

**DRAFT MINUTES**  
**Waste-to-Energy Facility Monitoring Group**  
**MEETING**

**November 13<sup>th</sup>, 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 Jeff DuVal, Erik Grabowsky, Emily Hughes, Morgan Routt, Alton Weaver, Kyle Perrin, Dan Domato and Susan Raila, with Don Castro and John Clark calling into the meeting. Bryan Donnelly, Don Cammarata and Frank Capobianco attended the meeting from Covanta.

**I. Comments on Agenda**

There were no comments on the agenda, but it was noted that Donnelly's last day at the Facility will be December 6<sup>th</sup>, since he is retiring. The FMG thanked Donnelly for his responsiveness to their requests over the years, and for keeping the Facility running so well.

**II. Approval of Final Minutes from the August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Facility Monitoring Group Meeting (see attached).**

Grabowsky 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 \$13,555.85. The sole invoice was the invoice for HDR Engineering, Inc. for the period August 4, 2019 to October 16, 2019, in the amount of \$13,555.85. Routt made a motion to approve the payment, Grabowsky 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 at the last meeting where the prior annual

report was discussed, there was less steam generated and less energy produced due to the very high rainfall. This quarter however, the facility operated more like it had previously, with the steam production up by 4.6%, and electrical energy up by 6.6%. Chart 7 of the Quarterly Report illustrated the improvement in the HHV, which alleviated prior concerns. Castro pointed out in Chart 1, how closely the waste has tracked from month to month over the past three years. Chart 4 showed how the steam production dropped in 2018, but corrected itself this year, and Chart 5 showed how close the facility operates up to its steam production limit. The ferrous recovery shown in Chart 3 is back to prior levels, and the trommel which had been used to remove additional ash from the metal is now back in service. Otherwise the facility operation this quarter has been typical.

Perrin then went through the deficiencies on Table 1 of the annual report, and mentioned that item nos. 7 (missing stair treads) and 10 (deteriorated ferrous metal roll-off containers) had been taken care of and are off the list. He pointed out one new deficiency to be added to the punchlist, which is window glass on the tipping floor. Covanta is aware of this issue, but the LN system installation is currently top priority so the glass will be fixed later. Perrin also spoke on the on-going scheduled outage on Unit 2 and the Turbine-Generator (TG) Overhaul. The LN system is being installed on Unit 2 – including new ammonia and Over Fire Air (OFA) nozzles, and upgrades to the PLC with LN controls (Perrin mentioned that he took some pictures of the LN nozzles). The TG rotor was removed, sandblasted, and inspected. Based on Covanta's observations, there were no major issues identified during the inspection. Perrin also mentioned that during the current outage, there is a lot of concrete work across the site being undertaken, and parts of the tipping floor are being replaced.

#### B. Review of LN Cost Information

John Clark of HDR called into the meeting, having reviewed the cost information that Covanta had provided. The Jurisdictions will pay their pro rata share of the additional O&M due to the installation of the LN system, through October 2025. Cammarata indicated that what had been provided were estimates of the cost and the Jurisdictions would be paying a fixed price based on these estimates. Clark had some additional questions on the spreadsheet, and stated that he thought that there should be a savings in the amount of ammonia consumed, not an increase. Cammarata agreed to re-look at the way that the materials were presented, and get back to the group

## **V. Covanta Items**

### A. Update on LN system

Covanta is currently installing the first LN unit, with testing to begin in January.

B. Update on the Steaming Rate Issue

Cammarata stated that there are no new developments on this item and that Covanta is still pursuing.

C. Annual Stack Testing – posting to site

Cammarata had checked, and stated that the Jurisdictions could post the results of the annual stack testing on their website.

D. 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: 1,321 tons in August, 1,236 tons in September, and 1,340 tons in October.

## **VI. Old Business**

A. Air Quality Report/ Eisenhower West Plan Implementation Update

There was no update on this issue. DuVal mentioned that Virginia Paving's Special Use Permit (SUP) had a sunset clause, which would have been two years from now. They challenged it, and received a 7-year extension (7 years from September 2019). DuVal mentioned this because they are one of the other industrial uses in the vicinity of the facility.

## **VII. New Business**

A. Legislative Issues

There were no legislative issues to discuss.

B. Public Initiatives

Covanta's public outreach included the following:

- July 15 – Covanta hosted a tour for an interested resident.
- July 16 – Covanta hosted a tour for 25 students from Cordova HS which is in Washington, DC.
- July 17 – Hosted a tour for 20 EIA summer interns.
- July 19 – Hosted a tour for 6 members of the Ernst and Young Sustainability Team.
- August 15 – Hosted a tour for 15 people from FERC.
- August 16 – Covanta provided the keynote speaker for the Rotary Club of Alexandria,

- with the presentation, “Powering Today, Protecting Tomorrow”.
- September 5 – Kevin McGunnigle attended the Local Emergency Planning Committee on behalf of Covanta Alexandria.
  - September 6 – Hosted a tour for Noam Hassenfield, producer for “Today Explained” a podcast from VOX.com.
  - September 12 – Hosted a tour for the Department of Energy’s Advanced Research Projects Agency – Energy.
  - September 23 – Provided a tour for Liz Rugaber, Chair of the Sustainability Committee at Taylor Elementary School in Arlington VA, and two interested Alexandria neighbors.
  - October 16 – Tour for 3 researchers from the University of Kentucky along with 5 additional employees from the Advanced Research Projects Agency.
  - October 19 – Provided rewards to residents for recycling mercury containing devices at the Arlington E-care event. \$500 of gift cards were handed out as rewards.

Cammarata mentioned at the end of the meeting that Covanta had informal conversations with VADEP about their thoughts on potentially excluding the quantity of metals that are in the MSW and recycled by the facility from the steam calculation, which is the limiting factor in the facility’s permit. Their goal would be to increase the amount of burnable materials that the facility could process. For example, if there were 10,000 tons of metal recycled each year, then they would like to be able to increase the amount of waste brought in by that amount. These discussions were informal, however, so no action has been taken.

Grabowsky thanked Covanta for their presence at an e-care event to collect mercury containing devices in Arlington.

**On a motion by Hughes, seconded by Grabowsky, the meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.**

**The next Facility Monitoring Group Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at the Covanta Facility.**