

Minutes

Mossmorran & Braefoot Bay Community & Safety Liaison Committee Meeting

Date: 13/12/2018

Time: 18:30

Location: New City House, Dunfermline

Present:

- Cllr Alistair Bain, Chair – Fife Councillor
- Alex Macdonald – Burntisland Community Council
- Thomas Lochhead – Auchtertool Community Council
- Willie Dryburgh – Aberdour Community Council
- Alex Haddow – Cowdenbeath Community Council
- Morag Campbell – Hill of Beath Community Council
- Andy Turnbull – Shell UK Limited
- Teresa Waddington – Shell UK Limited
- Sonia Bingham – ExxonMobil Chemical Limited
- Catherine Cubitt – ExxonMobil Chemical Limited
- Jacob McAlister - ExxonMobil Chemical Limited

Ian Brocklebank – SEPA

1. Apologies for Absence

- David Taylor – Cardenden & Kinglassie Community Council
- Amelia Howie – Lumphinnans Community Council
- Cllr David Barratt – Fife Councillor
- Cllr Kathleen Leslie – Fife Councillor
- John Raine – Shell UK Limited
- Alex Rhodes – Shell UK Limited

2. Declaration of Interest

- None

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

- Minutes were accepted, with amendment as follows:
 - In section 4.3 SEPA, the 2nd bullet point should end “A variation is expected by the end of October”.
- Amendment to ‘Summary Minutes’ as follows:
 - In the SEPA summary, 4th bullet point, replace “ an extended period” with “a period”

4 Best Available Technique (BAT) Assessment

- June 2017 – Two flaring events occurred due to process upsets at FEP.
- June 2018 – SEPA issued permit variations which required FNGL and FEP to carry out ‘an evaluation of BAT to prevent and, where that is not practicable, to reduce emissions of noise, vibration and smoke associated with the flaring’.
- A BAT evaluation has been initiated, by FEP and FNGL, and is required to be completed by 30 April 2019, with a submission of a proposed implementation plan.
- Scope of the evaluation, as interpreted by ExxonMobil and Shell, to encompass the following:
 - How can flaring be prevented?
 - How can the impacts of flaring be reduced?

4.1 ExxonMobil Chemical Limited - Presentation

- Presentation delivered by Kylie Bishop (FEP)
- ExxonMobil working with Shell, and third party consultants to carry out BAT.
- 5 work streams have been established to cover the full scope.
- How can flaring be prevented?
 - Stream 1 - Technical Working Groups will consider the following:
 - Can the gas be recovered or recycled?
 - Can flaring occur less frequently?
 - What are other similar sites doing to prevent flaring?
 - Is it possible to reduce the duration of flaring events?
 - Stream 2 - Shell will investigate:
 - Is there a way to divert the feed gas to reduce flaring?
- How can the impacts of flaring be reduced?
 - Stream 3 -Third party consultant RMP Acoustics have been engaged to carry out acoustic assessment, to try answer the following:
 - What is the source of the noise?
 - What is the vibration?
 - Stream 4 -Third party consultant AECOM have been engaged to investigate the following:
 - Are there any ways to control the source of the noise?
 - Are there more advanced flare technologies on the market?
 - Would noise barriers be effective.
 - Stream 5 - Shell will look at:
 - How can existing ground flares be maximised?
- FEP and committee members commented on the the expertise of the third party consultants, and the benefits of this for the BAT assessment.
- In response to a question regarding how easy it was to look at similar sites, and how many existed, it was confirmed that the technical working group are looking at sites across the world which are numerous. They are also narrowing this down to look at sites with similar characteristics of FEP.

4.1 Shell UK Limited - Presentation

- Presentation delivered by Andy Turnbull (Production Coordinator - FNGL)
- Shell receives feedstock from 30 offshore value chains that feed into St. Fergus and then onto FNGL where the feed is processed and ethylene sent onto FEP.

- The feed network is large, and managed by a variety of operators.
- Team based in Aberdeen are exploring how they can work with other operators, to minimise the knock on effects of any issues in the supply chain, to avoid issues cascading up or downstream.
- Changes can be made locally at FNGL, but the delay upstream take longer to implement.
- Delays upstream are often the reason for flaring.
- Flares are currently shared by FNGL and FEP, with a maintenance strategy in place. If changes do occur in operation, maintenance strategy will have to be looked at.

5 Current Situation Reports

5.1 Shell UK Limited – Circulated Report (Appendix A - Shell Fife NGL Community & Safety Report Dec 18)

Brief overview:

- During ship loading at Braefoot Bay, the loading arm clamp depressurised causing propane to make contact with the ships gas engineer. Medical assistance was provided on site, and an investigation is now under way.
- A gasket on a relief valve leaked at the Braefoot Bay Loading Terminal on 22 November. The leak was isolated and repaired. A community notice was issued on the same date stating the Fire Service was called as a precaution, and departed once the gasket was replaced.
- The control room as been had a major upgrade, including computers, software and hardware. On 04 December a software issue caused the plant to trip and safely shutdown, the elevated flare was active from 2357 to 0310.
- New pilots have been installed in furnaces, this trial aims to make the furnaces more efficient.
- Current workforce at FNGL is 273, including 6 trainees and 185 contractors.
- 100 girls from Abderdeenshire and Fife took part in the most recent Girls in Energy one year course. This course aims to encourage more girls to get involved in STEM based careers.
- £3820 of donations where made to local community groups in quarter 2 of 2018.

5.2 ExxonMobil Chemical Limited – Circulated Report (Appendix B - ExxonMobil Fife Ethylene Plant Report Dec 18)

- 3 site visits have taken palce during this reporting period, 2 from the University of Edinburgh Chemical Engineering Department and 1 from Glenrothes Rotary Club.
- SEPA visited on 26 November for a BAT Assessment update, and the Health and Safety Executive visited on 14 November for a flaring investigation follow up.
- £22,470 of small contributions have been made during this reporting period.
- £1000 will be donated to local foodbanks in Kirkcaldy and Dunfermline in lieu of sending corporate Christmas cards.
- £3,375 of VIP and Governor awards, made to groups where staff volunteer their time in local communities, have been awarded in the 2nd round of 2018.
- 20,000 homes will receive the 2018 Community Matters Report.
- An independent consultant has been engaged to carry out a Community Attitude Survey.
- 800+ senior citizens from local community attended a pantomime.

- Current workforce at FEP is 368, this includes 9 apprentices 123 base contractors and 50 project contractors.
- It was noted that Jacob McAlister will take up the position of Plant Manager at FEP, as Sonia Bingham moves on to a new role in Brussels. Sonia was thanked for her input to the committee.

5.3 SEPA – Circulated Report (Appendix C - SEPA Update Dec 18)

Brief overview:

- Both operators are working together together and the interim reports indicate that they are carrying out appropriate assessments (BAT), with a appropriately wide scope, and appropriate level of depth.
- SEPA message has been reiterated that both operators must focus on ensuring that local communities are not unacceptably impacted.
- SEPA will be carrying out air quality monitoring in the near future in the vicinity of Mossmorran. A trailer has been located at the farm to the North East of the complex, and diffusion tubes will be placed community locations.
- A discussion took place regarding where the diffusion tubes should be placed in Cowdenbeath to get the most accurate and representative reading. It was agreed that Alex H of Cowdenbeath Community Council would consider this and feedback.

6 Councillors Report

- Cllr Leslie submitted a written report to the chair, she has received no complaints since the last meeting. She did raise fly tipping that has taken part near to the site that had now been cleared.
- Cllr Bain noted that Morag Campbell has joined the committee as a representative from Hill of Beath CC. Lochgelly CC has not reformed, however a petition is in place, and it looks likely that they will.

6. AOB

- It was agreed that the latest Independent Air Quality Report should be brought to the next meeting, and someone involved in its preparation should be invited to speak to it.

7. Date of future meeting:

- 14 March 2019, 18:30, New City House Dunfermline