

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Fairmont Community Liaison Panel**  
**June 1, 2000**

Attendees: Karen Gribben, Bea Hunter, Bruce McDaniel, Kevin McClung, John Parks, Robert Sapp, Rick Starn, Kimberly Watkins.

ExxonMobil  
Representatives: Art Chin, Tom Milton.

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

Contractor: Frank Markert, IT Corporation.

Guests: Jocelyn Adkins; ExxonMobil; Al Anderson, Ryan Environmental; Dave Chapman, ExxonMobil contractor; Griff Fowler; Wayne Stutler; Doug Taylor; George Werkman, IT Corporation.

Facilitator: Roberta Fowlkes, Ann Green Communications, Inc.

Minutes: Dan T. Londeree, Ann Green Communications, Inc.

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The regular meeting of the Fairmont Community Liaison Panel (FCLP) was called to order by facilitator Roberta Fowlkes at 5:30 p.m.

Roberta reported Hilary Thornton of the EPA has officially taken over as project manager for the Fairmont Coke Works Site. She said he replaced Melissa Pennington, who now works in California.

Guests introduced themselves. Roberta reviewed the agenda, and there were no additions. The minutes of the April meeting were approved as distributed.

Hilary said he was reminded before the meeting that the Fairmont project received an award from the federal government entitled the "Hammer Award." He said this award is connected with the reinventing government initiative, and is given on the basis of quality work while reducing government expenditures. Hilary thanked the panel for being a part of the project, and for helping to make it an award-winning project. Art Chin said the award is presented by Vice President Al Gore.

After a brief discussion, it was decided a press release regarding the award should be sent to local news media. [This will be referred to Rich Kuhn and John Hannig.]

### **Unfinished Business**

#### Status of the Waste Management Area Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) Report

Hilary presented the Waste Management EE/CA report. He said the public comment period ended May 5, and he and Melissa drafted the action memorandum. He said this document records the official selection of an alternative for cleanup. He said the document is now working through EPA management, and as soon as it is signed, it will be sent to ExxonMobil. The company will be asked to develop the next step, known as a response action plan. He said this plan includes a design of the cleanup action.

Hilary announced the EPA has selected Alternative Three, which includes consolidation of the waste onsite and removing the recyclable material from the waste and transporting it to be recycled. He said the remaining waste from the North Landfill and the Sludge Impoundment Area will be added to the South Landfill. He said this also includes putting a cap on the consolidated waste.

Hilary said it will take several months to finalize the design of the landfill cap, work out remaining details regarding the separation of waste and recyclable material, and test the soil. He said some of the delays the project has encountered may cause work on this part of the project to be delayed as well. He said it will take approximately eight months to consolidate the waste and construct the landfill cap. He said some of this work cannot be done in cold weather, and this may cause the work to be delayed until next year.

A discussion followed regarding the timeframe of future work in the Waste Management Area. Art said even if work in the Waste Management Area is delayed,

work can be done in the process area. He said he does not believe the recent delays have delayed the overall project.

### Project Update

Art presented a project update. He said the role of the FCLP is still a very important one because there is still much work to be done onsite. He thanked the panel members for being a valuable part of the process.

Art said there are field activities at the oxidation pond. He said the water is very acidic and will be neutralized and then pumped through the unnamed tributary. He said surface water will be sent there until the surface water management of the entire site is finalized. He said once this is complete, the oxidation pond area will be redesigned so that no water will be present there. Art said the area will be converted into an engineered drainage ditch lined with limestone. He said there should be no free-standing water in the area, even when surface water is still being sent there.

Art said fence repairs are still in progress. He said the two parcels of land recently purchased by ExxonMobil will be included in the fenced area once the repairs are complete.

Art said the Process Area EE/CA work plan and report will be given to the panel for review as the project progresses. He encouraged panel members to continue to be involved and come to the meetings over the summer to give valuable input.

Art introduced Tom Milton of ExxonMobil. He said Tom is the head of the Superfund group of ExxonMobil Environmental Remediation worldwide. Tom said he replaced Don Esch, who was committed to redeveloping the site in such a way as to bring jobs into the community. He said although Don is no longer involved with the project, the commitment remains the same. He said ExxonMobil would like to begin working more on the redevelopment phase of the project.

A discussion followed regarding redevelopment of the site. The panel agreed the best use of the property is to return it to industrial use to bring jobs into the community. Tom asked for suggestions of how to proceed with this part of the project. Robert Sapp said he believes the site should not be filled with several smaller industrial facilities. He said he would rather see a large company build a large manufacturing facility on the site. Other panel members agreed with Robert. Tom said ExxonMobil will begin work on a recommendation of how to proceed to market the site to large corporations. He said there will be more details regarding redevelopment presented to the panel at the next FCLP meeting.

Art said the health and safety plan regarding future work will be presented at a meeting before the work begins.

#### Communication Update

Roberta said she has not received any calls on the information line. Karen Gribben said Tom Bass and Nick Fantasia gave a presentation to the State League of Women Voters. Panel members said they have heard nothing new in the community.

#### **New Business**

##### Panel Membership

Roberta said three members have resigned from the panel for different reasons. She said she talked with John Hannig about membership and he asked for the panel to offer input regarding new member recruitment. The panel agreed the three that have resigned should be replaced. Roberta asked panel members to give her suggestions for new members. Robert said he remembered a list of possible panel members and asked that those people be considered. Bruce McDaniel suggested Charlie Reese with the Marion County Chamber of Commerce. Karen Gribben suggested Rich Wood with McCabe Henley. She said he is concerned about a conflict of interest, although he does not work in the section of the company that deals with the site. Robert suggested Beverly or Keith Craig, immediate neighbors of the site. He said at one time they expressed interest, but he is not sure if they are still interested. Bea Hunter suggested Thelma Ford with the Office of Industrial Development.

#### **Next Meeting**

After discussion, the panel decided the next meeting will be August 3. The agenda will include an illustrated update of the oxidation impoundment work, redevelopment update, cleanup action design update, panel membership and a discussion of future topics.

There was no further business, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

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**Next Meeting:**            **August 3, 2000**  
                                 **Circle W Building**  
                                 **5 p.m. – Refreshments**  
                                 **5:30 p.m. – Meeting**