



**town of
tonawanda**
Office of the Town Engineer

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**Tonawanda Community Working Group (TCWG)
Tonawanda Coke Remediation and Redevelopment**

MINUTES

- I. **WELCOME** – James Hartz - Meeting December 15th at 10:00 a.m.
(Via Zoom Conference Call)

ATTENDEES

MEMBERS

Paul Nyznyk
Emily Terrana
Bridge Rauch
David Stinner
Jay Farquharson
Carl Szarek
Matt Sutton
Matt Chimera
Chris Murwaski
James Hartz
Jen Pusatier
Jill Jedlicka
Ken Swanekamp

TECHNICAL SUPPORT PERSONNEL

John Black
TJ Pignataro
Tom Morahan
John Hood
Earl Wells
Brian Gould
Ben McPherson
Rich Galloway
Chad Staniszewski
Paul Morrow
Angela Martin
Victoria Streitfeld
Gene Melnyk
Andrea Caprio
Serena Labrecque
Bonnie Lawrence
Bonnie Leto
Michelle Rickan

- II. Motion to accept Minutes from Oct. 27th –
Motion to accept - David Stinner
Second to approve – Jen Pusatier
All in favor – approved.

III. **Owner/Developer Updates - John Black – Update**

1. Asbestos - Tank decommissioning for those with asbestos need to be cut up by a special asbestos contractor and disposed of as asbestos.
2. Coal yard tunnel – successful in dewatering, compromised but will make a decision if it could be used.
3. Stormwater management – met all criteria and continue to sample. Ponds have been under control as well.
4. Building a new Treatment plant
5. Demolition progress – Coal handling building is down, working on Boiler house, and coke oven gas piping.
6. Disposal – more than 550 tons were shipped in November & December. Over 18 million pound of material either disposed or recycled.
7. Storage tanks- every tank decontaminated & cleaned.
8. Water treatment tanks-three phases, water, sludge and oil phase. Data is submitted to pretreatment coordinator for approval for discharge of water. For oil and sludge phase the material get shipped off as waste.
9. 40 of 54 tanks have been closed-either recycled or disposed.
10. Remedial investigation- labs are baked up, data is reviewed and being completed. Preparation of report is underway.

Question: Jay Farqueson – how many pounds or tons of hazardous waste have been shipped off since process began.

Response: John Black – Don't have exact number but significant amounts, will get number for group.

IV. DEC – Ben McPherson

1. Work plan update table of completion and ongoing progress.
2. Ground water treatment System work plans are being reviewed.

Question: Jill Jedlicka – when SPDES permit is submitted will there be a public comment and review period since discharge is direct into Niagara River. Or would the information be shared through this committee or through FOIL.

Response: Ben- It is discharged in to ditch on site but then eventually into River, but not direct. Since it's in a remedial program the public participation may be rolled into that process and not specific to this discharge. We are going through the process with the division of water. Once numbers are available they will be shared and can be FOILED.

Response: John Black- Want to make it clear that the plant will be built and operate for several months before so alot of data will be available and a full scale demonstration of the process.

3. Superfund Site – Investigation Status and Updates

Question: Jill Jedlicka –Are remedial Investigation Reports from Oct. Jan. & Feb available to committee or through FOIL.

Response: Ben- DEC does not have RI reports, Site Characterization reports would be foilable. Reports from Jan & Feb will be shared once sure they are complete.

Question: Jay Farqueson- is there any evidence on or off site of hazardous waste Migration above ground or subsurface?

Response: All data is not available. From limited data and through IRM's not aware of any hazardous waste. There are areas of concern near property boundary from field observations.

Question: Jay Farqueson – Is it still the case that the soil composition has kept the waste at a very shallow depth so naturally contained?

Response: Ben and John Black- Yes that is what we found after testing clay.

Question: Paul Morrow - Earlier meeting noted there was no naphtha and now you are saying it was found. And want to know where it came from. It's a concern. Is it D naphtha or L naphtha.

Response: John Black – We had not found any naphtha at that point. Naptha has been detected at our 2 worst wells, 5 and 10 well. We have L in 5, and both detected in 10. Have not detected any chlorinated.

Response: Ben- there are also a number of test pits that coal tar and naptha have been observed.

Question: Jim Jones – What is the life expectancy of proposed groundwater treatment system.

Response: Ben – plan is 3 – 5 years. Not intended past remedial action.

Question: Jim Jones – has a 3D model been done of the ground surface and how far beyond site boundary. Is it available?

Response: John Black – Conceptual site model is available. Also a topographic survey.

Question: Jay Farqueson- Have you run into other instances of coke oven gas deposits in that red pipe you are taking apart?

Response: Surprising not at this site.

Question: Jen Pusatier- Can we put in a fire report on behalf of this group for these site characterization reports?

Response: Ben- All reports work plans that have been approved are uploaded to the DEC info locator and can be viewed there.

John Black – They are on the Riverview Tech Campus Website and also paper copies at the Central and local Kenmore Branch Library.

v. Next Meeting date Wednesday Jan. 26th at 10am via Zoom