

Omya Community Issue Team – November 05, 2015 Meeting

Meeting Summary

Location: Omya Verpol Plant

Date: November 05, 2015

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Meeting Attendees:

Peg Flory – Pittsford Resident and State Senator
Jon Keith – Pittsford resident and local business owner
Butch Shaw – Florence resident and State Representative
John Haverstock – Pittsford Town Manager
Bev Peterson – Florence resident
Bonnie Stewart – Pittsford resident
John Lapre – Florence resident
David Markowski – Florence resident and local business owner
Mike Laurent – Pre-Grind Area Manager, Omya
Wayne Wilmans – Plant Manager, Omya
Dennis Carroll – Safety Environmental Manager, Omya
Heather Fowler – Safety, Environment & Quality Coordinator, Omya

Absent:

Sharon Carpenter – Florence resident
Matt Harvey – Pittsford resident
Umberto “Pat” Rosato – Florence resident
John Schell – Assistant Plant Manager, Omya

I. Welcome

Wayne Wilmans welcomed team members and special guests. The evening’s agenda was reviewed.

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

- Business is lower than last year at this time but still good. Sales remain strong and are continuing to grow in most industries. We hired three new engineers in 2015. We also re-assigned two technicians from our corporate process improvement group to our Vermont plant operations.
- We have had a very successful safety year. To date we have recorded more than 373 days without a recordable injury.
- Community updates:
 - Lothrop Enrichment Afterschool Program [6/15]
 - Pittsford Day - Sponsor Band Satin & Steel [8/15]
 - Paramount Theatre – Celebrating The American Experience – Politics in Action [9/1]
 - Rutland Young Professionals Event [9/12]
 - Alzheimer’s - Memory Walk [9/20]
 - Leicester Central School – New Dishwasher [10/1]
 - Hosted Rutland Chamber Mixer @ Vermont Marble Exhibit [10/13]
 - The Preservation Society of VT (Vermont Marble Exhibit) [10/15]
 - Wheels for Warmth Sponsor [10/31]
 - It’s A Crime Not to Read (Maclure Library/Lothrop School) Monthly
 - 2015 Graduates awarded \$10,000 in Scholarships [11/30]
 - Thanksgiving Turkey’s to All Omya Vermont Employees – [Nov 23]

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II. Progress Report

Line Landfill Re-Certification Update

- The state issued the draft certification for public comment which was publicized in the Rutland Herald and Brandon Reporter. A public meeting was held the second week of October 2015. The public comment period ended the last week of October. Omya submitted some minor comments. No other verbal or written comments from the public were submitted to the State. We expect the re-certification will be issued before the end of the year.

Lost Trucks

- A month after the new signs were installed, VTrans contacted the town of Proctor with concerns regarding their design. The Town and Omya scheduled a meeting with VTrans to review specifications and together came up with new ideas for new signs. We have since put together a revised sign plan and have received comments back from the state. We are in the process of finalizing and the current signs will be replaced.
- In addition to the signs we continue with increased police patrols who are providing stiff fines to violators. We have seen an overall reduction in lost trucks over the last three years and in just this past year numbers are down around 50%.
- The question was asked if Omya can notify freight companies regarding the harsh winter conditions in Vermont so they can better prepare (better tires, chains, etc.).

LNG Fire Alarm and Evacuation Update

- Originally LNG fire alarms were equipped with open path detectors but have since been replaced with point detectors.
- The LNG Evacuation Procedure has been updated stating that everyone needs to evacuate.
- Haul truck and delivery drivers have been trained on the proper evacuation when in/around the LNG area.
- LNG flame detectors set the alarm off twice (October & November) due to haul trucks backfiring. These detectors are sensitive but they work!

Noise

- Noise monitoring continues monthly onsite and we continue to be below the Omya self-imposed 45 maximum noise level at the property line (versus the Act 250 limit of 70 dB).
- There have been a few noise complaints over the last couple weeks. After researching we concluded that one of our flash dryers was making more noise than usual. We were able to make a change and fix the problem.
- We will continue with the PM program on the silencers. We have updated the program to perform maintenance in “run hours” rather than “days” to better track through our system.

Hogback Quarry Permit Amendment Update

- We received approval from the Act 250 District 1 regional office to detonate signature test holes, which were all completed on 9/24/15. All folks on blasting notification list were contacted.
- Data was collected from test holes (five vibration meters were strategically placed around quarry and neighboring properties to collect measurements).
- The permitted ground vibration limit for the Hogback Quarry is 0.500 inches per second at the nearest property and blasts performed on 9/24/15 were well below this limit.
- The test data collected will be used to project the ground vibrations from future blasts at the nearest residence and minimize impacts to our neighbors.

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- A meeting is scheduled for the end of November with the Act 250 Board and the Act 250 Regional Planning Commission. We hope to submit an application which will likely solicit public comment, as we have done in the past.

III. Membership

The current Community Issue Team member list was reviewed. The team discussed adding some new members. The proposed names have been recorded and Omya will contact and see who is interested.

IV. Other

- The next Community Issue Team meeting is **Thursday, February 11, 2015** at Omya's Verpol Plant in Florence from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- The team agreed to keep meetings on Thursday evenings and will schedule the second or third Thursday of the month.