

# Community Advisory Council

## June 22, 2006 Meeting Minutes

### Members Present

Bruce Beiser  
Rachael Belz  
Dave Lehrter  
Keith Mesch  
Sandy Schoenberger

### Guests Present

Mark Kinnett (Rohm and Haas)  
Kendel Mesch (Mt. Notre Dame High School student)  
Deb Leonard (ETC)

### Facilitator

Kim Lahman

The meeting was held in the second floor conference room at the Rohm and Haas plant. The plant tour was canceled due to thunder and lightening storms in the near vicinity. Members had dinner and introductions followed. Deb Leonard introduced the new CAC facilitator and the newly hired ETC staff, member, Kim Lahman. Kim gave a summary of her experience in community relations and as a meeting facilitator working for local organizations including Mill Creek Restoration Project, Fernald, Mill Creek Watershed Council and Hamilton County Environmental Services.

### Plant Update (Bruce Beiser)

#### Safety

- No OSHA recordable injuries.
- No first aids.
- Plant shutdown on June 21 for an employee picnic to acknowledge the hard work of the employees since the Feb 15 incident and to celebrate Bruce's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the plant.

#### Environmental

##### Sewer and Wastewater

- Sewer
  - No pH excursions.
- Air
  - No permit exceedences or reportable releases.
- RCRA 3013 Order
  - No update; no further testing is required by EPA.
  - Plant proceeds with its project to use groundwater for cooling or process water.

### Odor Complaints

- Plant received seven odor complaints since the May CAC meeting.
  1. May 26 – Odor reported to be rotten egg.
  2. May 27 – Odor reported to be rotten egg.
  3. May 31 – A hydrogen sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S) odor report came from the boiler house.
  4. June 4 – Odor reported to be rotten egg.
  5. June 6 – A neighbor on Reading Road on the east side reported a butterscotch odor.
  6. June 7 – A neighbor on Reading Road on the east side reported an unknown odor. Chief Kaiser identified Formica as the source.
  7. June 21 – A complaint was made; the caller was informed that the plant was shut down.

Q: What is the status of some things you were working on for reporting after the call is made?

A: Melanie is returning phone calls to ensure that there is a closed loop in communication and response.

- In an effort to track down H<sub>2</sub>S sources, R&H is identifying a process change to minimize the generation of odiferous materials.
- R&H is using a technology found on the Internet, designed to prevent ground level odors. It involves using plastic trays filled with special activated gravel (iron oxide) designed to react to Mercaptan, which have been inserted on top of two sewer manholes on site. Water is allowed to flow through while gases are restricted from rising and escaping. At present, there have been no H<sub>2</sub>S readings taken from the two sewer manholes.

Q: Does the activated gravel work specifically with the chemicals that R&H is dealing with or can other companies use it?

A: The gravel being used by R&H is made to react to Mercaptan. There are a variety of materials that can be used in the trays to react to odiferous materials.

### Methyl Chloride (MeCl) Emissions Reduction

- Recovery efficiencies continue at 98-99 percent.
- OEPA issued the new permit on May 11, 2006.

### Early Truck Arrivals

- Since the last meeting, one truck arrived early and was requested to leave and return at 7 a.m.
- Six trucks arrived between 6:30 a.m. and 7 a.m. and were immediately admitted to the plant.
- Three additional railcars are now being used for transportation, which helps reduce truck traffic.

### Community Relations

Three Reading Fire Department members completed a walk-thru of the facility on June 15<sup>th</sup> with incident commanders and Emergency Response Team (ERT) members:

- Evaluated areas where rescue equipment may be unable to reach a “mandown”. Most of the plant is easily accessed by fire and rescue equipment, except the area behind buildings 3/3A/4, 2 and 1. Rohm and Haas is developing action plans to improve rescue options in these areas.
- Reviewed the training plan for this year.
- Discussed updates to ERT equipment including a second staging area for ERT equipment in building 22.

**Community Partnership Initiative Update (Kim Lahman)**

- Sent over 45 RFP packets
- One response so far; the Public Library will not submit a proposal
- July 14 deadline
- Increase awareness

**Closing Note**

Kim thanked members for coming tonight and Bruce reminded everyone that there is no meeting scheduled for July. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 24, 2006. An update on Plant Storm Water Projects/MSD's SSO 700 Project is planned with the possibility of combining a plant and SSO 700 tour; a desire was expressed to see the SSO 700 and logistics of the project.

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