

# St Marys Cement Community Relations Committee

## Meeting Minutes

Tuesday September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020

5:00 p.m. – Zoom Meeting

**Attendees:** Amy Burke, *Senior Planner*, Municipality of Clarington  
Cherisse Diaram, *Quarry EIT*, St Marys Cement  
David Veenstra, Port Darlington Community Association  
Jeff Mitchell, Port Darlington Community Association  
Margaret Zwart, *Councilor*, Municipality of Clarington  
Ruben Plaza, *Corporate Environmental Manager*, St Marys Cement  
Tanya Parry, *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  
Jim Storey, *Operations Manager*, St Marys Cement

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### 1. Minutes to be reviewed and adopted by email in the future

### 2. Membership changes

- a) Councilor Margaret Zwart is now the council representative
  - Invitation to visit operation, view a blast
- b) Pauline Witzke has moved out of Port Darlington Community Association area

### 3. Community Concerns (past two quarters)

- a) Noise complaints
  - 3 complaints in 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, 18 complaints in 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter related to dock operations
  - Process has not changed, it may be related to more people being at home
  - Trying to understand the cause of the complaints, impact on the community
  - Noise requirements
    - The Municipality of Clarington confirmed that in accordance with section 2.2(e) of Noise By-law 2017-071, St. Marys Cement (referred to in the By-law by its former name, Blue Circle Canada Inc.), its licenced pit and quarry operations and all related accessory uses are granted an exemption from the noise restrictions that the by-law puts into place. This exemption applies to the entirety of the site. Further, the noise curfew provisions of the by-law are not applicable to these activities at the site.
    - St Marys Cement is regulated by the province according to MECP guideline NPC-300. SMC complies with the established noise limits in guideline NPC-300.

- Noise study completed during compliance study recently but Ruben to check conditions of study (timing of study, activities included)

b) Dust complaints

- 4 dust complaints following a single incident earlier this month. A power failure caused major equipment to go down resulting in large amount of dust being emitted from process.
- Complaints followed dust emission from homes 2km away, two on the Saturday and two the following Monday.
- Ongoing process
  - Ministry of Environment collected data and investigation ongoing
  - Still evaluating actions to be taken to prevent dust emissions like this happening again in the future
  - Still evaluating how the dust cloud travelled and whether it travelled outside of the site limits and the impact on the community
- Results will be shared with the community relations committee and will get back to people who contacted the plant

c) Blast complaints

- Odours identified sometimes from blasting
- Try to schedule blasts based on wind direction

#### 4. St Marys Operations Report

a) Monitoring Station Locations

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



- PM 10 stands for particulate matter which is less than 10 microns in size
- Dust fall jars take a sample over 30 days which is sent for testing, PM 10 BAM monitors take an hourly sample and PM 10 hi-vol monitors take a sample for a 24H period, every 6 days

b) New permanent seismograph still in progress with Municipality

c) PM10 Results

- No exceedances in PM10 in high vol sampler in 2020
- BAM exceedances
  - April 29<sup>th</sup>, dust from the direction of the quarry operation but could not identify specific dust source
  - May 23<sup>rd</sup>, exceedance related to activity on OPG property
  - June 9<sup>th</sup>, very high value of 95 but wind coming from west of plant, possibly due to construction activity

d) Dust Fall Monitoring

- No exceedances in 2020

e) SO<sub>x</sub> emissions

- Exceeded allowance for 2020, to transfer credits from St Marys, ON operation for 2020 to comply (3,738 tonnes vs 3,732 allowance)
- Scrubber Project
  - Scrubber project has been delayed and 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
  - Sulphur largely contributed by raw materials, with some emissions from fuel
  - Scrubber expected to reduce emissions by 80-90%
  - Prior to the scrubber project, the lime hydrator was installed as part of a research project installed in 2006 as a way to control emissions
  - SO<sub>x</sub> released during calcination process in kiln

f) NO<sub>x</sub> emissions

- Below limit in 2020 and expect to be below limits at end of year (1,644 tonnes vs allowance of 3,393 tonnes), will transfer credits to St Marys Plant

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

h) Alternative Fuels

- Posted in the EBR
- ECA application under review by the MECP

i) Quarry Operation

- Producing 1,4,6 until late fall then switching to 2,3,5
- No ground or air vibration exceedances in 2020 to date
- Overburden stripping, screening and stockpiling
  - None planned for remainder of 2020, may resume early 2021

j) Vibration Results

- No ground or air vibration exceedances for 2020
- Try to design/schedule blasts to minimize impacts on community

## 5. Other items

a) Replace PDCA member

- Annual general meeting of PDCA where board is elected this coming Sunday
- Board will select members
- Formal request should be issued by community relations committee
- Tanya to send note to David to arrange request but will be up to the board to make the appointment

b) Impacts on cement plant operations by pandemic

- Declared an essential service so production as usual
- Additional measures in place to manage distancing, a bit problematic
- Ministry of Labour has reviewed covid related processes

## 6. Next Meeting

- Zoom format works well
- November 3<sup>rd</sup>