

# DOW COMMUNITY ADVISORY PANEL

MONDAY, JANUARY 15, 2007

## MINUTES

The Dow Community Advisory Panel met on Monday, January 15, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. at the Dow Conference Center. The following persons attended the meeting:

### CAP Members

Ms. Carolyn Brown  
Ms. Scarlet Callicote  
Mr. Bill Cooper  
Ms. Shelley Delapasse  
Mr. Earnest Grant  
Mr. Mickey Rivet  
Mr. Raymond Smith  
Mr. Jeff Wille

### Dow Personnel

Mr. Lee Trusty  
Mr. Dennis Davis  
Ms. Donna Carville  
Ms. Fran Comeaux

### Facilitation Team

Tim Johnson, Facilitator  
Nancy Campanella, Recorder

Panel members, Ms. Emma Davis, Mr. Huey Gray, Ms. Juanita Hill, Mr. Gerald Trent, and Mr. Gerald Wilson, were unable to attend the meeting. After the facilitator welcomed everyone and introductions were made, the panel approved the November 20, 2006 CAP meeting minutes as written.

### **Review of Dow CAP Mission Statement and Guidelines**

The panel then reviewed the Dow CAP Mission Statement and Guidelines. The facilitator reminded panel members that while the group should be comfortable with each other, they should be willing to disagree and speak candidly with Dow personnel. The success of the meetings is dependant upon the CAP members' attendance at the meetings, and he encouraged panel members to attend regularly. Panel members should not be spokespersons for the panel without obtaining clearance to do so by Dow.

### **2006 Recap and Attendance Report**

The facilitator then provided panel members with copies of the "2006 Recap and Attendance Report by Meeting", stating that the CAP's attendance goal is 70%. The CAP's 2006 attendance rate was 62.8%.

### **"Welcome to Dow" Overview**

Mr. Trusty provided an overview of Dow, stating that Herbert H. Dow founded the company in 1897 in Midland, Michigan. The company is a science and technology leader with annual sales of \$40 billion. It operates 165 manufacturing sites in 37 countries, 49 of which are in the U.S. 40% of Dow's US operations are located along the Gulf Coast. Dow employs approximately 43,000 people globally and serves customers in

175 countries. Dow's mission is to constantly improve what is essential to human progress by mastering science and technology. Its vision is to be the largest, most profitable, most respected chemical company in the world. Like all great companies, Dow's growth and the success it yields are measured not only by its products and services, but also by the distinctive contribution the company makes to society. In Dow's case, this contribution comes to life in the vital consumer markets the company serves. Dow's products address consumer needs in 10 essential markets, as follows:

1. Food (Methocel® – a food additive)
2. Building maintenance and construction (vinyl chloride – to make PVC)
3. Transportation (rubber – to make hoses)
4. Furniture and furnishings (propylene oxide – to make furniture)
5. Paper and publishing
6. Home care and improvement
7. Personal and household care (active ingredient in oven cleaner)
8. Health and medicine (inert ingredients in medicine)
9. Water purification (devices used to purify water (especially in Africa, Asia, China))
10. Electronics and entertainment (materials used in circuit boards).

Dow's values are part of its corporate DNA. They guide the company's actions by defining the way it addresses economic, social, and environmental responsibilities to business and society. Dow's promise of integrity is its most vital product – Dow's word is its bond. Dow celebrates and rewards the unique backgrounds, viewpoints, skills, and talents of every Dow employee. Because of the work that Dow does, and the breadth and depth of the company, the people of Dow have a unique opportunity to apply science to improve the human condition. Dow's new advertising campaign, the "Human Element", is an important part of its broader reputation program, and serves to remind all Dow employees to stay focused on the far-reaching impact of its work and products. Dow has the most CAPs in the world (currently 36 or 37).

There are 5 Dow sites in Louisiana: 1) Amerchol in Greensburg, where UCARAE\* polymers for personal care are produced; 2) ANGUS in Sterlington, where nitrosamines for racing fuel and consumer products are produced; 3) Louisiana Operations in Plaquemine, where chlorine-based and ethylene-based products are produced; 4) Louisiana Operations at Grand Bayou, where salt mining and salt dome storage is done; and 5) St. Charles Operations at Hahnville and Norco, where amine-based and ethylene-based products are produced. Annually in Louisiana, Dow pays \$60 million in state and local taxes, \$340 million in payroll (employee and contractor), \$1.8 million in community contributions, and almost \$400 million in purchasing.

Groundbreaking for Dow's Louisiana Operations (LAO) began in September 1956. It is currently Dow's 3<sup>rd</sup> largest site, and with the 2 new additions (AEP and Capstone) will now advance to Dow's 2<sup>nd</sup> largest site. The Dexco plant is a joint venture between Dow and Exxon. LAO produces 15.9 billion pounds of product annually. The site is a non-union salaried facility that is located on a 1600-acre tract of land (of which 1500 acres are occupied). LAO is the largest petrochemical facility in Louisiana, and the largest

employer and taxpayer in Iberville and West Baton Rouge parishes. LAO is a large industrial park with 23 production plants for Dow, joint venture, other companies, and suppliers. It also houses power, water and waste treatment mechanisms, and incinerators. Over 50 different products are made at LAO, including chlorine, antifreeze, plastics, synthetic rubbers, surfactants for cosmetics, soaps and pharmaceuticals, and cleaning solvents. A new specialty alkanolamines facility is under construction, and an expansion of the Methocel® plant is taking place.

Dow LAO has been an OSHA VPP Super Star site for 16 years, and participates in Responsible Care audits. The site has reduced toxic air emissions by 70% since 1988, has a nationally recognized community awareness and emergency response system, and is the recipient of various environmental and community awards.

Dow LAO contributes to the United Way (\$555,000--Dow and employee contributions), Habitat for Humanity (built 4 homes last spring), education endowment funds focusing on science and math (\$20,000), food, toy & blood drives, and community grants (\$80,000). Community grants are awarded annually to nonprofit groups in West Baton Rouge, Iberville, and Assumption Parishes in July and August. Schools and math and science teachers can apply for the education endowment funds. Dow also supports the Back-to-School program, Comeback Kids, Hands-On Science curriculum, and workforce development. It also does Door-to-Door visits within a 2-mile radius of the site every year. More than 25,000 Louisiana employees volunteer time each year to educational, charitable, and environmental organizations.

Answers to Questions and Comments Included the Following:

1. Door-to-Door visits are not currently made to Addis residents, as Addis exceeds the 2-mile plant radius.
2. There are 3 major producers of styrene in Louisiana – ChevronPhillips, Total, and Dow.
3. Hydrocarbons are stored in the wells at Grand Bayou.
4. Flares are safety and startup devices. Flaring is a necessary safety feature.
5. Dow donated a \$1 million matching grant to the Westside YMCA.
6. Dow has 2 docks – Dock 1 is used for chemicals, and Dock 2 is used for flammables.
7. The power plant at Dow generates enough power to power the city of Denver.
8. The Door-to-Door project is used as an educational tool for Dow's neighbors. It has been in existence for at least 10 years.
9. There are between 1,200-1,400 residents in the 2-mile radius around Dow.
10. The impact of Dow's worst-case scenario decreases tremendously past the 2-mile radius.
11. WAFB-TV and WBRZ-TV are both provided information when flaring at Dow is expected.

The panel members made the following suggestions regarding the Door-to-Door projects:

1. Change the Door-to-Door area from year to year.

2. Continue visiting the neighbors within the 2-mile radius, then extend the area, dividing it into quads, and provide the information to the residents in a different quadrant each year.
3. Another panel member suggested that Dow incorporate something catchy with the project (e.g., include a gift, etc.)

A detailed discussion of the Door-to-Door project will be added as a future CAP agenda item. A review of Dow's worst-case scenario and planning will be discussed at the February or March CAP meeting.

### **Responsible Care Performance Measurements**

Mr. Davis provided Responsible Care Performance Measurement information for November 20, 2006-January 15, 2007, stating that there were 19 site OSHA recordable injuries at the site in 2006. One of Dow's 2015 goals is to reduce the number of recordable injuries to three or fewer. During the reporting period, a contractor required stitches to his chin when he hit a piece of angle iron while erecting scaffolding. Because he was using the proper restraint, he prevented what could have been a much more serious injury. Mr. Davis explained that there are three levels of injuries that OSHA requires to be recorded on the injury logs, each level dependent upon the severity of the injuries. OSHA logs are posted across the Dow site.

During the reporting period, there were five outside complaints (flaring), and one audit by DEQ/EPA (a fugitive emissions inspection from December 4-7, 2006). There were 28 agency reportables during 2006, and one during the reporting period. Dow has one of the best safety records in the business world.

Two audits with the Responsible Care Management System audit team are currently going on at the site. An update on the audit will be provided at the next CAP meeting.

### **Answers to Questions and Comments Included the Following:**

1. Contractors must obtain a safety and security check passport from the Safety Council and then become indoctrinated regarding Dow's safety rules in order work at the site.
2. The Dow Community Hot Line number is 353-2369. This number can be used to make complaints or express concerns to Dow.
3. A panel member stated that flaring is not necessarily a nuisance to the community, but a fear.
4. Dow is trying to incorporate flaring information in the Science is pHun program. School children can then take that information home with them.

### **Dow in the News and Upcoming Events and Activities**

Between November 20, 2006 and January 15, 2007, several articles were published in the *West Side Journal*, the *Advocate*, the *Post/South*, and *BIC Magazine*, including Mr. Trusty's 2007 outlook for Dow, Good Neighbor News, celebration of 50 years at the site, donations during the Dow/MCA food drive, and Door-to-Door visits.

Science Fair judging and Junior Achievement classroom teaching will be held during January and February, the employee blood drive is set for February 6-8, the employee volunteer breakfast is set for February 13, and education enhancement grants will be mailed on February 10. Science is pHun demonstrations are ongoing. Teachers may contact Sally Troxclair at 353-6623 to request Science is pHun demonstrations at their schools.

**“Did you know”** that the ANGUS chemical plant in Sterlington, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Dow Chemical Company, is the only facility in the world that produces drag racing fuel?

### **Around the Table**

In response to a panel member’s question, Mr. Trusty stated that the planned benzene pipeline will service Dow and TOTAL. The pipeline is owned by Pipeline Technologies. The company is having issues with 1 landowner.

### **Next Meeting**

The next Dow CAP meeting will be held on Monday, February 26, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. The agenda will include a presentation with respect to the question on why Door-to-Door addresses a two mile radius, an update on the benzene pipeline by Pipeline Technologies, and a report on the Responsible Care System audit.