonnes of Coal Tar products per year including: coal tar pitches for aluminum & graphite electrode industries, refined tars – pitch/oil blends for pavement sealer, and coal tar distillates such as creosote for wood preservation, carbon black feedstock and naphthalene oil for concrete super plasticizers. Gord described the manufacturing processes involved and the management systems in place at VFT to ensure the safe operation of the facility. He discussed their programs for Responsible Care, Environment, Health & Safety, Process Safety and Quality.

4. Responsible Care presentation – Gord Gilmet, VFT

Gord gave an update on the Responsible Care process including background information about the program. He reminded everyone that it is a global standard for the responsible management of chemicals and chemical operations throughout their life cycle. Responsible Care ethic states that companies “Do the right thing and be seen to do the right thing”.

VFT's last re-verification in 2006 identified 7 items that required improvements. They have completed work on 5 and are in the process of correcting the final 2 items. Gord gave an update on the progress to date of the work remaining.

Gord described the Responsible Care, mandatory re-verification process that takes place every 3 years. During this 2-3 day process a team of 2 industry experts, an activist, and a community representative will interview management, employees, neighbours, customers, etc. to confirm the company is meeting all required codes and levels of performance. They will determine if the company is self-healing and operating according to the Responsible Care ethic. Following the review this team will prepare a public report. The next review is set to take place in the first quarter

of 2009. A member of CAP acted as the community representative during the last 2 re-verifications. This individual has since moved away and will no longer be able to take part in the process so the company is now looking for an individual who would be interested in taking part. Gord suggested that if anyone was interested that they could contact him to discuss the process further.

5. Next Meeting

Date: HIEA Annual meeting - Thursday March 20, 2008
Place: The Waterfront Banquet and Convention Centre
Hamilton Chamber of Commerce
555 Bay Street North
Registration and Reception
~ 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. ~
Presentations and Displays

6. Next CAP Meeting

Date: Thursday April 10, 2008
Place: Dofasco first floor conference room E
Possible Topics:

- Presentation by ArcelorMittal Dofasco
- City of Hamilton Spill Response Process (TBA)
- Roundtable

Reported by Karen Logan