

# Community Advisory Council

## May 25, 2006 Meeting Minutes

### Members Present

Bruce Beiser  
Bill Ford  
Sister Joan Krimm  
Melanie Lennon  
Jim Pfennig  
John Theuring  
Tami Todd

### Guests Present

Mark Kinnett (Rohm and Haas)

### Facilitator

Pat Esposito

The meeting was held in the second floor conference room at the Rohm and Haas plant. Members had dinner and Pat reviewed the agenda. Introductions followed.

### Plant Update (Bruce Beiser)

#### Safety

- No OSHA recordable injuries or first-aid injuries to report since the March meeting.
- On May 18, the Reading Fire Department's EMT was called to the plant to assist a truck driver who became ill. The nature of the illness was not related to plant operations.
- The plant trained two employees for its in-house Emergency Response Team, and five new Incident Commanders were also trained.

#### Environmental

##### Sewer and Wastewater

- No permit exceedances or reportable releases.
- Contractor is doing a site survey for plant's sewer retention project to install concrete vaults to store excess storm water during heavy rain events so it doesn't overflow into the Mill Creek. Design should be done in June and plant will apply for permits during the 4th quarter. Work to begin 2nd quarter 2007.

##### Air

- No permit exceedances or reportable releases.
- Plant received its new air permit on May 11. Effective immediately, the facility is now a designated "Synthetic Minor" source.

### RCRA Site Investigation

- The investigation continues. The plant is in discussions with EPA for final report and recommendations.

### Odor Complaints

- Plant received three odor complaints since the April CAC meeting.
  1. May 7 – Odor reported to be rotten egg. NE wind. Changed scrubber solution.
  2. May 16 – Odor reported, near Reading Rd., to be rotten egg and butterscotch. Changed scrubber solution. West wind.
  3. May 22 – Slight rotten egg odor reported outside the plant gate but not at stadium. Changed scrubber solution.

### Early Truck Arrivals

- Since the last meeting, there were 5 early trucks before 6:30 a.m. (Trucks are admitted after 6:30 a.m.)
  - Four of the trucks left and came back.
  - One truck was allowed early entrance.
- In addition, 5 trucks arrived between 6:30 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. and were admitted to the plant.
- Since January 2005, there have been 141 early trucks (prior to 7 a.m.) and only 7 have been repeat drivers.

### Methyl Chloride (MeCl) Emissions Reduction

- Recovery efficiencies continue at 98-99%.
- As stated earlier, Ohio EPA finally issued the new air permit. Ohio EPA completed the public comment and there were no comments.

### Community Relations

- Bruce attended the Reading High School Awards Ceremony to present the plant's scholarship to Steve Solomon.

### Community Notifications

- This summer, the plant will be increasing the size of its firewater tank. It will add additional height to increase storage capacity from 400,000 gallons to 500,000 gallons. This will be used to provide up to 2 hours of fire protection water, if needed.
- Plant received an OSHA citation for the employee fatality it had in February during the hydrogen sulfide release. The citation noted five violations, all of which carry serious penalties.. The plant is having a conference with OSHA next week because it disagrees with some of the citations. The five citations were:
  1. No line breaking permits completed by mechanics completing the work. (No lock-out/tag-out procedures.)
  2. A 2001 hazard review of the process failed to identify the hazard.
  3. Plant's Emergency Response Plan was cited because plant's Emergency Response Team responded to the scene without wearing gas monitors.
  4. Plant cited for not having reasonable exposure plans. Exposure to toxic levels of

- hydrogen sulfide.
5. Plant didn't implement enough engineering controls to meet the limits on hydrogen sulfide.
- Final findings of the incident will be posted on the plant's website.

Q: How is the second operator who was seriously hurt in the incident?

A: He has not returned to work yet.

Comment: Tami pointed out a correction to the April CAC meeting minutes. Under the plant update discussing safety – the first bullet erroneously stated, “there were no OSHA recordable injuries or first-aid injuries since the **January** meeting.” This should be corrected to say, “There were no OSHA recordable injuries or first-aid injuries reported since the **March** meeting.”

#### **Site Security Presentation (Bruce Beiser)**

Bruce shared plant security upgrades with the CAC, but for security purposes the specifics are not being published in the meeting minutes. (If you missed this meeting and have any questions about this topic, please ask Bruce at the June meeting.)

#### **Plant's 2005 Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) Data (Bruce Beiser)**

Please see attached slides for summary of this presentation.

#### **Closing Note**

Pat thanked members for coming tonight and reminded everyone that the next meeting is June 22 and will be a plant tour.

**The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.**