

Minutes of Chevron Burnaby Refinery Community Advisory Panel Meeting

Thursday January 20, 2011

7 – 9 pm at the Confederation Seniors Centre

Present:

Myrna Bennefeld, Pat Connelly, Kathy Curran, Eileen Luongo, Rob Mclean and Art Quan

Chevron representatives:

Jim Gable, Refinery Manager; Ray Lord, Public & Govt. Affairs Manager; Jill Donnelly, Health Environment & Safety Manager; Chris Boys, Environmental Specialist

Metro Vancouver Representatives:

Silvano Padovan and Darrell Wakelin, Regulatory representatives for Metro Vancouver

Guests:

Charmaine Pflugrath, Emergency Program Coordinator, City of Burnaby

Dipak Dattani, Assistant Director Engineering – Environmental Protection, City of Burnaby

Facilitator:

Kim Barbero, Carah Worldwide Consulting, Inc.

Regrets:

Bonnie Hayward and Kathy Mezei

CAP BUSINESS

1. Opening Remarks

- Kim Barbero welcomed CAP members to our first meeting of the new year and thanked our guests Charmaine Pflugrath and Dipak Dattani from the City of Burnaby for attending.

2. City of Burnaby Emergency Program

- Following a brief overview by Ray Lord on how important emergency preparedness is to Chevron and how it has been a topic of CAP discussion over many years, he reiterated the importance of ensuring there's a collective understanding among CAP members of what systems and processes currently exist. Charmaine Pflugrath then presented an

overview presentation of the City of Burnaby's Emergency Program. See Addendum 1. Following the presentation. A brief question and answer period followed. Of main interest was the use of electronic communications in an emergency:

Q1: At what stage is the City of Burnaby regarding implementation of an electronic notification mechanism?

A1: The City is at the analysis and review stage. An electronic notification system (ENS) would be an additional alerting and/or communications method to those currently employed by the City. ENS is of value only to those who voluntarily opt-in to the system and may preclude a large percentage of the community. For a planned notification, electronic communications may be an appropriate alternative but when a tactical evacuation is required (an unplanned evacuation lead and/or conducted by first responder organizations like police or fire), electronic communications may not be the most efficient method of communication to those impacted or affected by the incident or event.

3. CAP Updates

- **Membership:** Kim Barbero acknowledged the recent resignation of four CAP members and commented that she had made direct contact with almost all of the CAP members individually prior to this meeting to discuss this issue. She invited those present to comment or to discuss the recent events or ask any questions. There were no comments or questions. There was a suggestion that, as one of the resignations involved a member of the membership sub-committee, that a request for a volunteer to fill the vacant position on the Membership Sub-Committee be made. Prior to that being determined, it was suggested that the minutes of the previous Membership Sub-Committee meetings, along with the Committee's Terms of Reference, be circulated for the benefit of the newer members. In the interim, Art Quan volunteered to serve on the Sub-Committee with Bonnie Hayward and Ray Lord. A recruitment effort for new members will be undertaken during the coming year.
- **Area 2 Seep:** Jill Donnelly provided CAP an update on the most recent activities underway to address the seep, including source identification. A summary of those activities included a description of efforts being undertaken at the beach – both ongoing clean-up and the Detailed Site Investigation, at the railroad interception system where steady progress is being made and with the on-site extraction well system. See Addendum 2. A summary of some of the questions posed include:

Q1: How is the recovered oil on the beach and railroad being measured?

A1: Volume estimates for the beach have been determined by visual comparisons of the absorption pads being collected from the beach after use to new pads on which a known quantity of oil had been applied. For the railroad trench, the liquid extracted over a known period of time is transferred to drums. Once the contents have settled, any oil present separates from the water. The volume of oil is then measured. A similar quantity estimation occurred for the extraction wells. A more precise description of the estimation methods is available on the Chevron CAP website in the resources section, Current Issues, Dec 23 update.

Q2: Did Chevron measure the oil being collected during the recent shut-down? Is there a correlation between the amount collected and whether or not the refinery is working to capacity?

A2: Measurement was not conducted during the shut-down. Is it unlikely that there is a correlation between the seep and whether or not the refinery is operating.

Q3: Does volume measurement help find the source?

A3: We are committed to recovering as much as we can. Measurement of volumes being recovered is important but it does not directly help identify the source of the seep.

Q4: Are you seeing any pattern in the rate of flow from the row of extraction wells that would show any proximity nearest the source?

A4: No. It's the composition of the seep, which is a mix of product, that has led us to focus primarily on the process effluent/sewer system which is where similar material can be found. Two specialized engineering consulting firms are assisting us in the management of our seep response. In addition, internal resources from Chevron's Environmental Management Company (EMC) and Energy Technology Company (ETC) are supporting our efforts. They bring extensive experience and expertise in addressing these types of situations including a strong understanding of ground-water flow and hydrogeology.

The majority of the oil is floating on the water table underground. The amount of material being extracted and the relative distribution we are seeing from the extraction well system, to the railroad trench to the beach, is not unexpected for a site such as this.

Q5: Why are the amounts being extracted so high?

A5: Assuming we are dealing with historical contamination, it has had 55 years to accumulate. The proactive measures we are using to actively pump through the extraction wells are accelerating the amount being extracted.

- **General Refinery Operations:** Jim Gable preceded his update remarks to reiterate that the seep is unacceptable and will remain the priority for him and Chevron. He reminded CAP that the refinery's most important priorities are to: (1) capture and mitigate off-site effects of the hydrocarbons (2) stop ongoing migration (3) identify the source of the seep.

Jim Gable also reported that:

- Consistent, reliable operations remains Chevron's key objective and that the refinery has run steadily throughout the past two months since our last meeting.
- Regrettably, the refinery did experience its first recordable injury of 2011 on January 10th when an operator received some minor burns to his face during a routine sampling procedure. An investigation is underway to understand the specific circumstances and to prevent a recurrence.
- Work on TANK 1002 in Area 2 is ongoing and on schedule. The work is estimated to be completed by late March.
- The planned maintenance turnaround on the Alkylation unit in Area 2 is scheduled to begin in late February and is anticipated to take approximately 22 days.

4. Metro Vancouver Update

- Darrell Wakelin reported that the data collection portion of the Burrard Inlet Area Local Air Quality Study (BIALAQS) is complete and the report should be available online in the first half of 2011. The annual summary of total Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC's) was circulated. See Addendum 3. Also referenced for the newer members of CAP were other key Web links that provide an overview of regulations and enforcement and air quality information.
- Burrard Inlet Area Local Air Quality Study (BIALAQS)
<http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/air/monitoring/Pages/specialstudies.aspx>
- Regulation & Enforcement Program
<http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/permits/Pages/default.aspx>
- Air Quality Regulatory Program
<http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/permits/Pages/airquality.aspx>
- Air Quality Complaints & Inquiry Line
<http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/air/Pages/default.aspx>

- Kathy Curran queried whether there had been other reports of what appeared to be a plume on December 28th over the Refinery. There had not been any known reports; however, Chevron said it would investigate and follow-up. (***Subsequent to the meeting, Chevron examined its operating data and weather conditions from December 28th and determined that what was likely seen was a water vapour cloud/plume emanating from the cooling tower system in Area 2).*

5. Odour Management Plan

- Jill Donnelly reported that the first annual review of the Odour Management Plan is upcoming and asked if there were any CAP members interested in participating in that review process. Eileen Luongo and Kathy Curran volunteered and will be contacted by Jill Donnelly to make the necessary arrangements.
- Discussion ensued on the merits of CAP members calling in odour complaints directly to Chevron's Community Contact hotline even if it's not known if it's related to the Refinery. Chevron emphasized the importance of calling regarding odours as soon as possible so they can be investigated and, if attributable to the Refinery, have prompt action taken to address the situation. CAP was also reminded that the Odour Management Plan Summary is on the CAP Web site and that Metro Vancouver's on duty officer may also be contacted for odour complaints at 604-436-6777.

NEW BUSINESS

6. Regulatory Involvement

- Jill Donnelly provided an overview of the current regulatory oversight of the refinery:
 - Chevron is regulated in the areas of air, land and water
 - Metro Vancouver is responsible for two permits: air quality and Effluent Discharge (sewer). Metro Vancouver is delegated its responsibility by the Environmental Management Act. An overview of MV's regulatory program is available on their Web site at <http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/permits/Pages/default.aspx>
 - The Ministry of Environment is the provincial regulatory body for water. The Ministry oversees Areas 1 and 2 including discharges of storm water into Burrard Inlet.
 - The Ministry of Environment is also involved with the land. Chevron has an operational plan filed with the Ministry of the Environment for hazardous waste materials that are treated and stored on-site until transferred to an approved off-site facility for disposal.

- The lead regulator for the seep is the Ministry of Environment. The Department of Fisheries & Oceans, Environment Canada, Port Metro Vancouver and the City of Burnaby are also involved.

7. Volunteer Drug Testing for Contractors

- Rob Maclean shared background information on a voluntary drug testing program that is available for contractors. Jim Gable reported that Chevron can have anywhere from 200 – 300 contractors on site on any given day and that they are expected to abide by the stringent drug and alcohol policy in effect at the Refinery. Rob passed the information along to Chevron for their further consideration.

8. CAP Priorities

- CAP members reviewed the 2011 priorities identified at the November 2010 Neighbourhood CAP meeting and agreed that the top 3 topics, in order of priority for subsequent meetings in 2011 would be:
 1. Emergency Notification
 2. Refinery Flaring
 3. On site contamination and remediation

2011 MEETINGS

The meeting schedule for the year was reviewed and tentatively confirmed as:

- May 5 (*this date was subsequently changed to April 6 in response to suggestions from CAP members after this meeting that the Spring 2011 meeting should be held sooner than May 5*)
- June 16
- September 15
- November 24 (2nd Annual Neighbourhood CAP meeting)