

Pompton Lakes Environmental Community Advisory Group (CAG)
FINAL August 3, 2011 Meeting Summary
7:00 PM – 9:30 PM
Carnevale Center, 10 Lenox Avenue, Pompton Lakes, New Jersey

Members and Alternates Present: Steve Grayberg (Pompton Lakes Restoration Committee), Liz Kachur (In-Plume Resident), Michele Belfiore (Pompton Lakes Residents for Environmental Integrity), Ed Meakem (alternate Pompton Lakes Residents for Environmental Integrity), Tim Troast (In-Plume Resident), Abby Novak (Pompton Lakes Environmental Committee), Art Kaffka (Chamber of Commerce), John Soojian (Acid Brook Vicinity), Bill Pendexter (Hydrologist, Non-Plume Resident)

Ex Officio Members Present:

Pompton Lakes Borough Council: Councilman Michael Simone

US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): Dave Kluesner, Barry Tornick, Barbara Finazzo, Adolph Everett

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR): Elena Vaouli

Public Present: George Popov, Jacky Grindrod, Jefferson H. LaSala, Councilman Michael Serra, Councilman Bill Baig, Councilman Lloyd Kent, Don Soutar, Anne Selivedley, Jody Schewfete, Barbara Doka

I. Welcome and Administrative Updates

Dave Kluesner called the meeting to order, and stated that since the new contract period with Skeo (the national facilitation company) has not been renewed to date, he would be facilitating the meeting and Barbara Finazzo would be taking notes. The July meeting summary was approved as written and will be posted as final on the EPA website.

There was discussion about the use of the limited contractor funding. This also occurred at the end of the meeting. CAG members asked that EPA provide information on the amount of funding available and usage (burn) rates so that the CAG can discuss in the near future on how best to utilize these limited resources. Interest in having technical assistance was clearly stated as a need. Concerns were voiced that not having funding available was not acceptable; an inquiry was made concerning the feasibility of having DuPont reimburse the agencies. EPA responded that we are looking at this but reminded everyone that the RCRA program has limitations.

II. Agency Updates

EPA: Dave reported that Skeo has selected a technical adviser that will be reviewing approximately eight reports pertaining to the determination of the ten contaminants of concern as requested through a CAG resolution. It is expected that a report out on this review can occur during the October CAG meeting.

Barry Tornick provided an update on the status of the installation of vapor mitigation systems. DuPont has installed 230 systems and has 8 more in the process of being installed. Twelve systems have been installed through the third party installation process and 30 more are in the process of being reviewed/approved.

CAG members asked EPA to remind NJDHHS that they would like them to provide updates at the PL Environmental CAG monthly meetings on the current activities of the Health CAG. Elena Vaouli from ATSDR did report out that the Health CAG will be having a meeting on August 9th at the Civic Center in Pompton Lakes. NJDHHS and ATSDR will be reporting on the latest analysis that has been conducted from existing mortality and birth rates in populations in Pompton Lakes, the six surrounding communities and the state of New Jersey. This generated a great deal of questions and debate from CAG members and the public. Further discussion was encouraged to take place at the Health CAG meeting.

III. Debrief and Discussion on the DuPont Poster July 20 Session and Understanding Lake Remediation Objectives and Verification

CAG members and members of the public provided the following feedback on the July 20th DuPont poster session:

- Flyers were distributed before the meeting to those in the affected areas and within a 300 foot buffer around this area.
- The information presented by DuPont was well presented and easy to understand.
- The comment cards and box was too small. It was reported that DuPont would develop FAQs from the comments and should report out soon. A request was made to ask DuPont for the complete list of all the comments received (not just the FAQs).
- Options for dredging were presented, either by clam shell or using a hydraulic process similar to what is used for sand reclamation. DuPont stated that hydraulic dredging could take less time to do (1 year versus 2 years).
- Attendance was low at the sessions - less than 1% of the adult population of Pompton Lakes came. It was suggested that the session be done again and that the town use the reverse 911 mechanism to inform the community about meetings. DuPont should have told everyone in town and sent all the materials ahead of time.
- DuPont should offer something back to the town to make up for all the disruption they have caused. Example, pay for a gymnasium.
- DuPont presented options which will require approval by the town Planning Board. Councilman Simone reviewed the borough's current soils mining process that requires issuance of a permit by the Planning Board which he believes will be a similar process that DuPont will have to follow to move the dredged materials. This will include determining truck routes, days of operation, etc. that will require input and reaction from the public.
- Concern with residents not being notified. CAG to write a letter to the Planning Board that any residents along whatever route is decided on must be notified ahead of time.
- DuPont was agreeable to responding to additional questions if anyone has them.
- Testing of the soils should be done in the field where the children play was suggested.

Discussion continued on the lake remediation objectives and verification. The schedule for modifying the federal permit was reviewed again by Barry Tornick. A draft permit is anticipated to be made available for public comment in a month or so. A public hearing can be scheduled upon request. EPA again stated that it is agreeable to having informal meetings as well which will be more interactive than a public hearing.

The issue of verification was also discussed at length. CAG members again requested that sampling must be conducted to determine that recontamination from the site is not occurring in the acid brook sediments that flow into the lake. It was requested that the agencies do the sampling. The CAG agreed to pass a resolution to get the sampling done. The Technical Work Group will develop language for this resolution with specific recommendations on where to sample.

The size of the proposed area to be dredged, and how this delineation was determined, was also discussed. There were questions about the data in the CMI report and what DuPont is responsible for. The CAG members requested informal public availability sessions on the lake remediation prior to the draft permit modification being issued by EPA. The sessions would be similar to those previously held at the Carnevale Center for the ground water and RCRA vs. Superfund issues. The CAG also agreed to pass a second resolution requesting that a formal public hearing be held during the public comment period on the draft permit modification. A request was also made to make information and data more friendly to the public, and if possible, available ahead of time.

It was mentioned that DuPont is talking to the Board of Ed about the dredging project. One of the CAG members (Tim Troast) who is on the Board of Education was not aware of this. He will follow up with the Board of Education.

IV. Workgroup and Committee Updates

Administrative Committee: Liz Kachur, Administrative Committee Chair reported that the committee met on July 25th. Email options and transparency were discussed. The committee suggested that CAG members should talk to their constituents about what goes on at the CAG meetings and forward names for inclusion on Dave's email list so more information is shared.

The use of a Google group that the CAG can use to share information was also discussed. This site could also be used to share concerns raised by citizens between CAG members, and to make documents available to the public including all final versions of documents (minutes, agenda, etc.). The site could also be used for stakeholder updates. Anything a CAG member receives can be shared. Dave set up a Google group and is the temporary manager of the site. It was agreed to try out the Google site. Dave will invite all everyone to join; only the CAG members and their alternates will have posting rights.

Michele Belfiore asked that the recent decision that requires voting for alternates be revisited. This will be put on the agenda for the September CAG meeting.

Community Outreach Work Group: Work Group Chairman, John Soojian, reported that the group will meet to finalize the survey during the week of August 8th. The surveys will be hand delivered to all the residents who do not have systems. Two CAG members will go to each house and will try to get immediate responses. John was looking for some volunteers. It is expected that the survey will be completed by September 1st. Councilman Simone recommended that the group coordinate with the Chief of Police ahead of the visits.

V. Information Availability (library repository, emails, etc.)

EPA and NJDEP have electronic websites and the Pompton Lake library has some hard copy and electronic documents. The library has limited physical capacity for additional documents. Dave will be coordinating with NJDEP to determine what documents should be placed in the library and in what format. He will provide an electronic copy to all the CAG members of what is presently in the library and this topic will be addressed at a future CAG meeting. It was suggested that DuPont make available all the reports in pdf format.

VI. Action Items

- EPA to provide CAG members with amount of funding available for Skeo contractor and the usage (burn rates); CAG to discuss at September 7th meeting.
- EPA to remind NJDHHS that the PL Environmental CAG would like them to provide updates at the monthly meetings.
- EPA to ask DuPont to provide all the written comments (unscreened) from their July 20th Poster Session.
- CAG to develop two resolutions related to the lake remediation work. Technical Work Group will formulate specific language on what sampling the CAG would like the agencies to conduct concerning the recontamination issue of the Acid Brook from the DuPont site; this is for one resolution. Second resolution is a request for the informal public availability sessions or meetings.
- CAG member to develop letter to Planning Board about lake remediation activities.
- EPA to send out Google group invitation and to post all new materials on the website.
- EPA to send the list of documents currently in the Pompton Lakes Library to CAG members and other stakeholder groups requesting feedback.
- Alternate Membership determination needs to be placed on the September 7th CAG meeting agenda for discussion/resolution; Administrative Committee the lead on this.
- The CAG requested a public hearing on the RCRA permit change.