

DRAFT MINUTES
Waste-to-Energy Facility Monitoring Group
MEETING

August 10, 2022
Covanta Alexandria/Arlington Waste-to-Energy Facility – Eisenhower Avenue
8:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Virtual Meeting

The Facility Monitoring Group, City and County Staff, and HDR representatives present for the meeting included Helen Lee, Erik Grabowsky, Philip Pugh, Emily Hughes, Morgan Routt, Alaeedin Mohamed, Dan Domato, and Abigail Fleming. Don Cammarata and Kelly McLaughlin attended the meeting from Covanta. This FMG Meeting was held as a virtual meeting.

I. Comments on Agenda

There were no edits made to the agenda. Grabowsky made a motion to approve, Hughes seconded. All in favor of approval.

II. Approval of Final Minutes from the May 11th, 2022 Facility Monitoring Group Meeting.

There were no edits to the final meeting minutes. Grabowsky made a motion to approve, Hughes seconded. All in favor of approval.

III. Requisitions for Payment

The requisitions for payment that were submitted for approval totaled \$31,423.30. The sole invoice was the invoice for HDR Engineering, Inc. for the period April 24, 2022 to July 30, 2022 in the amount of \$31,423.30.

Mohamed had received and reviewed the invoice from HDR and approved the accuracy. Grabowsky made the motion for approval. Lee seconded. All in favor of approval.

IV. Operations and Facility Status

A. Summary of Plant Operations (by Covanta)

Cammarata introduced Kelly McLaughlin who is the new Facility Manager for the Alexandria-Arlington WTE Facility. McLaughlin provided a brief update on the Plant Operations. McLaughlin mentioned that during the storm the previous week, Unit 2's pressure release valve tripped, and caused a superheater tube leak. Dushac informed McLaughlin of a noise complaint, however, there was no record of any calls to 311. McLaughlin discussed the Facility's Environmental and Safety Highlights: There were no environmental exceedances. McLaughlin stated that the previous week the Environmental Audit was completed and there were all positive comments. There was a recent press release, from Covanta, for the new LN system. There were no injuries or incidents during the previous quarter.

McLaughlin discussed upcoming Facility Maintenance: The next boiler outage starts September 25, 2022 for a minor outage on Unit 2 for five days. The Turbine-Generator 2 will also come down for its scheduled overhaul and be out of service until October.

B. Discussion of Quarterly Report and Facility Performance to Date (by HDR)

Domato discussed the Quarterly Report and Performance Trends. The replacement of the ferrous magnet showed improved recovery that is more in line with historical data.

Domato reviewed the deficiency list noting a few items were completed: potholes near the southeast corner of the Ash Trailer Canopy, the identified hole on the casing of the left side of Unit 3, and areas of buildup on the exterior siding of the Facility.

In Q4FY22, the average boiler availability was 98.1%, this is in line with previously fiscal years; this is the lowest period of availability during the year due to the scheduled outages. For FY22 the average boiler availability is 96.3%. In Q4FY22, the Facility processed 90,764 tons of waste. See in Chart 1, the monthly MSW processing rate were in line with previous fiscal years. Total Waste processed throughout FY22 totaled 350,204 tons (Chart 1 Page 9).

In Q4FY22, ash generation dropped to an annual low over the fiscal year, in Q4FY22 the production rate dropped 2.4 percentage points. Current metals processing increased compared to last year (Chart 3 Page 11). In Q4FY22, ferrous recovery averaged 3.2% (as a percentage of waste processed), this is more in line with historical data with the new magnet in place of the temporary magnet that was running with lower efficiency of the temporary magnet.

In Q4FY22, the steam production was consistent to the previous Q4s. In Q4FY22, gross and net

electric generation were comparable to the previous fiscal years. See Chart 12 (Page 20), the Facility averaged 421 kWh/ton which was consistent with the previous fiscal years. Turbine Steaming Rate at 12.2 lbs/kWh is slightly higher (lower performance) than the previous two fiscal years.

V. Covanta Items

A. Update on LN System

Item to be removed from the agenda as all systems are installed and operating.

B. Supplemental Waste

During Q4FY22, Covanta participated in the VA drug take back program where pharmaceuticals were combusted.

VI. Old Business

A. Battery Education

Grabowsky was unable to meet with COG during the last quarter. Grabowsky will reach out to Covanta with more information.

VII. New Business

A. Legislative Issues

For SB250 – changes to waste fees through VDEQ: this bill was vetoed by Governor Youngkin. Covanta and HDR are unclear of the next steps. Letter from Biden Admin. to implement CAA1990 regulations. The Inflation Reduction Act strives to cut Green House Gas emissions by 50%, however, it currently does not include waste to energy; Covanta may need support from the FMG. Carbon capture is also included in the Act.

B. Public Initiatives

Cammarata will send the FMG and HDR a list of public initiatives from the previous quarter. Covanta has been receiving an increase in the number of requests for tours.

Covanta's Public Outreach Initiatives:

- April 2022: Attended Local Emergency Planning Committee Meeting
- April 2022: Earth Day Event - Cleaned Local parks as a part of Earth Day (Cameron Park and Ben Brenman Park), and along Eisenhower Ave near Covanta and Van Dorn Station
- May 2022: Provided assured destruction services for VA drug take back days
- June 2022: Awarded \$2500 scholarship as a part of Scholarship Fund of Alexandria
- July 2022: 2 Students from Pohang University of Science and Technology in South Korea) with KIC Tech Frontier Lean Startup & Customer Discovery
- August 2022: Volunteer Alexandria – Breaks with Impact tour and education

C. Residential Drop-off Procedures

Lee stated that Cammarata left a voicemail about a recent altercation between a resident and the scale house attendant at the Residential Drop-off. Although there are signs to check in with the scale house attendant, not everyone follows those guidelines. Lee suggests that as a corrective action the City website should be updated and that there should be more signage around the facility. It was discussed that moving locations of containers could potentially reduce confusion of residents. Grabowsky suggested adding cameras to view resident’s license and material being disposed of to keep separation of residents and staff.

D. Fairfax County Agreement

Grabowsky asked when the Disposal and Land-lease ended. Grabowsky answered that the Disposal and Land-lease agreement ends in 2031 and that DC is 1-year agreement. Covanta is anticipating to go after a new agreement in 2031. Lee mentioned the Solid Waste Management Plan has a 20-year build out, and was looking into the capacity in the next 20 years. Cammarata mentioned that they are available to help and make investments to extend the life of the facility.

E. Open Discussion

In-Person Meetings are to continue being virtual for availability purposes. Lee suggested that they would like to set up an annual tour or in-person meeting once a year.

Grabowsky requested information and procedures related to the disposal of spent baghouse fabric filter bags.

City Managers and Council Member tours: Look to schedule tours in the fall – preferably late October.

On a motion by Grabowsky, seconded by Lee, the meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

The next Facility Monitoring Group Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 16th, 2022 and will be held as a virtual meeting.