

**Neighborhood Advisory Committee  
November 8, 2013**

**NAC Members Present:** NWDA: Sharon Genasci; NCA: Tom Giese, John Krallman, and Mary Peveto.

**Not Present:** NEDC: Aubrey Baldwin; NWDA: Bob Holmstrom and Bob Amundson.

**ESCO Representatives:** Jay Fagan and Travis Quarles.

**Other Attendees:** Shannon Huggins, Kat Robinson, Allan Classen.

Meeting called to order at 9:05 AM.

**1. Welcome and introduction of NAC Members and ESCO Representatives.**

**2. Setting meeting dates for 2014**

Tom Giese discussed 2014 NAC meeting dates. The tentative dates were set for January 17, April 25, July 18, and October 17. Shannon Huggins, ESCO Public Affairs Manager, agreed to send the proposed dates to the NAC for comments.

**3. Status report on Chapman School monitoring**

John Krallman gave an update on the monitoring planned at Chapman Elementary School. A basic monitoring plan is drafted and will be submitted to the NAC and ESCO for review before testing begins. Training, which will cover monitoring procedures, is expected to begin in late December or early January. Linda George at Portland State University will assist with monitoring. George and DEQ will determine sampling locations that are secure and avoid interference. Certain metals, and filterable PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> will be monitored. Testing will begin after the plan is approved by the NAC, and after Denny Larson of Global Community Monitor trains the volunteers. Mary Peveto explained that George's graduate and undergraduate students will conduct the monitoring which adds third-party objectivity and credibility to the monitoring. There were no objections to student volunteers.

**4. Subcommittee on Emergency Response Plan**

Peveto discussed the NAC's online survey about the Emergency Response Plan, which was distributed to neighbors via email in October. ESCO identified four types of events in the survey: earthquake, fire, spills, and workplace violence. More than 80% of the responders agreed that they consider the four events to be priorities. Although ESCO may not be the primary concern after a natural disaster, neighbors would like to know ESCO's planned response and whether living near ESCO poses a unique or additional risk. Community groups are expected to help spread information to address all neighbors. Carmen Merlo, Director of Portland Bureau Emergency Management, is willing to talk to the neighbor groups again.

A discussion continued about community notification and emergency response. Peveto emphasized that catastrophic emergency response is a community issue and not an ESCO issue. Community members need to be educated on emergency response in the broader context. The group then had a brief discussion on identifying safe meeting locations after an earthquake. Peveto expressed concern that community meeting places such as Chapman Elementary may not be seismically stable. It was suggested that ESCO determine if a safe meeting location can be offered to the public after an earthquake.

Tom Giese said the next step is to send the survey responses to the NAC and ESCO. ESCO hopes to present a draft plan to the NAC subcommittee in January. Two subcommittee meetings were proposed for early 2014: one before the January NAC meeting to get advice from the Fire Department on drafting

the plan, and a second to present the draft to the subcommittee. Huggins will communicate potential meeting dates to the group.

## **5. Update on Attachment A Projects**

Fagan gave an update on the GNA Attachment A emission reduction projects.

Project 3 has been completed. The one month weigh tests were completed as a method of confirmation, and a total of 4.4 pounds of dust was collected. Project 10 has been completed, and Krallman and Giese observed the new equipment testing. Fagan reminded the NAC that they have 60 days to inspect completed projects in accordance with the GNA.

Project 1: One dust collector is in place, and the other is expected to be installed by Thanksgiving. Source testing to be conducted by Horizon Engineering is scheduled to occur in December.

Project 5: Source testing is complete and was observed by Krallman and Giese. ESCO is waiting on DEQ's approval of the results. Preliminary results show ESCO has met the 35-40% phenol reduction requirement in the GNA. Genasci reported that neighbors living near the plant have noticed a new, sweet chemical smell and asked if the new phenol has a sweet smell. Quarles replied that ESCO has not noticed an odor change from the previous binder.

Project 6: Fagan described two new binders tested on chain castings. Quarles observed the trials and said both binders appear to produce less smoke and odor, but such distinctions are subjective. Another binder will be tested in the Chain Room to reduce HAPs and odor. Fagan expressed the need to consider other factors such as cost and quality of the finished product when selecting a binder.

Project 7: Bag Leak Detection (BLD) probes have been installed and are fully operational. No alarms have occurred, but the system is working. Quarles explained that the alarms were tested during initial set up and calibration. Calibration will be checked and the alarms will be tested again before the project is complete. ESCO's Air Emission Control Device Operating Plan (AECODP) will be updated.

Genasci returned to Project 6 and asked why Plant 1 continues to use binders with phenol. Quarles explained that no alternative binders without phenol are suitable for the products made in that area. Genasci replied that she would like to know the phenol reduction expected for Project 6. Fagan explained that phenol reduction was not specifically stated in Project 6 of the GNA. ESCO will consider providing feedback on emission reductions and the differences between processes at Plants 1 and 3.

## **6. Review ESCO and DEQ communications since last meeting**

Quarles summarized 10 communications between ESCO and DEQ: three administrative, three related to construction, and four related to the deviation in July.

Item 1: Title V Air Permit Semi-Annual Report, which will be made available on the NAC website.

Item 2: Final progress report on coarse fraction separator at Plant 3. Quarles explained that wear issues created an ongoing conversation with DEQ, and Item 2 closes that communication.

Item 3: Pre-Enforcement Notice. Quarles reminded the group of the Doghouse issue reported in the July NAC meeting. DEQ sent a pre-enforcement notice and allowed ESCO to provide additional information.

Item 4: Notice of Construction (NOC) for Upper Finishing Area grinding and welding cells. A robotic grinding cell was added to the area, and the project required some equipment to be relocated and temporarily shut down. This NOC is related to changing dust collectors connections during construction.

Item 5: Email related to Upper Finishing arcing and burning stations. Two booths in Upper Finishing use the same dust collector. One booth is used for propane cutting and the other performs air arcing. ESCO requested flexibility from George Davis at DEQ to add arcing capability to the burn booth.

Item 6: Process change to Didion shakeout. Quarles described the Didion as a tumbling drum using media to remove excess metal. The process was altered to reduce loss of the media, eliminating a point of dust generation and removing the need for dust extraction at a particular part of the process.

Item 7: Updated Notice of Construction. Two dust collectors will be installed. The drawing submitted to DEQ shows two welding stations, but the notice was updated to allow for the use of five stations.

Items 8-10: Communications related to the July deviation. Item 8 is a \$2,200 penalty from DEQ. Item 9 is ESCO's response to the pre-enforcement notice. Item 10 is the response to the civil penalty. Quarles summarized the deviation explaining that a heat was poured with the dust collector off. The collector was turned on and DEQ was contacted immediately upon noticing the issue. Corrective actions include audible alarms, visual alarms, and an infrared sensor that activates an alarm when heat from a ladle is sensed and the dust collector is not on. Krallman and Peveto asked if the additional emissions the uncontrolled heat were calculated. Quarles estimated a maximum of 120 pounds of emissions.

### **Trending Report**

Fagan reviewed the trending report for odor complaints in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. Twenty-four complaints were logged. Based on wind and production schedules, 20 could have come from ESCO. Sixteen are relevant to the Main Plant and 14 are relevant to Plant 3. Three complaints were made outside of ESCO production and one complaint described odor unrelated to ESCO processes.

Peveto would like the trending report to show a longer period of time and historic activity. Krallman continued that it would be useful to see if trends show more complaints from certain plants or departments. Peveto would like to compare ESCO complaint reports to neighbor groups' reports. Huggins suggested using two graphs: one for overall complaints and a second to filter by department. Fagan agreed to add a summary of information graph for subsequent NAC meetings with historical reference back no earlier than the creation of the GNA.

### **Public Comment**

Huggins discussed parking difficulties for ESCO employees. ESCO lots will be permitted and enforced in January. A letter will be placed on all vehicles parked in ESCO lots to explain the changes.

Allan Classen, editor of the Northwest Examiner, asked about complaint times in reference to the log for the trending reports. Quarles explained that most odors come early in the pouring process, and a 2-hour window is used. Heats poured in the Chain Room use a 3-hour window. Classen asked if complaints are easy to match to a heat. Fagan explained that pours occur about every 90 minutes at Plant 3, and about every 2 hours at the Main Plant. Classen contended that any complaint could be attributed to a heat if pouring occurs throughout the day.

Genasci asked about production schedules. Fagan explained that the Main Plant and Plant 3 operate on different schedules but generally speaking ESCO is operating on no more than two shifts as of the fourth quarter. ESCO is not melting and pouring on Sundays, but has in the past. Genasci asked if production is up or down from last year. Fagan answered that production is generally lower, but production is strong in some departments and reduced in others.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:26 AM.