

# Omya Community Stakeholder Team March 12, 2020 Meeting Meeting Summary

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**Location:** Omya Verpol Plant

**Date:** March 12, 2020

**Time:** 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

## **Meeting Attendees:**

Dan Firliet – Assistant Plant Manager, Omya  
David Mills – Local resident & VP of Pittsford Planning Commission  
Dennis Carroll – Safety Environmental Manager, Omya  
Elizabeth Simpson - Florence resident  
Heather Fowler – Safety, Environment & Quality Coordinator, Omya  
John Haverstock – Pittsford Town Manager  
John Lapre – Florence resident  
Jon Keith – Pittsford resident and local business owner  
Mike Laurent – Pre-Grind Area Manager, Omya  
Sharon Carpenter – Florence resident  
Wayne Wilmans – Plant Manager, Omya

## *Absent:*

Bev Peterson – Florence resident  
Bonnie Stewart – Pittsford resident  
Butch Shaw – Florence resident and State Representative  
David Markowski – Florence resident

## **I. Welcome**

Wayne Wilmans welcomed team members

The evening's agenda was reviewed and November's meeting minutes were accepted as published.

Wayne introduced Dan Firliet, new assistant plant manager taking over for Louis Gaudreau who retired in January.

Senator Cheryl Hooker was planning on attending this evening but was called to a meeting and looks forward to attending next time.

John Lapre's son was planning on attending this evening but due to his work schedule had to cancel. He hopes to attend the next meeting.

In a brief business activity update, Wayne noted the following:

- On August 11, 2019 Omya business systems and operations were interrupted with a cyber-attack. Recovery is still ongoing. A majority of business systems are back on track and everybody is adjusting to normal operations again.
- Performance for 2019 was strong but we did miss our sales budget by a small margin. We see strong orders for most of our primary products. This has continued into 2020 thus far. We have many new projects in 2020 that will increase our performance and put us in a good position for future years.
- Vermont Plant Personnel
  - Our employee number remains steady and we do not have any major plans to significantly change headcount in 2020. We are requesting to have interns return this summer. Last summer we had six local engineering students work for us.

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- No major expansions planned for 2020.
- Sustaining Operations / Maintenance investment still ongoing with no major projects planned for 2020.
- Verpol is a candidate for numerous MDI (Market Development Innovation) projects in Omya. These projects are preparing Omya for the future.

### Community Update – Event Sponsors

- Girls on the Run Vermont
- Brandon Senior Center
- Middlebury Maple Run
- Moosalamoo Association
- West Rutland High School – Banner
- Town of Pittsford – Memorial Day Flags
- Loyalty Day Parade
- Camp Thorpe
- Post Legion 31 – American Legion Baseball
- Susan G Komen – Race for the Cure
- Rutland Blooms
- Granville After Prom Party
- RAVE – (Rutland Area Vehicle Enthusiast)
- Otter Valley Softball Team
- Pittsford Trail Run
- Shrine Maple Football
- Wonderfeet Kids Museum
- Rutland Free Library
- New Story Center - Walk a Mile Rutland County (Event to End Domestic Abuse)
- Omya Scholarships will be offered again this year (Scholarship recipients are chosen by school guidance counselors)

### Community Update – Events

- Legislative Breakfast Series (Omya is the sponsor – held in February, April, and June)
- February 22nd – Family Feud at the Paramount Theatre
- March 10th – Brandon Senior Center, St. Patrick’s Day Dinner
- April 3rd – American Red Cross Blood Drive – MSJ Academy (Rutland) 12:00-5:00
- May 1st – Green Up Day at Omya
- May 2nd – Green Up Day with the Town of Pittsford
- May 19<sup>th</sup> – Annual Verpol Preventative Electrical Maintenance Shutdown
- July 14th – Brandon Senior Center BBQ
- July 16th – Pittsford Senior Center Luncheon at the Pittsford Rec (Pittsford Rec Campers included)
- **September 19<sup>th</sup> – Middlebury Quarry Open House**
- October – Wheels for Warmth

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## II. Progress Report

### Noise

- One new noise concern reported in February. A call was received from a Florence resident reporting loud plant noise at 11 PM.
- Upon investigation it was determined that it was due to atmospheric conditions (a lot of fog that night). Noise readings were collected and results were within the correct decibel ranges. Silencer PMs were also on schedule.

### Road Signs (lost trucks)

- Omya continues to contract with local police departments (Pittsford Police Department, Rutland Town Police Department, and Rutland County Sheriff's Department) to patrol the roads five days a week.

### Dust/Road Washing

- Omya did receive a complaint this week regarding dust/material on the main road.
- The ore yard is where the feed stone is stored. This is where the main source of material is being carried back onto the main road. When it rains it gets "muddy" in the ore yard and the haul trucks track material back onto the main road.
- This time of year is very challenging to put the water truck in daily operation due to the possibility of freezing temperatures at night.
- As soon as the weather breaks we will begin daily on-site road washing from Hogback quarry to the main road and roads to and from the ore yard (where haul trucks travel). In addition, we monitor other on-site roads and wash them multiple times a week to make sure there is no dust build up.
- In the mean-time, we will have the haul trucks travel around the south end of the plant, keeping them on our onsite roads longer to give the material time to fall off the truck before reaching the main road.

### Verpol Tailings byproduct for various projects in VT

- The Town of Salisbury Landfill Closure is to commence in the spring. Omya byproduct material will be hauled by Casella [LNG Trucks] starting April or May.

### Aggregate from Hogback Quarry for various road projects

- Aggregate from the Hogback Quarry is being backhauled to Middlebury Quarry to stockpile and be used for the downtown Middlebury Bridge/Tunnel project.

### Hogback Quarry Projects

- Blasting, crushing and screening of feed stone to recommence in early April (weather permitting).
- Quarry dewatering activities are currently underway.
- Cone Crusher for winter sands project
  - Noise modelling for Act 250 is being finalized. All other permits and requirements are complete.

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### III. New Ideas / Topics

- Omya is starting on a new solar project for Vermont. It is in very early stages. Project is being driven by Omya's corporate office in Cincinnati.
- Interconnect Application made to Green Mountain Power:
  - 45-day notice for intention to file with PUC will be out soon
  - Certificate of Public Good will follow approximately 45 days later
  - Galvin Site, Salisbury VT - [Omya owned property since 1997]
  - Developer - Encore Renewable Energy has completed all the work to date
    - Community Outreach, Public Hearings and Permit Approval Conditions
  - 5 MWac Solar Field [1<sup>st</sup> of potential 3 sites] – Max 15 MWac in future
  - Also considering 2 smaller solar sites for both quarries – 500kWac each
- Omya has a GROUP goal:
  - 12% renewable energy by 2026
  - The Verpol plant is the 3rd largest Omya facility in the world and a significant consumer of power.

### IV. Next Steps (Action Items)

### V. Wrap-Up

- The date for the next Stakeholder Team meeting is **Thursday, July 30, 2020** at Omya's Verpol Plant in Florence from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.