

APPROVED MINUTES
Waste-to-Energy Facility Monitoring Group
MEETING

August 9th, 2017
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, Morgan Routt, Matt Hurley, Alaeedin Mohamed, Khoa Tran, Kyle Perrin and Susan Raila, with Don Castro joining via phone. Mark Harlacker, Bryan Donnelly, Don Cammarata, John Scott and R.J. Brooks attended the meeting from Covanta.

I. Vote for New FMG Chair and Comments on Agenda

Grabowsky made a motion to nominate Jeff DuVal as the Chair of the FMG, Routt seconded the motion, and on August 10th, Matt Hurley, who was absent from the meeting, also concurred with the nomination, making DuVal the FMG Chair. There were no comments on the agenda.

II. Approval of Final Minutes from the May 10th, 2017 Facility Monitoring Group Meeting (see attached).

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

III. Requisitions for Payment

The requisitions for payment that were submitted for approval totaled \$15,259.05. The sole invoice was for HDR Engineering, Inc. for the period April 30, 2017 to July 28, 2017 in the amount of \$15,259.05. Routt 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

Castro discussed the 4th Quarter (annual) 2017 report, and noted that for the first time in a long time, there was no standby time for the boilers. The 315 hours of standby time for the year for the boilers was comparable to prior years. There was only one scheduled outage for Boiler No. 2, for an 18-hr cleaning. The annual boiler availability was 96.2%, which is very good. The facility averaged 1022 tons per day (tpd), of throughput for the quarter, given the design capacity of 975 tpd. Overall, for the entire year, the average was 958 tpd, which is 98% of nominal design capacity. Basically FY17 was very similar to FY16. He noted that two years ago, there was a major generator failure. In going through the charts presented in the report, Chart 1 of the tons of waste processed each month for the past 3 years, shows each year being a mirror image of the others. Chart 2 shows the tons of ash produced has been consistently low, at 20-21% , and Castro noted, the lowest ash percentage of any mass burn facility, which is typically in the 25-27% range. Chart 3 shows that the ferrous recovered had been lower for the year, but this last quarter more ferrous was recovered than had been in the last 2 years. This could be due to the adjustments made to the magnet. The overall ferrous tonnage for the year was still about 5.6% lower, but it's not clear if that is because there was less ferrous in the waste, or was due to an operational issue. Chart 6, the Steam production rate shows that the facility has been less efficient in producing steam, but there was a positive trend in the last few months. Donnelly stated that they had fixed some leaks during the March outage, and had replaced some valves. Castro then said that Chart 11, which shows the amount of power sold to the grid on a reference ton basis, is one of the most important indicators of plant performance, and it has been steady. The chart showed an aberration in 2015 when a generator was down, but otherwise there has been good power export. Castro then went on to discuss the results of the annual stack testing, which showed very good results, with especially low dioxins and furans. In summary FY17 was very similar to FY16, and overall plant performance is very good.

Perrin then went through the deficiencies, which are listed on p.8 of the Annual Report. He noted that there was work done to address the corrosion on the ceiling panels, but it was still a work in progress. Item Nos. 2 (deteriorated purlin), 3 (deteriorated ID fan lagging), 6 (economizer grating), 10 (painting of corroded spots of scale house), 14 (sign replacement) and 15 (securing the fence), have all been completed. He did note, however, 3 new deficiencies related to the need to pressure wash a vent, a smashed windshield on a roll-off truck, and damage to a viewport. These will be added to the list in the next quarterly report. He pointed out that there was a new swing-arm gate at the tipping floor entrance, and that the fire alarm system control panel was replaced. Additionally, Covanta had installed a new safety platform to improve safety, and there were new treads on the cooling tower stairs.

Grabowsky asked how many bays were open for the trucks, and Donnelly responded that there were two open. He also asked about the dolomitic lime increase (noted in the report as being 111.6% higher than last year), and Donnelly responded that while they are using more dolo lime because of the pH, the delivery of the material was not an accurate means of determining usage. The next scheduled outages will occur in September (for Boiler No.3), October (for Boiler No.2) and November (for Boiler No.1). There will also be an outage for the Turbine Generator No. 2 during this next round. Perrin noted that the plant looks good. Castro asked about the generator failure from a few years ago, and Donnelly said they would check the exciter during a mini-outage, and they have some spare parts on-site.

V. Covanta Items

A. Update on Status of the Fairfax and Montgomery County and Fairfax Facilities and Fire Suppression Equipment Plans

Harlacker provided an update of the Fairfax facility, and said that there was still construction work being done to recover from the fire, and they are nearly complete in doing preventative maintenance work at the same time. They are working with the fire marshal on the fire suppression system, and the facility plans to be re-opened in early October. The fire suppression system will include the addition of IR cameras, which will tie into the fire systems and tie into the fire station. DuVal asked if this would also be done at the A/A facility, and Donnelly responded that it would. Castro asked if sprinklers would be installed in the pit and the tip floor, and Harlacker indicated that yes, and that the new sprinkler system would have higher flow capabilities. While there is no specific “code” for waste-to-energy facilities, at Fairfax they are looking to automate the whole system. Grabowsky asked specifically about any upgrades at the A/A facility, and Harlacker said that they are looking at each facility’s fire suppression system individually, but Donnelly said that the A/A facility will likely have a similar system as Fairfax. He noted that hot loads are common, and there will be basic IR cameras out there in a couple of months. Harlacker noted that there were no IR cameras at Fairfax, so it took 6 to 8 minutes to see the fire, and that response time would have been quicker with the cameras. It was noted that 70 firefighters were at the A/A facility to look at the operation, and Covanta will be developing a plan for the A/A facility, and they will keep the group posted on those plans.

B. Diversion Plan

This continued a discussion from the last two prior FMG meetings. DuVal said he will have a response to Harlacker’s letter on diversion, and this issue will be revisited during the

November FMG meeting.

C. Management of the Queue to Tip Waste – Long Wait Times

This no longer appears to be an issue, as no one has heard complaints about long wait times. There is now better scheduling of profile waste deliveries, and Brooks has worked on reducing turn times, which DuVal thanked him for.

D. Supplemental Waste

There has been an increase in the amount of supplemental waste brought in to the facility, partially due to the facility in Fairfax being out of service, but also because of Covanta's acquisition of a firm to secure additional material. The amount of supplemental waste delivered was 1,705 tons in May, 1,717 tons in June, and 1,807 tons in July. The type of material continues to be the same, primarily textiles, pharmaceuticals, and secure documents requiring destruction.

E. Update on any Discussions with the DEQ

Harlacker noted that there is a program to reduce GHGs in Virginia. Michael Van Brunt, the Director of Sustainability for Covanta is developing a CO₂ trading program. They are looking into Virginia becoming a GHG-initiative state, and for WTE to be a "covered source" which would give the ability to exchange CO₂ credits.

VI. Old Business

A. Air Quality Report/ Eisenhower West Plan Implementation Update

DuVal said that they are working with CDM/Smith as part of the Eisenhower West Small Area Plan. Initial modelling results have shown exceedances for NO_x and PM_{2.5} at building heights of 240-feet. There were no exceedances at a 180-ft height. They want to re-examine the prior NO_x reduction measures study from the past, in order to examine estimated costs and operational issues related to NO_x reduction.

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:

- May 3 – hosted a tour for an employee of the Patent Trade Office.
- May 11 – hosted a tour for 5 people from the Danish Trade Association.
- May 16 – hosted a tour for 13 people from Vijeco and Vietnam representatives interested in building a WTE facility in Vietnam.
- May 24 – hosted a tour for 3 people from the FBI interested in using the facility for assured destruction.
- May 28 – hosted a tour for 7 people from Johns Hopkins University.
- June 22 – hosted a tour for Suzanne Boxman and 24 EPA employees working for the Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery.
- June 30 – hosted a tour for 25 people associated with the Arlington County Parks and Recreation 55+ group.
- July 10 – hosted a tour for 12 interns from the Department of Energy.
- July 12 – hosted a tour for 19 people from the EIA division of the Department of Energy.
- July 20 – hosted a tour for approximately 25 fire fighters from Fairfax County and the City of Alexandria.
- July 25 – hosted a tour for an additional 30 fire fighters from Fairfax County and City of Alexandria.

On a motion by Grabowsky, seconded by Routt, the meeting adjourned at 10:08 a.m.

The next Facility Monitoring Group Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 8th, 2017 at the Covanta Facility.