



Notes of Meeting #39 – Algoma Steel Community Liaison Committee

Date: December 14th, 2021

Location: Teams Meeting

Time: 12pm to 2pm

CLC Members in Attendance

Fred Post – Algoma Steel

Chris Galizia – Algoma Steel

Ron Dorscht – Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)

Lori Jalak – Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)

Bruce Gillies - Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)

David Trowbridge - Public

Peter McLarty – Public

Catherine Taddo – Corporation of the City of Sault Ste. Marie

Steve Carey – Chippewa County Health Dept.

Melissa Francella – Algoma Public Health

CLC Members not in Attendance

Chris Spooney – Algoma Public Health

Lisa Derickx – St. Mary's River RAP Coordinator

Jillian Marquis – Public

Kathie Brosemer – Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

Dan Sayers – Batchewana First Nations

Maggie McAuley – Corporation of the City of Sault Ste. Marie

Suzanne Lieurance – Chippewa County Health Department

Wayne Hubbard – United Steel Workers Local 2251

Dennis Gagne – United Steel Workers Local 2251

Meeting Notes

1. Review of the Agenda and Meeting #38 Notes

There was a comment regarding inconsistency between two of paragraphs in the prior meeting minutes. Fred will look into this.

2. Membership Items and Terms of Reference

There were no new membership items raised, however the membership with Batchewana First Nations was questioned as they have not been an active member. Fred commented that Algoma has reached out a number of times and will follow up to see if they have an alternate representative who wishes to attend on their behalf.

3. Cokemaking Emission Performance

Fred re-capped the standards development process and coke plant rules detailed within the Site Specific Standard (SSS) for particulate that was issued in March 2015, and shared the rationale given by the MECP for extending their expiry until June 2023.

On March 27th, 2015 Algoma received a Site Specific Standard (SSS) for Particulate which sets specific emission limits in cokemaking. Expiry of the SSS has since been extended to June 2023 to allow enough time for a technical standard to be developed and for facilities to register. The rules and leak limits remain the same, but have been incorporated into a cokemaking Environmental Compliance Approval.

A graphic representation of Algoma's performance was presented showing there has been consistent improvement from all cokemaking emission sources and Algoma is in compliance with all of the limits. Since 2017 the average pushing opacity of all the pushes has been decreasing, despite an increase in coke production.

A couple of questions were raised in regards to lower charging emissions on #7 Battery compared to 8&9 and how push audits are conducted.

A stack opacity graph was provided showing the coke stack opacity performance for the past 2 years. It is shown as a total 30 day rolling average opacity to depict the overall performance trends. Opacity continues to be a challenge and the company is continuing to work with the MECP on an improvement plan.

It is anticipated that stack opacity will fluctuate, but overall the trend will improve as a result of the initiatives underway to reduce it. Algoma has committed to continually reducing opacity through a number of actions addressing oven masonry and combustion. There are a number of ongoing initiatives being undertaken on all batteries. The longer term plan is to phase out #7 Battery in 2025. #8 & #9 batteries will continue to have thru-wall replacements over the coming years.

4. Electric Arc Furnace (EAF) Update

Fred discussed the economic benefits of switching to an EAF and the reduction it would have on Algoma's environmental footprint. It is estimated that there would be a GHG reduction of approximately 3 million metric tonnes, or about 70% of Algoma's current emissions. This reduction primarily would come as a result of the blast furnace and coke oven batteries being phased out. Local air quality improvements would include reductions in PAH's (including BaP), VOC's (including benzene), stack emissions, particulate and sulfur dioxide. The transition to an EAF will also eliminate the last remaining sources of noise, 4 or 5 water discharges and a number of by-product streams.

Also discussed were the benefits to the local community in the creation of 500 construction jobs and new opportunities for skilled trade's people. The switch to an EAF will modernize Algoma's operation and provide an increase in production capacity.

A question was raised regarding the carbon footprint from the grid, as the EAF will use a significant amount of electricity. Ontario's electricity generation is primarily from non-emitting sources, however onsite electricity generation from fossil fuels is included in Algoma's interim GHG forecast. The plan is to operate the electric arc furnaces in alternating fashion during the transition period until full power supply is available.

5. Environmental Compliance Approval Updates

For the transition to an EAF, a new site wide air and noise approval is required which will incorporate all new and existing facilities. The application is currently being prepared and will incorporate all emission sources and controls, including bag houses for the new furnaces.

The existing industrial sewage works ECA will also be amended to incorporate a new water treatment system. The amendment will be minor and will include a new recirculating non-contact

cooling system that will discharge into our current main water filter plant. The full EAF transformation will result in the elimination of 4 to 5 of existing water discharges. Submission is anticipated for the end of March 2022.

6. Site Specific Standards / Technical Standards

By the end of March 2022, Algoma will be submitting a request for amended site specific standards for particulate, benzene, and benzo(a)pyrene. The new Standards will reflect changes to the air emission dispersion model.

Algoma's request will include a continuous improvement plan that provides for the substantial reduction or elimination of emissions as a result of the progressive shutdown of equipment and facilities in the transition to electric arc steelmaking.

A question was posed to Bruce Gillies on why the inputs to the air model were changed. Bruce explained that the MECP regularly updates model inputs to give the most accurate outputs. Ontario adopted the latest model from the USEPA; Aermol 19191. Also, the 5 year meteorological dataset was updated to use a more recent one, and land use was changed from urban to rural to more accurately reflect local land uses. The SSS's need to be updated in order to reflect these model changes.

Fred explained that the 4 gate meteorological station will be retained and potentially the data from it could be used in future modelling.

There is a new provincial standard for sulfur dioxide that comes into force in July 2023 and the MECP is working on a technical standard process to align with the federal requirement for coke oven gas desulfurization by Jan 2026. Algoma will be taking an alternative approach to reduce SO₂ through its transition to electric arc steelmaking, which will see the elimination of cokemaking from Algoma's operations. Therefore, Algoma will be applying for a Site Specific Standard that includes an action plan to reduce SO₂ that reflects the progressive facility shutdown. The first reductions will come with the shutdown of #7 battery and reduced production from the blast furnace in 2025.

Ron Dorscht asked what the reduction in SO₂ would be with the shutdown in 2025. Fred explained that it is not known at this time as we are still conducting the modelling. Bruce mentioned that the MECP is still looking at what other interim measures could be done, such as lower sulfur coal or optimizing flaring.

7. Site Greening Initiative

The site greening initiative is primarily to improve surface and storm water management. We will be using clean soils from offsite locations such as the twin pad arena to cap some perimeter strips around the facility. Select hydro seeding and a native tree species planting initiative will be used to vegetate key locations. Algoma is working in collaboration with Sault College on this initiative.

8. Public Complaints

Public complaints regarding odour and noise from the last quarter were noted. There was 1 odour complaint from an unknown source and 16 noise complaints from a pipe leak on No. 7 Blast Furnace where a shutdown was undertaken to make repairs.

9. Additional Questions

Questions were raised regarding MECP investigations and what information is available while an investigation is underway. Ron will need to confirm what can be shared and will get back to the CLC later with a response.

A member was concerned about the reduction in CLC attendance and wished to see if another meeting time was better. Fred expressed concerns about having the meeting after working hours as it could lead to less participation. However, the day of week could be changed.

In response to a question about the Patrick Street station, Fred explained that the station will have to be relocated due to a planned private development on the land. Algoma is currently working with the MECP on establishing a new location, as well as a site for an additional station.

10. Next Meeting

The next tentative CLC meeting schedule is as follows:

- Mar 8th, 2022
- Jun 7th, 2022

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 PM, December 14th, 2021.

*Meeting notes prepared by Chris Galizia and Fred Post
January 12th, 2022*

Current Members and Alternates

Representation	Primary Member	Alternate
Algoma Steel	Fred Post	Chris Galizia
Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks	Lori Greco	Ron Dorscht
Public	David Trowbridge	Peter McLarty
Public	Jillian Marquis	
SSM Tribe of Chippewa Indians	Kathie Brosemer	
Algoma Public Health	Melissa Francella	Chris Spooney
Chippewa County Health Dept.	Steve Carey	Suzanne Lieurance
Batchewana First Nations	Dan Sayers Jr.	
City of Sault Ste. Marie	Catherine Taddo	Maggie McAuley
United Steel Workers Local 2251	Wayne Hubbard	Denis Gagne
St. Mary's River RAP Coordinator	Lisa Derickx	