

DRAFT MINUTES
Waste-to-Energy Facility Monitoring Group
MEETING

February 23, 2022
Covanta Alexandria/Arlington Waste-to-Energy Facility – Eisenhower Avenue
8:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Virtual Meeting

The Facility Monitoring Group, City and County Staff, and HDR representatives present for the meeting included Helen Lee, Erik Grabowsky, Philip Pugh, Vijetha Huffman, Morgan Routt, Alaeedin Mohamed, William Skrabak, Kyle Perrin, and Dan Domato. Don Cammarata, Lucas Dushac, and Jacob Riner attended the meeting from Covanta. This FMG Meeting was held as a virtual meeting.

I. Comments on Agenda

Remove the Agenda Item ‘Air Quality Report/Eisenhower West Implementation Update’

II. Approval of Final Minutes from the August 11th, 2021 Facility Monitoring Group Meeting.

Revise typo in presentation of Eric Grabowsky’s name.

With that edit made to the Meeting Minutes, Lee made the motion to approve. Routt seconded. All in favor of approval.

Draft of meeting minutes will be sent out at least a week prior to FMG meeting for review.

III. Requisitions for Payment

The requisitions for payment that were submitted for approval totaled \$11,597.38. The sole invoice was the invoice for HDR Engineering, Inc. for the period October 24th, 2021 to January 30th, 2022 in the amount of \$11,597.38.

Mohamed has received and reviewed the invoice from HDR and approved the accuracy. Grabowsky also approved. Lee made the motion for approval. Grabowsky seconded. All in favor of approval.

An HDR request for a CPI adjustment to the rate table is under review by the City of Alexandria.

IV. Operations and Facility Status

A. Summary of Plant Operations (by Covanta)

Dushac provided an update on the Plant Operations since the previous meeting: Dushac discussed the Facility's Environmental and Safety Highlights: There were no environmental exceedances. There was a deviation in the steam production reports. This error was caused by human error; an incorrect value for waste tonnage led to a lower than actual steam production. This error was caught during reporting for the next month. The VDEQ and FMG were notified. The VDEQ had questions but no further correspondence. Covanta has investigated and put together a list of corrective actions. There were no injuries or incidents during the previous quarter. There were four COVID cases in the previous quarter (no serious symptoms).

Dushac discussed Facility Maintenance: Unit 3 major outage was completed in January; during which they installed the LN system. The new ferrous magnet was installed in February.

Cammarata discussed Facility tours: The Facility is hosting tours at a limited capacity. Recently gave a tour to the Northern Virginia Community College Environmental Science Class (split into two separate tours – October and November).

Lee asked what the capacity of these tours have been. Cammarata replied that they have limited these tours to 10 guests.

Dushac stated that on February 1st a fire (smoldering and flame) was observed in the middle of the pit (the front trench). Covanta extinguished the fire with a fire water cannon, located on the top of the pit, and also a hose, from the tipping floor. No determination for what caused the fire. Reported to VDEQ and the FMG. Grabowsky asked if the new system identified the fire. Dushac responded that the IR camera is set to monitor the tipping floor, however, this camera had a view on the fire but did not trigger an alarm. Covanta will look to recalibrate. Grabowsky asked about any thoughts about putting camera over the pit. Cammarata responded that all Covanta facilities are moving to automated systems. Using this incident to move up that upgrade up list (currently scheduled for 2024 hoping to move up to 2023). Skrabak asked if the Fire Department was notified. Dushac responded that they were not. Skrabak and Grabowsky recommended that the FD is notified even if it is handled even as a precaution. Cammarata responded that they will review SOP (standard operating procedure) and consider including the FD. Control room operator and crane operators will notify the Shift Supervisor. The Shift Supervisor will make the next calls. Lee also thanked Cammarata for notifying the FMG and following up the next day.

Dushac discussed two interruptions in water service in January. Quick turn-arounds. However, this is the third leak in the past 6 months. That city water supply is the Facility's water supply. Shutdown the operation to minimize the risk. Other area of risk is continuing to bring in waste although the

units are offline. Potential for a fire hydrant not on the city line but would need to explore SOPs for events with no water service. Suspend receiving during these periods. Grabowsky asked if when connected to the local hydrant, is it enough? Is it tied in? Dushac responded that it is not tied in and he was unsure if it would be enough for cooling tower and fire service. Skrabak recommend requesting VA American Water to investigate a potential backup in the area for periods of interruption (review local pipe maps). City is very supportive of the idea. For future interruptions in service Covanta will notify the FD and fire marshal.

Dushac discussed a recently identified feedwater leak. The leak was clamped yesterday; Covanta will continue to monitor the leak and the temporary repair. Will be permanent repair made in October. They have the material on-site in the event if they need to make an emergency repair – permanent repair will have minimal downtime (1-2 day turn-around).

B. Discussion of Quarterly Report and Facility Performance to Date (by HDR)

Domato discussed the Quarterly Report and Performance Trends. There were multiple boiler outages in Q2FY22 (See Pages 4 & 24 of the Quarterly Report). Two scheduled cleaning outages on Unit 1 and 3 and the scheduled major outage on Unit 3. There were two unscheduled outages on Unit 1 and Unit 2 (economizer tube leak on Unit 1 in October and grate bar repairs on Unit 2 in November). Units 2 and 3 were on standby in October to setup the rolling average for next year's scheduled common outage.

In Q2FY22, the average boiler availability was 99.2%. In Q2FY22, the Facility processed 86,086 tons of waste. See in Chart 1, the monthly MSW processing rate were low in October due to Covanta setting up the rolling steam rate for the common outage in Oct. 2022. Total Waste Deliveries were slightly higher than the previous two fiscal years through Q2 (Chart 8 page 17).

In Q2FY22, ash generation continues to trend upward; however, this is partially caused by the lower efficiency of the temporary magnet – was 1.6 percentage points higher than last year. (Page 10 Chart 2). In Q2FY22, ferrous recovery averaged 2.7% (as a percentage of waste processed), this is down from the previous quarter and was due to the lower efficiency of the temporary magnet (Page 10 chart 3).

Grabowsky asked where the ash is being trommeled. Cammarata responded that it is trommeled at the Covanta ash facility in Fairfax; and the ash is kept separate and returned back to the AAWTE.

In Q2FY22, the steam production was consistent to the previous Q2s (Chart 4 Page 12). In Q2FY22, gross and net electric generation were comparable to the previous fiscal years. See Chart 12 (Page

19), the Facility averaged 429 kWh/ton which was around 5% higher than the previous fiscal years. Turbine Steaming Rate at 12.1 lbs/kWh is slightly higher (lower performance) than the previous two fiscal years.

Domato discussed the performance trends through February 2022. Reviewing NOx Emission and Ammonia Usage (from performance summary): Ammonia usage jumped around in October through January – still optimizing, particularly on Unit 1. NOx Emissions at around 110 ppm for the Facility average (85 ppm on Units 1 and 2; and 160 ppm on Unit 3).

Domato provided an update to Table 1 (Page 7) Report Deficiencies: HDR performed a walk-through yesterday (2/22). Items to be removed from the list (completed): Item 10 – Unit 1 ok, Item 12 (partially) – Units 1 and 2 addressed, and Item 14 (partially) – steam gland on T-G 1.

V. Covanta Items

A. Update on LN System

Dushac discussed the LN system status. Unit 1 and Unit 2 in continuous and normal operation with the LN system in service; production around 85 ppm of NOx emissions. As mentioned before, Unit 3 was installed during previous outage. The commissioning is planned for April/May (following the stack testing in March).

B. Supplemental Waste

Cammarata stated that there were no changes and that the rates are expected to be leveled. Grabowsky asked if Covanta can share a breakdown of all waste deliveries. Cammarata responded that it is not available, and it changes from year to year; additionally, nothing dedicated in the supplemental waste deliveries. Grabowsky added that they are in the process for an update to the SWMP and are looking to see if there is a breakdown outside the City/County's bandwidth. Cammarata responded that the data may be unclear, and he may not be able to share all of it; he will look to see how and if Covanta can present that data.

VI. Old Business

A. Air Quality Report/ Eisenhower West Plan Implementation Update

There was no update to provide on the plan. To be removed from the agenda.

VII. New Business

A. Phil Pugh's Introduction

The FMG and Covanta welcomed Pugh to the committee. Pugh will be the alternate to Helen. Pugh expressed that he is excited to get out to the Facility and help Covanta with public initiatives.

B. Battery Education

Grabowsky discussed that the FMG is looking to do an education campaign for battery disposal and had requested that Cammarata and Covanta see if they had any material that they can pass along. Cammarata responded that he requested any info or material on battery disposal from Covanta corporate and was waiting on their response; and is hoping to support and participate in the effort. Grabowsky added that this issue is not centralized to our region and that they are hoping to spread knowledge and help keep this material out of the waste stream. Lee stated that the FMG is looking at funding from the committee or the City and County for this campaign, and that the FMG is looking for a starting point and to potentially partner with Covanta.

C. Legislative Issues

For SB250: Covanta has participated in a stakeholder meeting. Increasing waste fee through VDEQ. In the past, the VDEQ SW was required to fund 40% of its costs (salaries, inspectors, etc.) with fees. 2020/2021 was shifted to 100% through fees. VDEQ went through an evaluation period to determine where their actual costs are. Recommendation for proper splits for time/expenses spent by the VDEQ. Waste-to-Energy (WTE) was overfunded, and most other activities/locations were underfunded. WTE remained to the same, with increases of other locations. SB250 follows those recommended. In session today.

For the Infrastructure Package: Battery manufacturing grants; applications in Q3. Looking to ensure the US has capability to accept and receive batteries.

Grabowsky added that Governor Youngkin is considering withdrawing from RGGI. While this is not expected to impact waste-to-energy, there are some items in the clean energy act that need will be impacted.

D. Public Initiatives

There is a new City Manager, who started in December. They have already toured

department operations and will want to tour the WTE Facility. Covanta will help and support arranging time for tours.

Covanta's Public Outreach Initiatives in 2021:

Community

- Wreaths Across America – disposal of 68 tons of wreaths from Arlington National (January 2021)
- Cleaned Local parks as a part of Earth Day (Cameron Park and Ben Brenman Park), and along Eisenhower Ave near Covanta and Van Dorn Station (22 – 23 April 2021)
- Provided assured destruction services for VA drug take back days – 22 tons destroyed, May 2021
- Fund for Alexandria's Child Holiday Donation (November 2021)
- Volunteer Alexandria - Covid Emergency Relief Fund Contribution (December 2021)
- Member of the Local Emergency Planning Committee
- Member of Eisenhower Partnership

Education

- Awarded \$2500 scholarship as a part of Scholarship Fund of Alexandria (May 2021)
- Sponsor of the Ascend Environmental Club at Alexandria HS

Education Tours

- 5 May 2021: Virtual Tour Cameron Park Civic Association
- Aug 5 and 19: Tour; Volunteer Alexandria Building Capacity Summer program
- 7 October: Tour – ASCEND; Alexandria High School Environmental Club
- 25 October 2021: Tour with North Virginia Community College
- 8 November 2021: Tour with North Virginia Community College

E. Annual Executive Summary

HDR has sent the draft Annual Executive Summary to the FMG for review. HDR will also send to Covanta for their review. The FMG to vote offline to approve the final version.

F. Open Discussion

Cammarata stated that Covanta is considering selling RECs to the City and is looking for a level of interest from the City. Lee responded that the continued discussion for this request should include Skrabak.

On a motion by Lee, seconded by Grabowsky, the meeting adjourned at 10:33 a.m.

The next Facility Monitoring Group Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 11th, 2022 either at the Covanta Facility or to be held as a virtual meeting.