



Solutia Inc.
J.F. Queeny Plant
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SOLUTIA Inc.
J.F. Queeny Site
Community Advisory Panel
Meeting Minutes
December 17, 1998

Solutia's J.F. Queeny site's Community Advisory Panel met at the plant on December 17, 1998.

Attending from the community were:

Tom Daly
Dutch Henenberg
Mike Miller
Dorothy Pottinger
Monique Ward

Attending from Solutia were:

Bob Auer
Bob Cheever
Jim Hart
Liz Jennison
Janet Noble
Brad Young
Jim Zeuner

Facilitating:

Nancy Pollock, Alliance Communication

Guests began arriving at 5:30 p.m. and the meeting formally began at 5:45 p.m. After introductions and a special holiday dinner, Bob Cheever previewed the agenda.

Janet Noble, industrial hygienist at the plant and Liz Jennison, a physician specializing in occupational medicine and Solutia's associate medical director, made a joint presentation on employee health and medical surveillance.

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Jennison reviewed the results of a corporate mortality survey that tracked the causes of death of former Queeny employees who died between 1980 and 1994. The study found death rates below expected levels, but very slightly higher than expected cancer rates. She attributed the results partly to "healthy worker effect," the fact that people in the workforce are generally healthier than those who are not working, and to the long time it takes for cancers to show up after exposure.

Mike Miller, who said he lived in the neighborhood as a very young child, wondered about the impact on the population and guessed it would be less than potential employee impact.

Jennison said the types of employee cancers – lung, colon, prostate and breast – mirror what's seen in the general population and are not related to the length of service at Queeny. She said in the 1950's Queeny was one of two plants that made a product called PAB that later became associated with bladder cancer. Production at the site was eliminated in 1955.

Employee medical surveillance includes annual physical exams and, depending on a worker's specific job, might include hearing, pulmonary function, EKG, blood tests and chest x-rays.

Monique Ward asked what's made at the plant. Janet Noble answered that the site's products include a component of NutraSweet®, repackaging and blending of plasticizer additives; and solidifying and shaping into pellets maleic anhydride, which goes into plastics, paints, rubber additives and other items.

Noble said risk assessment is defined by looking at the level of a hazard and the exposure. She said reasons to monitor are to determine the health effects of exposure, to fulfill regulatory requirements and to determine the need for protective equipment and procedures. Employees receive information about their individual tests and departments get information about group exposures. Data also goes into the Solutia corporate database.

Noble said that exposure levels in the plant are generally very low. A low exposure to employees means little or no risk to the community, she said.

Miller asked how the plant motivates employees to abide by safety rules. Jim Zeuner said safety training is done on an ongoing basis and Jim Hart said the company gives employees information and trusts them to self-monitor and perform appropriately.

Cheever shared with the group a recent article developed by Marge Biddle and Dorothy Pottinger that appeared the neighborhood Renaissance newspaper.

Cheever also presented checks, on behalf of Solutia Fund, to Tom Daly of Humboldt Middle School and to Dorothy Pottinger, representing Bob Brandhorst, for YouthBuild. These donations are to assist in the continued development of science education with these educational facilities. A check will also be sent to Carol Strawbridge of Lafayette Elementary School. Additionally, a Solutia Fund check will be presented to the city's hazardous materials response team to help city firefighters receive special training. Cheever also mentioned that the site will be sponsoring four science educators, from the neighborhood, in the T.I.E. statewide program in Jefferson City in February.

Jim Zeuner made a proposal to the CAP soliciting the interest of the group working with all Queeny employees on a Christmas project for Soulard in 1999. The union has done similar projects in the past and would like to work with the CAP next year to make Christmas brighter for those in need in the neighborhood. The group agreed to organize and help in the fall of '99.

Brad Young thanked the group for its participation in the CAP during 1998 and for continuing participation into 1999.

The date for the **next meeting** was tentatively set for **Tuesday, February 16, 1999**. The proposed agenda will include a review of charter and agreements, feedback from T.I.E. participants and an introduction to risk.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

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