

DRAFT MINUTES
Waste-to-Energy Facility Monitoring Group
MEETING

February 12th, 2018
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 Jeffrey DuVal, Erik Grabowsky, Matt Hurley, Morgan Routt, Alaeedin Mohamed, Alton Weaver, and William Skrabak, with Kyle Perrin, Susan Raila and Don Castro joining via phone. Mark Harlacker, 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 November 8th, 2017 Facility Monitoring Group Meeting (see attached).

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

III. Requisitions for Payment

The requisitions for payment that were submitted for approval totaled \$14,485.04. The invoices included an invoice for HDR Engineering, Inc. for the period October 29, 2017 to February 3, 2018 in the amount of \$13,535.04, and an invoice for the annual membership to the ERC for \$950.00. Hurley made a motion to approve the HDR payment, Grabowsky seconded, and that invoice was approved unanimously.

IV. HDR - Operations and Facility Status

A. Discussion of Quarterly Report and Facility Performance to Date

It should be noted that since the meeting was rescheduled with little advance notice, that the quarterly inspection had not been undertaken prior to the meeting, and will likely take place in

early March. Castro then discussed the quarterly report, and noted that there were a couple of unusual things. There was a minor accident at the facility, injuring a worker's finger in a door closer. Castro noted that Covanta has done an excellent job with its safety program. Donnelly went through the facility to look at potential hazards throughout the facility. There was also one environmental excursion during the quarter, related to the spike in steam. He noted, however, that the environmental performance continues to be very good. The deliveries of waste coming into the facility were about 4.5% lower than the burn rate, which meant that they were taking the pit inventory down. Castro asked if they were consciously trying to burn down the level in the pit. Harlacker stated that after the outage, an ID fan went down, so they needed to shed more volume. Castro also noted that while the heating value of the waste has shown a wide variation between years, the amount of waste processed during the second fiscal quarter was nearly identical for three years running.

Castro concluded that the quarter metrics, overall, were pretty standard. He noted that there was a substantial failure of one of the ID fans (unit 1) and some other ID fan issues, so since the ID fans are all about the same age, the ID fans are now been replaced. All of the rotors have been replaced.

As noted previously, since an inspection has not yet been performed for the quarter, the deficiencies were not covered during the meeting.

V. Covanta Items

A. Update on Status of the Fairfax Facility and Fire Suppression Equipment Plans for the A/A Facility

Cammarata informed the group that the Fairfax facility came back on-line at the end of December. There were a couple of boiler outages, but the facility is operating smoothly now, with all equipment up and running. One of the bag-houses will be out for about 35 days in April, and there will be processing impacts during this outage. There were four IR cameras installed, and 2 computers are in service as well as an alarm system to alert staff to any hot-loads. A camera detected a hot load that was smoldering, and all of the equipment worked as it should have. When any of the alarm systems are activated in Fairfax, the Fire Department responds automatically to the facility. He also noted that the IR cameras were installed at the A/A facility.

B. LN System Discussion

Cammarata indicated that Covanta was a couple of months away from providing more detailed capital and operational costs for the low NOx system. He mentioned that he is assuming

that the two Jurisdictions would have to pay around \$100,000 to \$150,000 per year additional to cover their share of debt service and operation, for all 3 units. This would cover the capital and O&M costs. Castro asked about the costs to Covanta, since they are intending to install their proprietary system.

Skrabak noted that the VADEQ is working on a draft NOx permit, so there will be a public comment period. In terms of any air permits, he noted that the City has always requested a full public hearing, and he suggested that Covanta think about their community strategy. Cammarata asked when was the last time there was a permit change. Skrabak said there would be a public notice and a public hearing, and that the active neighbors in Cameron Station need to know about it. Grabowsky asked about the operational impact of running the facility with about 8% more throughput. Cammarata noted that there would be more ash, and Castro asked if the steam flow would be increased, to which Cammarata responded that there would be. Castro noted that in December the facility operated at 119% of the Maximum Continuous Rating (MCR) and that in January it operated at 117% of the MCR, and further increases in steam flow beyond this already high level would surely accelerate the wear and tear on the facility. Cammarata indicated that the facility will not be operating above its rated temperature or pressure.

Grabowsky asked what the citizens of Alexandria get out of this change, other than more trucks and more emissions. Cammarata responded by saying that the facility is a strategic facility for the Jurisdictions, and that the Low NOx system will benefit the community. Skrabak persisted by asking what the benefit is to the community. While the NOx will go down, many other emissions will go up with more throughput, such as annual SO₂, CO, HCl, etc. The Special Use Permit may need to be amended, since even a minor change may require an amendment. Cammarata stated that an additional 31,000 tons/year of throughput in the permit would provide a cushion for a more realistic 10,000 to 15,000 ton/year additional waste delivered to the facility.

Someone asked about the RECs generated by the facility, and it was noted that any RECs are owned by Dominion Power. Those RECs aren't currently accounted for in the Jurisdiction's Sustainability plans, although the communities would be interested in that issue. Skrabak was asked if there was any new progress on air modelling with the LN system, and he indicated that there will still be impacts with the system. He then asked Covanta if they had any experience with raising the stack height. He noted that the original Eisenhower West plan had buildings as high as 24 stories right next to the plant. Cammarata responded that he didn't think that the company had any experience with raising stack heights.

C. Covanta Proposed Operational Changes: Steaming Rate

Covanta has asked for a steaming rate increase along with the installation of the LN system. They provided a handout that stated that the facility average steaming rate is 3.06 lbs. of steam per lb. of MSW, while the VADEQ permit has them use a derived value of 3.34 lb. of steam per lb. of MSW. They are hoping to revise the steam-to-MSW ratio to a value closer to their actual operating conditions.

D. Supplemental Waste

As previously noted, there has been an increase in the amount of supplemental waste brought in to the facility, and a heavy amount was delivered to the facility going into 2018, although some of the tonnage has shifted back to the Fairfax facility. The amount of supplemental waste delivered was 1,553 tons in November, 1,339 tons in December, and 1,301 tons in January. The type of material continues to be the same, primarily textiles, pharmaceuticals, and secure documents requiring destruction.

VI. Old Business

A. Air Quality Report/ Eisenhower West Plan Implementation Update

This topic was covered in section V(B).

VII. New Business

A. Legislative Issues

There were no legislative issues to discuss.

B. Public Initiatives

Covanta provided a list of public outreach since the last meeting, which included the following:

- October 19 – hosted a tour for Congressional staff members
- October 30 – hosted a tour for 15 students from Marymount University.
- November 2 – hosted a tour for 13 students from Marymount University.
- November 15 – sponsorship of a year-end award for the Eisenhower Partnership
- December 6 – Local Emergency Planning Committee meeting
- January 31 – hosted a tour for the US Patent and Trade office.

DuVal mentioned that he would like to schedule a tour for the Alexandria drivers and helpers.

On a motion by Grabowsky, seconded by Routt, the meeting adjourned at 10:14 a.m.

The next Facility Monitoring Group Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 2nd, 2018 at the Covanta Facility.