

Community Liaison Committee Meeting Minutes

March 12th, 2021
10:00am
Zoom Meeting

Present	St Marys Cement: Kara Terpstra, Vanessa Barr, Jose Soraggi, Ruben Plaza St Marys Council: Jim Craigmile, Tony Winter, Brett Kittmer Community Members: Marti Lindsay, Rodger Muir, Marvin Arthur, Fred Stam, Gordon Snelling MECP: Bob Slivar Guest: Robin Manzer, St Marys Cement Production Manager Regrets: Stew Grant
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1. Welcome and Introduction

10:00am Kara welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Thank you to the town for allowing us to use the Zoom/YouTube channels for this meeting

Round table introductions of CLC Members.

Also extended a welcome to residents viewing on the YouTube live stream.

No comments or concerns were brought forward about the December 11, 2020 meeting.

*Note that today's meeting was recorded and can be watched here;

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qH7HSSlIdNs>

2. Community Complaints

Total number for the complaints 2020 Year End.

Total number for the complaints 2021 YTD.

Reminder that Complaints that 'Mention Health' are counted when a resident calls with an odour complaint and highlights that they have a health concern. They are not separate complaints received by the plant.

3. St Marys Cement Shutdown

- St Marys Cement has several planned maintenance shutdowns throughout the course of a year
- Shutdowns vary in timing and length based off what maintenance is required and production needs
- Maintenance activities include preventative maintenance inspections and repairs, plant upgrades, and plant projects
- A shutdown period typically includes quarrying operations, crushing, the kiln, and the cement mill
- Note that some of these pictures have people in them, which illustrates the size of the equipment we have on site.
- **The presentation is posted on the Community Liaison Committee Website. Note that Kara added a few points of information based off questions asked during the meeting.**

4. MECP Information on Mobile Monitoring Unit

The MECP did mobile monitoring in St. Marys from July 14-17th, 2020. At no time were there any exceedances and even the highest measurements read from St Marys Cement were similar to background readings. Readings of VOCs, NO₂, SO₂, and particulate matter <10_{ug} were taken both upwind and downwind.

There is a copy of the report on the Town of St. Marys Website
<https://www.townofstmarys.com/en/living-here/air-quality.aspx#>

The permanent station that had been temporarily behind the fire hall in St. Marys was removed, Bob does not know if there are any plans to put it back.

5. Questions Brought Forward in Advance of Today's Meeting

Email from Resident February 19th, 2021

Since our last discussions regarding odour, it seems like there has been less odour over the past few months. I know, this may seem like a surprise statement coming from me. My last recordings that I documented on my spread sheet were taken in mid-December. Since then I have not really noticed any specific odour issues that warranted documenting. I am assuming part of that is due to a reduced amount of time outside, however I am wondering if your software shows a difference in the prevailing wind patterns from the time you started recoding the wind direction to now?

Maybe the wind patterns are different here during the winter?? It may be too early to see a specific pattern.

St Marys Cement Response for discussion at the CLC

Is it possible something has changed in your process or raw material or emissions capturing process?

1. Wondering if your software shows a difference in the prevailing wind patterns from the time you started recording the wind direction to now.
See slides in presentation; prevailing wind direction 2016 to 2020 was a Southwest wind, and December 2020 was a prevailing Southwest wind.
2. Maybe wind patterns are different here during the winter
See slides in presentation, wind direction based off seasons in 2020 were similar with a prevailing southwest wind.
 1. Is it possible something has changed in your process or raw material or emissions capturing process?
We were in a shutdown for February 2021, but operations and process were the same in December 2020 – January 2021.

Email from Resident March 10th, 2021

I am sick and tired of my car, house and property being coated with a layer of something. (Appears to be dust but who knows what it is???)

All the kids and pets in town including us are breathing this in.

This needs to be stopped immediately. I cannot believe this has not been taken care of, St. Marys Cement has the ability to stop this problem, they need to be made to do it NOW!

Let alone the cost to residents to keep their vehicles, houses and property clean, what about making our children and us sick from breathing whatever this is in.

Thanking you in advance for addressing this serious concern.

Residents

Town of St. Marys

Our kids and pets including us are all breathing this in. This needs to stop.

St Marys Cement Response for discussion at the CLC

- St Marys Cement has discussed the procedure for addressing community dust concerns at previous meetings
- When receiving a dust concern from a resident a representative from the cement plant goes to the residence and takes a sample off of the vehicle.
- SMC analyzes the sample to determine if it matches any of the materials or products at the facility.
- If the sample does match one of the materials then SMC will work with the residence to remediate any impact. SMC also examines on site operations for any off standard conditions.
- Note that SMC also completes daily observations for dust emissions and takes remedial actions as required.
- When taking the sample SMC also notes any other sources of dust in the vicinity of the complaint including construction, road salt and sand, agricultural, and other adjacent industrial facilities.
- Previous complaints have shown both products that do not originate from St Marys Cement and products that may have.
- All dust concerns related to specific incidents need to be brought to the plant promptly for proper investigation to be completed.
- The Ministry of Environment has done monitoring in town (permanent station behind the old fire hall, report is posted on the Town website) and did not find any dust exceedances
- The Perth District Health Unit completed a report noting there are no high levels of respiratory related illnesses in St Marys (also posted on the town website)

3. Round Table

Various CLC Members echoed that the information presented about shutdown activities and wind projections for previous years was very informative.

Tony asked if the blast dates have changed; the day of the week changes based off production needs and is always at 12pm noon.

Jim Craigmile would like the CLC meetings to include information as to how many complaints did not come from SMC.

Jim also asked how much heat from the kiln is recycled through the process – heat from the kiln is routed through the homogenizing silos and the raw mill.

Jose noted that the Town of St Marys has done a great job at implementing COVID Protocols in accordance with the pandemic.

Kara noted that there is information posted online regarding the Thomas Street Quarry Expansion project and any questions can go to the Lands and Environment division of the company.

4. Closing Remarks

The next meeting will be in June 2021.