

St Marys Cement Community Relations Committee

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday February 23rd, 2021

5:00 p.m. – Zoom Meeting

Attendees: Amy Burke, *Senior Planner*, Municipality of Clarington
David Veenstra, Port Darlington Community Association
Brent Sullivan, Port Darlington Community Association
Cherisse Diaram, *Quarry EIT*, St Marys Cement
Jeff Mitchell, Port Darlington Community Association
Jim Storey, *Operations Manager*, St Marys Cement
John Fahey, *Environmental Manager*, St Marys Cement
Margaret Zwart, *Councilor*, Municipality of Clarington
Ruben Plaza, *Corporate Environmental Manager*, St Marys Cement
Tanya Pardy, *Human Resources Manager*, St Marys Cement
Yhon Downie, *Quarry Manager*, St Marys Cement

Guests: N/A

Regrets:

Kim Lendvay, *Senior Environmental Officer*, MOECC
Jim Grimley, Wilmot Creek Homeowners Association

1. St Marys Operations Report

a) Monitoring Station Locations

- The monitoring station locations were reviewed and are as follows:



b) During the fourth quarter of 2020 there were:

- No reportable exceedance of the PM10 24 hour average of the AAQC at SMC1/OPG and SMC2/Cove Road from Site operations.
- No reportable exceedances of the non-continuous PM10 24-hour clock average AAQC at Site B/Cedar Crest or Site F/ North Quarry/SMC3.
- No reportable exceedances of the Total Dustfall AAQC at Sites B/Cedar Crest, C/D, F/North Quarry, SMC1/OPG or SMC2/Cove Road.

c) Emissions

- NO_x emissions were 2,794 t vs an allowance of 3,503 t
- SO_x emissions were 6,071 t vs an allowance of 3,853 t

d) Scrubber Project

- Scrubber project is scheduled for March 2021 – it is expected to be commissioned by later spring. This is expected to reduce emissions below the allowance levels in 2021

e) Alternative Fuels

- Expected MECP will issue updated permit at the end of March 2021

f) Wet Scrubber expected to be commissioned after Shutdown

- The Company has invested over \$25 million in the project
- Will reduce SO₂ emissions significantly
- White water vapour plume will be more visible
- First wet scrubber for a cement plant in Canada
- Completed to improve environmental

g) Dock Operations – continuing practices to minimize impacts

- Question about salt storage
 - Salt is imported throughout the year and stored in piles on dock and taken as needed in winter
- Consultants looking at measures to mitigate noise

h) Quarry Operation

- Producing 2,3,5 switching to 1,4,5 and 1,4,6 after shutdown
- No ground or air vibration exceedances in 2021 to date
 - Permanent vibration monitor installed at vacant lot location
- Overburden stripping, screening and stockpiling
 - Stripping to continue, weather permitting in early 2021
 - Clay shipment not confirmed for 2021

i) Higher incidence of blasting concerns in past month and a half

- In response to complaints, implemented use of “hole caps” to better contain explosives within the stemming column to reduce incidence of energy escaping

- Working with blasting contractor to reduce impacts from blasting (ground vibration and air vibration)
- Vibrations have been within limits (regulatory limits are set at levels to avoid damage to structures) but we understand that the blasts are being felt and disturbing community members
- Complaint referenced where frame fell of a wall
- Committee member has suggested providing a detailed description on impacts of blasting and how it is being addressed
 - Either within this committee or a zoom meeting with the community by the contractor or the operations staff or a consultant
- Need to educate community on what the regulations are, what St Marys does to comply with regulations, what the limitations of the regulations are and the actions being taken to improve
- Considering partnering with community members to be able to correlate blasting parameters and perceived impact to better understand the impacts beyond the vibration limits
- Strong odour experienced during some blasts (maybe sulphurous) – would like to be able to describe what this is to the community
 - On one instance, there may have been an existing odour and transmission may have been related to sharp gusts of wind that coincided with the blast time
 - There have been comments about odours at the time of the blasts before
- Complaints inconsistent with regards to the blasting parameters
- Action – presentation by Dyno Nobel and Golder with CRC and then another with larger community (not waiting until next meeting)

2. Community concerns

- a) In the 1st quarter of 2020 we received 3 community concerns.
 - 4 – Blast
- b) In the 2nd quarter of 2020 we received 3 community concerns.
 - 3 – noise
- c) In the 3rd quarter of 2020 we received 23 community concerns.
 - 18 – Noise
 - 4 – Dust
 - 1 – Odour
- d) In the 4th quarter of 2020 we received community concerns.
 - 2 – Noise

3. Other items

- a) Shutdown of plant beginning in early March

- There may be traffic as road will be reduced to one lane
- Approximately Feb 28th for 25 days

b) Request for minutes this week

c) Question about natural gas

- Survey company was looking at sites a few years ago along cove road
- No intention to install natural gas at this time

d) Gate vandalised

- Did investigation but did not find who did this

e) Scrubber plume will be more visible but this will be primarily water and need to educate community

4. Next Meeting

- June 2021