

**Minutes:**  
**Neighborhood Advisory Committee**  
**April 24, 2012**

**NAC Members Present:** NWDA: Bob Amundson, Sharon Genasci; NCA: Mary Peveto, Tom Giese and Alternate, Lisa Selman; NEDC: Aubrey Baldwin

**Not Present:** Jorjan Parker, NWDA

**ESCO Representatives:** Fran Erickson, Carter Webb

**Other Attendees:** Kelley Egge, Jonathan Nelson, Susan Stone, Allan Classen

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 AM.

Carter Webb opened the meeting by explaining that the NAC is the wide-open communications pathway that neighbors have asked for. The voting NAC members all represent neighbor groups, and ESCO has two non-voting representatives. The agenda is attached to these minutes.

**ESCO REQUEST FOR APPROVAL:** ESCO presented a proposal for NAC consideration. The company recommended that consultants Jim Karas and Fred Tanaka be hired to conduct the qualitative visual observations required by GNA Attachment A Projects 11 and 12. The GNA requires NAC approval of the consultant. Handouts included an overview of the project and resumes of Mr. Karas and Mr. Tanaka.

Extended discussion followed with NAC members asking many questions about operational changes, building configuration, work of the consultant, timing, and emission reductions expected. NAC members offered positive comments about the previous work of the consultants who had conducted an audit of ESCO operations for DEQ.

NAC members requested that they see the specific scope of work for the consultant. Webb said ESCO would do that, adding that NAC representatives can also accompany the consultant during the observations. ESCO expects the consultant observations to occur this summer for some projects.

A motion was made and vote called for the NAC to approve the hiring of Mr. Karas and Mr. Tanaka, and the motion was approved unanimously.

**ORGANIZATIONAL AND PROCESS DECISIONS:** The next agenda item was Organizational and Process decisions. Aubrey Baldwin led the discussion. The following decisions were made by NAC consensus:

**Meeting time:** Meetings will be held on Friday mornings for two hours, with the hope to finish in 90 minutes. The NAC set its next quarterly meetings for August 3, 2012, October 19, 2012, and January 25, 2013.

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**Agenda:** Following discussion on various approaches, the NAC decided that the Chair would develop a draft agenda after consultation with other members. The draft will go to NAC members and to ESCO for comments. The draft will be distributed 5 weeks before the meeting, comments must be received by the Chair within 2 weeks, and the final agenda will be emailed 3 weeks before the meeting.

**Chair:** The Chair will have an annual term, and Baldwin will lead the first term. The Chair's responsibilities include drafting the agenda, being the point person for communications with the NAC, and being the facilitator at the meeting.

**Voting:** Decisions will be made by a motion, discussion, and vote, with a majority of NAC representatives present deciding the matter. No second will be required to put a motion to a vote. ESCO representatives do not have a vote.

**Minutes:** ESCO will be responsible for taking minutes and posting them to the NAC web page.

**Actions between meetings:** NAC members agreed that an email vote would be considered the same as an in-person vote for issues that need quick action. A member of the NAC must call for a vote, and then members have 5 days in which to respond. If no vote is received from a member, that member acquiesces. Alternates do not have a vote unless specifically designated by a member. The email option is in addition to the GNA procedure for calling special meetings for major issues.

**Public comment during meetings:** The NAC decided that members of the public could raise their hands and comment during the meeting. Members of the public are recognized at the discretion of the Chair, and the Chair can cut off discussion if appropriate.

**QUESTIONS, FEEDBACK FROM THE NAC TO ESCO:** Members of the NAC requested that, at the NAC meeting, ESCO provide an update of its responsibilities under the GNA. Webb provided a detailed update on the six projects where ESCO has completed control strategies. This includes Projects #2, 3, 4, 8, 10 and 15 on Attachment A to the GNA. ESCO distributed a handout with detail on the projects and notified the NAC that Projects #4, 8 and 15 are ready for neighbor group inspection and confirmation of completion.

Webb pointed out that the status report for Project #10 indicates that ESCO is having operational problems with the new equipment installed to reduce wear on the thermal sand reclaim baghouse. He said that the problems have not caused excess emissions and ESCO will be sending a letter soon to DEQ and the NAC with more details.

Webb then provided an update on the ten Attachment A emissions reductions projects underway, including Projects #1, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 16. ESCO distributed a handout detailing each project. Discussion followed, with ESCO responding to clarifying questions.

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In the context of this discussion, ESCO announced its intent to minimize the “dump back” process at the Main Plant and eliminate it at Plant 3 to address Projects #11 and #12. The completion date for these projects is December 31, 2012. The dump back process involves transferring metal between huge ladles and is a source of fugitive emissions. The NAC expressed appreciation for this announcement.

Discussion followed about the timing for inspecting completed projects, making the Karas/Tanaka observations, and who from the NAC participates. NAC members asked ESCO to group as many observations as possible. NAC members agreed to one representative from each neighbor group, and the representatives did not have to be NAC members. Sharon Genasci suggested Bob Holmstrom as an alternate for some of the NAC inspections. The date for the tour, to take place within 60 days per GNA requirements, is to be determined.

The NAC wanted discussion of the public tour added to the August 3, 2012 Agenda.

Fran Erickson, ESCO Environmental Engineer, presented a report on the new complaint system that will go live May 1. Erickson said ESCO was looking for a system that would provide a live person 24 hours per day and collect useful data for both the NAC and ESCO. ESCO has hired EthicsPoint based in Lake Oswego to receive calls and emails so callers can speak live to a person and so consistent information is gathered. EthicsPoint will send the complaints to ESCO immediately, and ESCO will forward them to NAC members and DEQ.

The GNA requires ESCO to post a complaint phone number and email address on its gates. Erickson requested that the NAC approve substitution of a web address for an email address because it is more compatible with the EthicsPoint system. Discussion followed, and the NAC unanimously approved this change.

Webb reported that ESCO has two new weather stations arriving in May. Discussion followed about wind direction and speed, and Webb reported that the information will be posted on the web page. At the suggestion of NAC members, ESCO agreed to put the NAC web page link on the EthicsPoint complaint page, as well as link the NAC web page to the complaint line.

Kelley Egge reported that the NAC web page will launch May 1 with all the information required by the GNA. The web page will include an e-mail address to allow the public to comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:07 AM.