#### **Votorantim Cimentos North America**

# **St Marys Cement**

**Community Liaison Committee** March 13<sup>th</sup> 2020





**Votorantim** 

Cimentos

**St Marys Cement** 



### Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Format of CLC meetings
- Review of December 6<sup>th</sup> 2019 Meeting
- Complaints 2019 Year End
- Complaints 2020 Year to Date
- Noise Update
- Weather Impacts on Air Dispersion; BCX Consulting
- Stack Extension Update
- New CLC Members Open Discussion
- Questions Brought Forward in Advance of Today's Meeting
- Round Table
- Closing Remarks



#### **Welcome and Introductions**

#### **Today's Guests**

- Bob Slivar, District Officer with the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks
- Ruben Plaza; Votorantim Cimentos North America, Corporate Environmental Manager
- Winnie Song; BCX Consulting
- 7 Community Members who put their names forward to be considered as candidates for joining the CLC



### **Paperwork Provided Today**

- **Copy of December 6<sup>th</sup> CLC Meeting Minutes- with Addendum**
- Copy of March 13th CLC Meeting Presentation
- Copy of the Community Liaison Committee Terms of Reference; Signed and dated April 13, 2018
- Copy of Weather Impacts on Air Dispersion from BCX Engineering



### Format of CLC Meetings

The Community Liaison Committee Terms of Reference, dated April 13th 2018 outlines the format of the CLC meetings;

The quarterly Committee meetings will be open to the public, with date, time and place of each meeting published on the Committee website. Members of the public in attendance will sit in a public observer section of the meeting room with no speaking status. Public observers who wish to discuss the content of the meeting may do so by expressing their thoughts with a member of the Committee. In the event that a Committee meeting is to be held in a space for which SMC is responsible, members of the public who attend may be required to sign-in and/or provide advance notice that they would like to attend the meeting.

In the event that a member of the public wishes to discuss his or her concerns regarding a Committee meeting, he or she may choose to do so with a Committee member from the community who in turn can bring those concerns to the Committee. The concerns should then be raised to the Committee in advance and added to the agenda as a discussion point.

The Terms of Reference is due for a review, CLC members please review and let Kara know if you have any changes.



### **Review of December 6th Meeting**

- December 6<sup>th</sup> CLC Meeting Minutes
  - 3 addendums to the CLC Minutes;
    - The total number across the table presented on Slide 4 Community Complaints YTD was not up to date, numbers were not updated after the September 6<sup>th</sup> meeting
    - 2. Odour complaints which mention health are counted for reference only and are not separate complaints.
    - 3. Email from Krysta-Leigh Johnston on Monday December 9<sup>th</sup>;
      - What are the detection limits for the contaminants measured in the mobile monitoring report? The detection limits (μg m-3) for the measured species are as follows:

Benzene	Toluene	Styrene	Xylenes	Trimethylbenzenes	NO2	PM10
0.3	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.8	1

2) On June 24, 2019, the upwind concentrations of VOCs appear to be higher than the upwind concentrations measured on other days. Is there any indication of why that might be?

Background concentrations of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) were higher than normal throughout the St. Marys/Stratford region on June 24, 2019. The wind direction was from the south and it is possible that ambient air quality in the region was influenced by emissions from sources located to the south. This explains why the mobile monitoring showed relatively higher VOC concentrations both upwind and downwind of St Marys Cement on that day.



### **Complaints 2019 Year End**

#### **Complaints 2019 Year End**

	Odour	<b>Mention Health</b>	Dust	Noise
Total	90	70	53	31
January	3	2	0	0
February	1	0	0	1
March	4	1	0	0
April	2	2	0	0
May	5	4	0	1
June	5	5	28	3
July	6	3	2	8
August	9	6	0	1
September	8	8	0	6
October	19	18	16	9
November	10	8	1	1
December	17	13	6	1









### **Complaints 2020 Year to Date**

Complaints 2020 Year to Date								
	Odour	Dust	Noise	Mention Health				
Total	13	5	0	10				
January	13	5	0	10				
February	0	0	0	0				
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								









### Noise Update

- St Marys Cement has received numerous noise complaints from September 2019 present
  - Some complaints were received when the plant was in shutdown mode
- Residents note clear shift in the noise levels where it would get louder at specific times throughout the night
- SMC examined on site equipment to see if a source was stopping or starting to explain shifts and was unable to find a source
- HGC Engineering installed a noise monitor with consent from the resident at their house from November 6<sup>th</sup> 23<sup>rd</sup> 2019
  - During this period the resident noted 22 instances of noise level being medium to high, with clear shifts in noise levels.
- The monitor took both volume and frequency readings
- The noise meter was picking up two different frequencies (240Hz = SMC and 250Hz = another facility)
- SMC provided the report to other facilities in the area and let them know that resident was hearing noise at his house which had clear shifts in noise levels
- SMC also provided the report to the MECP
- If any members of the CLC wish to see this report please let Kara know.
- St Marys Cement is committed to implementing the Noise Abatement Action Plan (reviewed at the September 6<sup>th</sup> CLC meeting)
  - This plan has a 10 year roll out phase however with each Phase improvements will be made to overall noise levels coming from SMC.



St Marys Cement

### Weather Impacts on Air Dispersion

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### **Stack Extension Update**





### **New CLC Members Open Discussion**

SMC Posted in the St Marys Independent newspaper that the Community Liaison Committee is looking for additional residents to sit on the committee. Three applicants reached out to SMC, and we would like to take some time to meet them and hear their opinions on some issues which are often discussed at CLC Meetings.

- 1. What attracted you to apply for the CLC? From your perspective, what will be your contribution to the CLC if you become a member?
- 2. During the past 3 years we have also had guest speakers and plant specific presentations including the Perth District Health Unit, industry experts discussing operations and petcoke as a fuel at St Marys Cement, the Pond Bio-fuels project, and Weather Dispersion (today). What are some other topics that would be beneficial to have experts come in and discuss at upcoming CLC Meetings?
- 3. The Community Liaison Committee has been fortunate to have the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks as a permanent CLC member since it was formed three years ago. We have also had the Perth District Health Unit attend several meetings as guest consultants. During the past 3 years the MECP has issued several reports on air quality monitoring in St Marys, and the PDHU have issued several reports about health statistics in St Marys and Perth County. These reports outline compliance with MECP regulations and illustrate the levels of health in the community are within the same ranges as other areas within Perth County and the Province. How do we convey the results of these reports to residents in St Marys who question the validity of these reports?
- 4. The CLC is aware of residents who have expressed their concerns about St Marys Cement operations through various outlets including social media and the town newspaper, however when the plant or the CLC reaches out to these residents we have not been able to make contact. What are some suggestions to improve communication with residents who are unable or unwilling to attend CLC meetings (which were formed for discussion with concerned residents and St Marys Cement plant)?
- 5. What are your concerns about the Community Liaison Committee and where do you see the future of the Community Liaison Committee?



### **Questions Brought Forward in Advance**

- 1. Krys, from the ministry, said at the December meeting that when the dust on cars comes from the St. Marys cement plant, it is typically fugitive dust. Jose followed that statement to say that when that occurs, they check to see if an event has occurred. Could you please clarify what type of event or events Jose looks for?
  - Our on site fugitive dust control plan lists paved and unpaved roads, material stockpiles, loading and unloading cementitious products, material spills from equipment, clinker loadout and reclaim, sand screening operations, material conveyors, and building openings as our sources of dust.
  - SMC will examine all of these to determine if any source of fugitive dust can be identified at the time of an incident. Specifically SMC looks for changing conditions that could be attributed to fugitive dust incidents.
  - Examples of previous incidents which impacted neighbours are the outside clinker storage pile (June 14<sup>th</sup> 2019), clinker loadout (June 15<sup>th</sup> 2020), material transfer point from our finish mill where we grind the clinker into cement to the cement silos where it is sold to the customer (December 2019).
- 2. There was some mention of Dust also coming from the Material Transfer Point at the cement loading area and that modifications had been done to address this transfer point. What kind of materials are we talking about that are at the Material Transfer point? Is Petcoke one of the materials involved in the Material Transfer point? Where does the transfer of Petcoke occur?
  - This material was cement product being transferred from our finish mill where we grind the clinker into cement to the cement silos. Modifications included installing additional covers on the belts until it could be entirely replaced which was done in January 2020.
  - SMC has not found any dust complaints which could be attributed to petcoke.
  - Petcoke is stored in an outside pile located at the base of the quarry. It has a surfactant crust on it to prevent fugitive dust emissions. Petcoke is fed into a hopper beside our fuel mill located south of the kiln.
- 3. At these meetings, there have been references made regarding the new higher standards for sulphur dioxide emissions. The cement plant was able to meet these more stringent targets. What did the staff at the cement plant physically do to in order to meet these new standards?
  - Sulphur Dioxide is produced in the kiln, the process itself acts as a scrubber and reacts with the Sulphur Dioxide to re-adsorb it into the clinker.
  - St Marys Plant was designed to have very low sulphur emissions compared to other cement plants in Ontario- due to efficiency of this capture rate. Without making any changes to the process, the emissions are 7.2% of the MECP Point of Impingement Limit so no physical changes were needed for the new SO2 limits.
  - For reference The CLC discussed these new targets at the June 7<sup>th</sup> 2019 meeting.









#### WASH. YOUR. HANDS.

Wash your hands with soap and water regularly.

#### Cover a cough or sneeze

Cover your cough or sneeze with your sleeve or disposable tissue.

#### Don't touch

Avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.

#### Keep your distance

Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

#### **Stay home**

If you experience respiratory symptoms like a fever or cough, stay home.

#### Get help

If you experience symptoms of COVID-19, CALL your health care provider.





## **Closing Remarks**

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