

DRAFT MINUTES
Waste-to-Energy Facility Monitoring Group
MEETING

August 14th, 2019
Covanta Alexandria/Arlington Waste-to-Energy Facility – Eisenhower Avenue
8:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

The Facility Monitoring Group, staff, and HDR representatives present included Erik Grabowsky, Emily Hughes, Morgan Routt, Helen Lee (as Jeff DuVal’s alternate), Alaeedin Mohamed, Alton Weaver, Kyle Perrin, and Susan Raila, with Don Castro calling into the meeting. Bryan Donnelly and Don Cammarata attended the meeting from Covanta.

I. Comments on Agenda

There were no comments on the agenda.

II. Approval of Final Minutes from the May 8th, 2019 Facility Monitoring Group Meeting (see attached).

Routt made a motion to approve the minutes; Hughes seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

III. Requisitions for Payment

The requisitions for payment that were submitted for approval totaled \$20,020.74. The sole invoice was the invoice for HDR Engineering, Inc. for the period April 28, 2019 to August 3, 2019, in the amount of \$20,020.74. Hughes made a motion to approve the payment, Routt seconded, and the invoices were approved unanimously.

IV. HDR - Operations and Facility Status

A. Discussion of Quarterly Report and Facility Performance to Date

Castro discussed the quarterly report, noting that in FY2019, the tonnage processed was about the same as last year, but the steam production was down by 4.1% and the electricity generated was down by about 4.7%. This was mainly due to the increased amount of water in the

waste. Grabowsky asked if more waste could be brought into the facility, and the response was that it cannot, since the facility is regulated by its steam limit, and the steam limit is calculated, based on tonnage, regardless of its moisture content. Castro pointed out Chart 1 on page 9 of the Annual Report that showed how closely the tonnage matched for each month over the past three years, at about 350,000 tons per year. Chart 2, which shows the tons of ash produced per ton of waste, has been low, and continued to be very good. Donnelly mentioned that they are trying to further reduce that amount by reducing the amount of moisture in the ash. Steam production has been running lower than usual, and Castro referred to Chart 7 which shows how the HHV has declined by 4.8% from the prior year. Precipitation readings at Reagan National Airport showed that 63 inches of rain fell during the fiscal year, which is about 40% higher than in FY18, which explains the lower HHV.

Castro pointed out that the tonnage was nearly identical in 2018 and 2019, and there was also a decrease in Special Waste. Chart 12 shows that the overall conversion of net kilowatt hrs solid to Virginia Power was less this past year. Table 4 shows that less dolomitic lime was used, and pointed out that the amount utilized is now zero, since they are using more pebble lime, which has gone up from about 14 lbs/ton to about 18 lbs/ton. Grabowski asked about the statement on p.15 regarding the waste's BTU/lb. Castro pointed out that the facility was conservatively designed, so that the boilers could absorb more heat, and therefore process more waste than originally presumed.

Castro asked a question regarding the information on Chart 3 which showed a decline in the ferrous recovery, and asked if the numbers reported are consistent over the three years shown, specifically how the ash entrained in the ferrous is counted. Donnelly replied that Fairfax had a trommel which removed the extra ash, so the cleaner amount of the ferrous was reported, so the ferrous amount went down. Cammarata noted that the ash taken out of the ferrous does get accounted for as ash. Grabowski said that what matters to the FMG is the actual amount of ferrous recycled.

Perrin then went through the deficiencies on Table 1 of the annual report, and mentioned that item nos. 4 (corroded pipe) and 8 (faulty stair treads) had been taken care of, and are off the list, and progress was also made on item no. 10, the hand railing posts, but it had not yet been completed. There were a few new deficiencies, specifically, there was some deterioration on the roll-offs for metal. There was also some deterioration in SDA (scrubber) no. 2 penthouse, which needs paint, as does the siding by baghouse no.3. Donnelly mentioned that Covanta is budgeting for a new upgraded roof ventilation fan, in their 2020 budget.

V. Covanta Items

A. Update on LN system

Grabowsky stated that the FMG agreed to pay the additional O&M costs related to the LN system, and asked Cammarata to come up with a way to simplify the way that they would be billed for the costs. Cammarata said that he would come up with some options, for discussion. He said that the ducting for the system is almost complete. There is a 14-day outage scheduled in the fall, and boiler No. 2 will be done first, and is scheduled to be operational and ready for testing by January 1, 2020. It will not need to fully comply with the permit until June, however, allowing for some time for operational adjustments to be made in order to meet the 90 ppmvd limitation. He noted that the Turbine Generator No. 1 outage is also scheduled for November. TG No. 2 (the one missing the row of blades) is scheduled for November 2020.

B. Update on Briefings Related to the Steaming Rate

Cammarata stated that they had the meetings with Mark Jinks and Mark Schwartz. They tried to show additional environmental benefits to the community. Mark Jinks was concerned with local impacts, and Grabowski noted that Arlington would be deferential to the City. Cammarata said he would further examine what Covanta could bring to the table, since there was a large headwind to proceed with this, since there is a lot of competition for waste in the region.

C. Annual Stack Testing – posting to site

This issue was deferred to the next meeting as there was a misunderstanding with regard to what was requested.

D. Remote Access to Site – change of closing time

Cammarata said that this issue will be tabled for the time being.

E. Supplemental Waste

As noted in prior meetings, the type of supplemental waste continues to be the same, primarily documents requiring destruction and pharmaceuticals. Deliveries of supplemental waste were: 1,038 tons in May, 1,029 tons in June, and 1,269 tons in July.

VI. Old Business

A. Air Quality Report/ Eisenhower West Plan Implementation Update

There was no update on this issue.

VII. New Business

A. Legislative Issues

There were no legislative issues to discuss.

B. Public Initiatives

Covanta's public outreach included the following:

- April 27 – Covanta was a gold sponsor of Alexandria's Earth Day celebration.
- May 1 – The Covanta facility accepted drugs from a Drug Take-back Program, for assured destruction, with DEA witness.
- May 5 – hosted a tour for 14 people from the American Council on Renewable Energy (ACORE).
- May 7 – provided a tour for Emily Myers and 3 interns working for the Alexandria City Public Schools.
- May 9 – hosted a tour for Joanna Josey, a Masters student studying waste at Severn School.
- June 4 – presented the Covanta Environmental Scholarship to Tatyana Kyle of TC Williams High School as part of the Alexandria Scholarship Foundation awards ceremony.
- June 13 – hosted a tour for 16 people from the Arlington County and Alexandria City Budget offices.
- July 11 – hosted a tour for an Arlington County Board members Matt de Ferranti and Erik Gutshall, Deputy County Manager Michelle Cowan, and 6 additional Arlington County personnel.

On a motion by Lee, seconded by Rountt, the meeting adjourned at 10:08 a.m.

The next Facility Monitoring Group Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 13th, 2019 at the Covanta Facility.