

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

MEETING MINUTES**Fairmont Community Liaison Panel****June 7, 2001**

Attendees: Nick Fantasia, Karen Gribben, Kevin McClung, Bruce McDaniel, Barbara Metcalfe, John Parks, Robert Sapp, Chief Rick Starn, Ron Swope, Tom Vincent, Richard Wood, Marcella Yaremchuk.

ExxonMobil
Representatives: Art Chin, John Hannig.

Agency
Representatives: Rich Kuhn, Hilary Thornton, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); Tom Bass, West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP).

Contractor: Frank Markert, IT Corporation.

Guests: Jim Kotcon, Donna S. Hartley, David Jones, Richard Rodriquez, Cathy Rodriquez, Danny L. Bainbridge, Michael Fleming, Ginny Fleming, Carl Robinson, Tina McGlone, Lisa Clelland, R. Rodriquez, Rose Chromchik, Shirley Lopez, Voni Biggie, Dianne Wilson, Jim Martin, Jim Succurro, Griff Fowler; Ray Henderson, Marion County Solid Waste Authority; Gary Okey, Pete Kipin, Kipin Industries; Duane Utecht, ExxonMobil; William Taylor, WVDEP Department of Air Quality; Jason DeFrance, J & S Properties, LLC; Doug Taylor, Environmental Strategies Corporation; Andrew Sutton, Fairmont Times West Virginian; Pam Nixon, WVDEP; John Morgan, Steel Fabricators, Inc.

Facilitator: Roberta Fowlkes, Ann Green Communications, Inc.

Minutes: Misti Flynn, Ann Green Communications, Inc.

The regular meeting of the Fairmont Community Liaison Panel (FCLP) was called to order by facilitator Roberta Fowlkes at 5:35 p.m. Guests were welcomed. The purpose of the panel was reviewed which is to provide a forum for open discussion about the cleanup activities

at the Fairmont Coke Works site. Roberta also announced that Dan Londeree, support staff for the panel, left Ann Green Communications to accept another position.

Unfinished Business

Project Update

Field Activities

- Minor fence repairs have been completed.
- Removal actions in the Waste Management Area (WMA) should start by the end of the summer.
- A Characterization Study has been conducted on a sub-tributary between the Fairmont Coke Works Site and the Big John's Salvage property, where samples were collected and analyzed. The purpose of the sampling was to identify the nature and origin of contamination in that area. Results may be available by next month.

Reports

- The Response Action Plan is being prepared addressing removal actions to be conducted in the Waste Management Area. It will consist of three parts:
 1. The detailed design drawings, describing the removal action at the site.
 2. The Health and Safety Plan (HASp), to make sure the work is done safely.
 3. The Quality Assurance / Quality Control Plan.

The Response Action Plan must be reviewed and approved by USEPA and WVDEP prior to its implementation.

- The Process Area EE/CA Report will be prepared after the WMA removal action is initiated.

Redevelopment

- North American Realty Advisory Services (NARAS) in New York City has been selected to work on the project. Representatives of NARAS were shown the site and met some local individuals with whom they will be working.

- In response to a question regarding Brownfields, Tom Bass stated that while Brownfields development technology is being used, the Fairmont Coke Works site does not qualify for such designation and will continue to be a Superfund site until it is delisted. Rich Kuhn explained that the Brownfields program tries to get rid of the stigma attached to the property to encourage developer interest.

Environmental Issues

- Tom Bass added if in the future something were found after ExxonMobil has sold the property, the company would still be liable. Tom said if material is transported offsite for disposal ExxonMobil may still be liable. He said if material is transferred offsite as a product, ExxonMobil would not be liable.
- A question was asked whether the site had been used for the disposal of transport oil and materials other than what were used for the coking process. Tom said there have been reports to that effect for other sites, but not at the Fairmont Coke Works Site. Tom said there have been no PCBs found in any of the samples taken from the Fairmont Coke Works Site.
- A clarification was requested regarding ExxonMobil's liability if the product was removed from the site. Art said subcontractors and contractors that work for ExxonMobil do not take on liability while working on the site.
- Tom said benzene and toluene have been identified, but these are typically found in coal. He said a lot of compounds have been removed from this material over time.
- It was asked if the product is burned and residents were to break out in a rash, who would have liability. Tom said the Office of Air Quality at (304) 926-3647 could respond to questions about air emissions.

Kipin Process

- Hilary recapped the cleanup regarding the north and south landfills. He said the goal is to dig into the landfills and segregate the materials in a carefully controlled and closely supervised process. He said one of the groups of materials that will be separated out will be coal waste. He said EPA is considering sending this material offsite to the Grant Town facility to be burned as fuel and create energy. Samples

of the material that would go to the Grant Town facility were shown to the panel. Hilary confirmed that any hazardous waste that was found in the north and south landfills would not go to Grant Town because they are not permitted to burn hazardous waste.

- Tom explained that the Kipin process will segregate coal waste, solid waste, and soil. Solid waste will go to a municipal landfill, clean soil will go back on site, and hazardous waste, if found, will go to a hazardous waste facility. Tom also stated deposits of coal 12 to 18 inches deep in the coal storage area would be utilized by Kipin as a additive to enhance the BTU content of the material sent to the Grant Town Power Plant.
- Tom indicated that the WVDEP Office of Air Quality has evaluated the suitability of burning material generated by the Kipin process and has issued a Permit Determination to the Grant Town Power Plant stating that the project meets the air quality requirements.
- Tom said the Grant Town Power Station is not the first location where this technology has been used. For example, he said recycled fuel material has been used at a Jack Daniels distillery as a fuel source to distill liquor. Also, it has been utilized in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, at an electric generating plant.
- Hilary said there have been other Superfund sites where Kipin Industries has processed coal tar, coal tar soils and coal waste. He said in Pennsylvania at the Sager Town GATX site the Kipin process was done successfully, and the material was burned at a nearby power plant. Hilary said it was tested and it proceeded without incident.
- Karen Gribben asked how the material from the landfill differs from that currently being burned at the Grant Town Power Station. Hilary said the material from the landfill has lower sulfur content. Tom added the coal currently being burned at the Grant Town Power Station has a lot of rock and the material from the Fairmont site will not.
- Karen asked about current air monitoring at Grant Town. Tom said he does not know, but this information is available by calling the WVDEP Office of Air Quality in Charleston at (304) 926-3647.
- Karen asked if this product could be burned at any other power station, such as Fort Martin or Morgantown. Tom Bass said if it meets the permit restrictions it

could. Hilary added it is more economical to transport the product to the Grant Town Power Station because it is close to the Fairmont Coke Works Site.

- Bob Sapp said there is a minimum BTU content that has to be maintained before the material from the Fairmont Coke Works site can be burned at any power station. He said there may be some need to inject the material with something to get the BTU content higher. Bob asked if would be permissible to add other materials from any other site. Tom said carbon could be brought in, but he was not sure about tires and whether that would fall within the Grant Town permit. Art said tires have a high BTU content, but Grant Town has specified that any material sent to them from the Fairmont site must not exceed 3/8 inch. He said even if tires were used, they would have to be shred to 3/8 inch. Since tires are not easily shredded, it would not be economically feasible to use them as a BTU supplement in our process. Also, he said tires do not have the physical properties desired for the material to be sent to the Grant Town Power Plant
- Bruce McDaniel asked after the material is burned and electricity is produced, where is the residual disposed? Tom said he could not address this question but emphasized that the material that would be transported to the Grant Town Power Station is not hazardous. Tom said there will be a residual ash content. Tom said he believes some of the residual is utilized because of the pH buffer and some goes to an industrial landfill.
- A comment was made that the fly ash at Grant Town is piling up because no one is interested in the product. Nothing will grow in it and it hardens like concrete. It was asked if hardened fly ash could be brought to the landfill to make a concrete barrier for building. Tom said there have been discussions regarding this. He said there are restrictions from the WVDEP Environmental Enforcement Program which allow some of it to be utilized; however, currently the material is being placed in a landfill and it is being regulated. Taking it to the site would lead to more material being monitored.
- A questioner asked if the Kipin process can extract arsenic, PCBs and heavy metals. Art said metals are naturally occurring in coal and they will not be removed. He said the site has been investigated and PCBs have never been found. He said the site was not used as a disposal area. He said the Fairmont Coke Works Site is sometimes confused with the Big John's Salvage Site. He reminded everyone that they are two separate sites.

Miscellaneous

- In response to a question John said he does not believe the Big John's site and the Fairmont Coke Works site were ever all one property previously owned by Domestic Coke, as suggested. He committed, though, to look into it further.

Update on Possibility of Recycling Material Onsite

- A copy of questions and answers regarding recycling was distributed. (A copy is attached for those not present).
- Art said the decision to move material from the Fairmont Coke Works site to the Grant Town Power Station has not yet been made. He said there has not been any material excavated, and an audit is being done of the Grant Town Power Station. The audit consisted of two ExxonMobil representatives reviewing the State of West Virginia's files on the Grant Town Power Station regarding any notices or violations of its permits. Art said ExxonMobil is committed to making sure that this facility handles the job in a safe and environmentally friendly manner.
- Art said two samples at each of 18 separate locations in the landfills have been checked to see if they were hazardous by an EPA methodology called Toxic Characteristic Leaching Procedure. He said all but one location was indicated to be non-hazardous. He said this means that 95 percent of the material is non-hazardous. He said if hazardous materials were found, they would be rendered non-hazardous after the Kipin process. In addition, it would be checked before leaving the site to ensure it is non-hazardous before transport to the Grant Town Power Station.
- In response to a question about leaving the materials in a landfill and capping it, Art said there was no benefit in this approach and restrictions would be placed on the property regarding future construction. Also, he said if removed, the coal waste could be used as a fuel source. Nick said the Kipin process allows ExxonMobil to eliminate the material in an environmentally correct fashion while creating some value.
- In response to a question, Tom said there is some benzene in some of the material in certain locations at the site. He said it will be treated at the site. He said confirmation samples will be collected and analyzed to ensure hazardous materials have been removed.

In response to a question, Art said that after completion of the audit of the Grant Town facility and provided that the facility passes the audit, the next step would be to prepare a work plan for the recycling of the material in the landfills using the Kipin process, which would then be reviewed and approved by EPA and WVDEP.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Thursday, August 2, and will include a project update, update on possibility of recycling material, a communication update and possibly a presentation by the North American Realty Advisory Services (NARAS).

Other Business

Ron Swope advised the panel this would be his last meeting. He said he will be retiring to Florida. He wished the panel well in completing this process. Ron said he is not sure if the University will be providing a replacement for him. Roberta wished Ron well and thanked him for his participation on the panel and commitment to the process.

Several members of the panel expressed their confidence in ExxonMobil, EPA and WVDEP to perform the work in an appropriate and safe fashion.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Next Meeting: **Thursday, August 2, 2001**
 Circle W Building
 5:00 p.m. – Refreshments
 5:30 p.m. – Meeting