



Applied Chemistry, Creative Solutions

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**SOLUTIA INC.
J.F. Queeny Plant
Community Advisory Panel Meeting Minutes
April 14, 1999**

Solutia's J.F. Queeny plant hosted a Community Advisory Panel meeting at the site on April 14, 1999.

Attending from the community were:

Marge Biddle
Bob Brandhorst
Tom Daly
Dutch Henenberg
Mike Miller
Carol Strawbridge

Attending from Solutia were:

Bob Auer
Bob Cheever
Brad Young

Presenters included:

Jim Myers, O'Brien & Gere Engineers
Craig Branchfield, Solutia

Facilitating was:

Nancy Pollock, Alliance Communication

The meeting began at 5:45 p.m. with introductions and a preview of the agenda by Bob Cheever. Brad Young gave an update on recent activities at the site. They include a three-year union contract; the year's first recordable injury (a back injury from improper lifting); a new rubber chemical product to be manufactured at Queeny that has growth potential; and the plant's VPP Star re-certification in May from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

Next, Cheever introduced the presentation on the status of Queeny's progress to comply with it's Part B permit under the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). The Part B permit regulates the management of wastes defined as solid wastes, in two parts. One part is for wastes defined as hazardous by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the second part is for "solid waste management units"

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(SWMU's). SWMU's are areas where wastes may have been managed, prior to the passage of RCRA. The Part B permit was issued in November of 1989 and has a 10 year life and the plant has been working for much of the past decade with EPA to meet the requirements of the SWMU portion of the Part B permit.

The work primarily has been to identify potential hazardous constituents underground so a plan can be developed to keep material from migrating off-site in ways that impact the community, Craig Branchfield of Solutia said. The company is working with engineering consultants and regulators to devise a plan that will control ground water at the perimeter of the plant site and manage specific areas of soil contamination.

Jim Myers of O'Brien & Gere Engineers explained the water cycle--from rain to runoff to evaporation and back again--and how hydrologists and other engineers work to identify what's in the soil and how groundwater under the site moves.

He said that monitoring wells have been in place at the site for some time and that of the hundreds of samples taken so far about 10 percent contained hazardous material at levels that could even be detected by analytical methods. He reviewed how engineers work to piece together the history of what was used at a site, what migrated from another location, and determine the best method of preventing future migration.

Cheever said in recent years the Queeny site has taken many steps to avoid continuing to contribute to what's already underground because of past practices.

Marge Biddle said the situation isn't just Solutia's problem, it's society's problem. Carol Strawbridge asked about community impact from what's migrated off-site over the years and was told because the material is in groundwater at least 15 feet under the earth that the community should not be concerned.

A fact sheet explaining what has been done and what is planned was handed out and will be updated quarterly and shared with all CAP members.

Craig Branchfield told the CAP how they can become actively involved in the process, if they so choose, to the benefit of the community and Solutia.

The **next Queeny CAP** meeting was scheduled for **Thursday, June 17.**

The meeting adjourned about 7:45 p.m.

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