

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

**Wednesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013**  
**Alexandria/Arlington Energy-from-Waste Facility, Eisenhower Ave**  
**8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

The Facility Monitoring Group, former Trustees, staff, and HDR representatives present included Yon Lambert, Rich Baier, Morgan Routt, Mark Schwartz, Erik Grabowsky, Carl Newby, Alaeedin Mohamed, Barbara Wiley, Mike Clem, William Skrabak, Alton Weaver and Susan Raila as well as Michael Renga, Bryan Donnelly, Jim Klecko and Glenn Madelmayer from Covanta. Don Castro joined the meeting via phone.

**I. Selection of FMG Chairman**

Introductions were made around the room, since this was the first meeting of the new FMG. Grabowsky nominated Yon Lambert as the new Chairman of the FMG group, Mark Schwartz seconded the nomination, and Mr. Lambert was unanimously elected as Chair.

**II. Comments on Agenda**

There were no comments on the agenda.

**III. Approval of Final Minutes from the December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012 Trustee's Meeting (see attached)**

Schwartz made a motion to approve the minutes, and Grabowsky seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

**IV. Requisitions for Payment**

The requisitions for payment for December 2012 invoices that were submitted for approval totaled \$6,582.86. This included the December 2012 HDR (Engineering) invoice for \$3,945.00, and the December 2012 HDR (Consulting) invoice for \$2,637.86. Routt made a motion to approve the invoices, Grabowsky seconded, and the invoices were approved unanimously.

## **V. HDR Operations and Facility Status**

### Discussion of Monthly Report

There was no written report provided, since Castro had just received the report from Covanta on the previous evening. Castro indicated that December was an interesting month, with the outages finished, so the facility was nearly 100% available, but waste was significantly lower than usual, with deliveries of only 844 tpd. This was a disappointing month for throughput compared to the normal situation. There was a water main leak which affected deliveries on one day, and in general the waste was nice and dry (> 5200 Btu/lb). On a calendar year basis, there was high availability, with the boilers at 96.1%. The on-line availability was 95.1%, which was very good (1% was in “stand-by” mode, while waiting for more waste).

Renga indicated that Jurisdictional waste was low, and spot waste was also lower than usual, possibly due to year-end commitments by haulers to other disposal sites. He said that an up-tick in tonnage is expected for January. Baier asked if there was any impact with the fire department, and Renga responded that there was not. He asked if the water main break affected deliveries of waste, and Renga also responded that it did not. Donnelly then interjected that the facility stayed on-line, and didn't know that the leak would result in a rupture of the main. Castro then stated that the rest of the plant metrics looked in-line: electricity production was good in terms of kwh/ton, but that steam generation was down due to the lower tonnages.

## **VI. Covanta Items**

### A. Ammonia Slip Test

Regarding the use of a portable unit, which was discussed in a prior meeting, Renga checked with Corporate, and the portable units were not really portable and were currently in use at other facilities, so could not be used at the Alexandria facility. Madelmayer said that they are looking at switching from using lower ammonia injection nozzles to higher nozzles, looking at the thermal profile to determine which would be the best nozzles to use. They are still planning to do the slip test in March, and are currently looking at the testing protocol. He indicated that it would be done when the stack testing is done, which is scheduled for the third week of March. A report would be available 60 days after testing. Skrabak mentioned that he thought that sometimes in the evening he might have seen a “blue haze”, and was wondering if that was a bit of slip. Renga stated that there had been no complaints about the facility.

B. Ammonia Usage

It was mentioned that year to date, the ammonia usage had averaged about 1.6 lbs/ton, and last month it had gone up to 1.8 lbs/ton. Donnelly indicated that it had to do with the measurement of pit inventory, and that usage was only a bit higher than last year.

**VII. Old Business**

Renga asked about the RFP for the independent economic study. Lambert stated that it had not been awarded yet, and that it was still in procurement. Klecko wondered why this was being undertaken, and wondered what the expectation was for the study. Baier said that they were looking to have someone independent from having prior involvement with the project, take a look at whether the site lease should be extended.

**VIII. New Business**

A. Legislative Issues

There were no legislative issues to discuss, although Baier indicated that banning plastic bags was being discussed in Virginia.

B. Public Initiatives

Lambert mentioned that a tour of the facility was planned for February 22<sup>nd</sup>, for City and County Senior Staff, and that City Council and Board members might also be interested in participating.

Renga noted some of the initiatives that Covanta was involved with in January:

- Next week the Covanta Manager's meeting will be held in Morristown, NJ
- On 1/17, Covanta will sponsor/participate in the Green/Black Mingle- the NAACP requested Covanta's involvement with the event.
- A sustainability conference will be held in Richmond, and Renga will be a speaker at that event.

Renga indicated that the agreement on the Leaf vehicle will be signed soon, and he is working with Mike Clem on that issue.

Baier thanked Renga for his participation in the United Way. Renga said that Covanta would have a fly-in late January/February to meet with various legislators on issues affecting the WTE industry.

Baier asked about this years Partner's Conference, and Renga replied that Covanta will continue meeting with individual municipalities.

At the end of the meeting, Schwartz thanked Rich Baier and Carl Newby for their many years of service with the A/A Board of Trustees, and presented them with plaques commemorating their service.

**On a motion by Schwartz, seconded by Grabowsky, the meeting adjourned at 10:02 a.m.**

**The next Facility Monitoring Group Meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at the Covanta Facility.**