



Notes of Meeting #40 – Algoma Steel Community Liaison Committee

Date: March 8th, 2022

Location: Teams Meeting

Time: 12pm to 2:30pm

CLC Members in Attendance

Fred Post – Algoma Steel

Chris Galizia – Algoma Steel

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

David Trowbridge - Public

Peter McLarty – Public

Steve Carey – Chippewa County Health Dept.

Lisa Derickx – St. Mary's River RAP Coordinator

Wayne Hubbard – United Steel Workers Local 2251

CLC Members not in Attendance

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

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

Melissa Francella – Algoma Public Health

Chris Spooney – Algoma Public Health

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

Dennis Gagne – United Steel Workers Local 2251

Meeting Notes

1. Review of the Agenda and Meeting #39 Notes

David Trowbridge requested that all questions asked in the meeting be added to the minutes along with the names of who asked them. Fred Post explained that the minutes are meant to be a summary of the general discussion of the content of the slides and not meant to be a transcript of the conversation; however Algoma will include the CLC member's name, question and a summary of the discussion when specifically requested by a member.

2. Membership Items and Terms of Reference

There are no current changes to the CLC membership at this time. However, Fred mentioned that there was an interest in adding an additional member of the public. Algoma will be soliciting additional public membership in the coming months.

It was also requested that more reminders be sent out prior to the meeting as attendance for this meeting is lower than usual. Fred reaffirmed that all alternate members are welcome to participate along with the primary members at the same time. Additionally, a notice will be sent out to request alternate representation if the existing primary and alternate members are unable to attend.

3. Electric Arc Furnace (EAF) Update

Fred reviewed the exhibits that were shown at the recent public open house relating to the transition to the new EAF's. A description of the EAF process along with the facility layout and emissions points were discussed in detail. The new sources of airborne emissions will be from two new baghouses, and state-of the art emission control technologies are proposed for those installations.

Fred discussed the economic benefits of switching to an EAF and the associated reduction in Algoma's environmental footprint. The production capacity will match the capacity of the finishing operations, increasing the overall tonnage while reducing Algoma's sustaining capital requirements. During the construction phase, there will be a benefit to the local community in the creation of approximately 500 construction jobs as well as new opportunities for skilled trades people.

It is estimated that the project would result in a GHG reduction of approximately 3 million metric tonnes per year, or about 70% of Algoma's current emissions. This reduction primarily would come as a result of No. 7 blast furnace and the 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 to 5 water discharges and a number of by-product streams.

Questions were raised about the gradual shutdown of the Cokemaking operations. Fred explained that the shutdown of all batteries will be part of the new Site Specific Standard applications.

4. Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) 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 new emission sources and controls, including 2 new bag houses for the new furnaces, 1 new cooling tower, and minor natural gas combustion sources.

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 Algoma's current main water filter plant. The full EAF transformation will result in the elimination of 4 to 5 existing water discharges. Submission is planned for the end of March 2022.

It is anticipated that if approved, the new permits would be issued some time before July 2023.

Questions were raised regarding what will happen to the technical standards? Fred explained that the design for the EAF's has taken into consideration all MECP recommendations for their upcoming EAF technical standard. We expect the facility will meet Ontario Regulation 419 Schedule 3 criteria when it reaches EAF independent mode. At that time, Site Specific Standards will no longer be required.

5. Site Specific Standards / Technical Standards

By the end of March 2022, Algoma will be applying for a new site-wide Air & Noise ECA as well as 4 Site-specific Standards (SSS) (benzene, benzo(a)pyrene, total suspended particulate matter, and sulphur dioxide) in support of Algoma's transition to EAF steelmaking. The new standards will replace expiring approvals for benzene, benzo(a)pyrene, total suspended particulate matter and new standards for sulphur dioxide and reflect recent 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.

The changes to the model include new inputs including; using a more recent 5 year meteorological data set and changing the land use designations around Algoma from urban to rural. The land use change made the biggest impact on the model, as a rural land use will model less dispersion compared to an urban designation. There are no actual changes in emissions from the facility, only the way the emissions are modelled. The SSS need to be amended to reflect these changes.

David Trowbridge asked if the new dispersion model indicates that during the last 10 years the model was underestimating the impact of emissions, and that the emissions were approximately twice the predicted values. Fred responded that Algoma was using the approved MECP model inputs. He further noted that previous to 2016 there were no standards for benzene and benzo(a)pyrene.

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 coke battery and reduced production from No. 7 blast furnace in 2025.

David Trowbridge raised a concern to the MECP regarding the SSS limit for benzo(a)pyrene being calculated many times above the Regulation 419 limit, and asked MECP representative Ron Dorscht if there was additional assessment required. Ron Dorscht said he would look into inviting a member from the MECP's human toxicology assessment unit to better answer the concerns. Fred noted that Algoma has already implemented the best available controls and that when the cokemaking operations shutdown the emissions will be eliminated.

6. Cokemaking Emission Performance

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

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.

Over the past 6 weeks there has been an increase in stack opacity on all 3 batteries. In January there were some equipment issues in the By-Products facility due to extreme cold. As efforts to repair the equipment are ongoing, mitigating measures have been taken to correct the opacity, and that is reflected in the graph. The opacity will continue to improve as the warmer weather allows repairs to be made. Regardless of the upcoming shut down of the batteries, investments are being made to further reduce stack opacity.

David Trowbridge asked the MECP for comment on stack opacity performance. Ron Dorscht commented that the MECP expects continuous improvement, but recognizes that it will take time for improvements.

7. Public Complaints

Public complaints regarding odour and noise from the last quarter were noted. There was 1 odour complaint and 2 particulate complaints.

David Trowbridge commented that there was a recent discussion on Facebook regarding an odour emanating from the plant. Algoma was not aware of an issue and does not comment on rumour or speculation. When concerns are brought to our attention it is our practice to thoroughly investigate.

8. Additional Questions and Comments

Fred commented that he would send out proposed dates for the future CLC meetings occurring after the June 7th meeting and will request that members ensure that their alternates are present if they can't attend the meeting.

David Trowbridge asked if Algoma had considered allowing the general public to have access to the meetings, as well as the press. Fred responded that these options have been considered and noted that the CLC is one of many methods by which the company communicates with the community regarding its environmental performance.

Peter McLarty inquired about the potential MECP charges from an incident that occurred in October 2019 which was in the news and asked why it was not discussed earlier. Fred Post advised that Algoma is not in a position to discuss matters that are currently before the courts

David Trowbridge asked if there will be any public input on the locations of the new monitoring stations. The MECP acknowledged this comment and advised that the monitoring station locations are largely determined by the MECP.

9. Next Meeting

The next tentative CLC meeting schedule is as follows:

- June 7th, 2022

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM, March 8th, 2022.

*Meeting notes prepared by Chris Galizia and Fred Post
March 21st, 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

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