CFAC

Community Liaison Panel

Columbia Falls Aluminum Company Community Liaison Panel Minutes
June 11, 2015
Fellowship Church
6:15 p.m.

CLP Members Attending: Don Barnhart, Nino Berube, Jessy Coltrane, John Fuller, Rick Hagen, Hillary Hanson, Lyle Mitchell, Phillip, Mitchell, Ray Negron, Mike Nicosia, Susan Nicosia, David Perry, Stacey Schnebel, Kyle Schmauch, Erin Sexton, Anna Stene, Nikki Stephan, Shannon Stringer, Clarence Taber, Brad Walterkirchen, Bev York

CFAC Representatives: Haley Beaudry, Cliff Boyd, Cheryl Driscoll, John Stroiazzo, Steve Wright

Guests: Drew Baris, Mike Ritorto, Mike Cirian, Chris Peterson

Facilitator: Mary Green, Ann Green Communications, Inc.

Minutes: Kristi Moore, Ann Green Communications, Inc.

The regular meeting of the Columbia Falls Aluminum Company Community Liaison Panel (CLP) was called to order by facilitator Mary Green at Fellowship Church, beginning at 6:07 p.m. on Thursday, June 11, 2015. She thanked Fellowship Church for allowing the group to meet in their facility. She noted that the next meeting will take place at the North Valley Hospital Teakettle Community Room located at 235 Nucleus Avenue, Columbia Falls.

Mary asked each member to introduce himself or herself, and the community or organization each represents. New members included Jessy Coltrane, area Wildlife Biologist for Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks; Brad Walterkirchen, Montana West Economic Development; Chief Hagen, Columbia Falls Fire Department; Hillary Hanson, Flathead County Department of Health; Kyle Schmauch, representing Senator Daines and Anna Stene, Columbia Falls Chamber of Commerce. Guests included Drew Baris and Mike Ritorto, Roux Associates; Mike Cirian, USEPA; and Chris Peterson, Hungry Horse News.

Mary reviewed the agenda and meeting materials. She confirmed that all members received a copy of the May meeting minutes. The minutes were accepted as distributed.

New Business

Mary introduced Cliff Boyd, Calbag Resources. Cliff provided a demolition project update. He said the scope of work includes potline, rectifier, and areas north of the plant, laboratory, and rod mill. He said there will be an attempt to repurpose the warehouses, fabrication shop, engineering shop, main office and fire shed.

Cliff described his firm's work on The Dalles Aluminum site to end-use. He said The Dalles site is similar to the CFAC site. At the conclusion of the project, the State of Oregon officially classified the site "No Further Action." Cliff said like The Dalles, his responsibility will include the demolition and removal of all spent potliner, as it was with The Dalles aluminum smelter demolition project.

Over the past three weeks, Calbag Resources mobilized a 700 ton shear to cut and process 4,500 tons of steel. The steel was removed from the east side of the plant and transported out in gondolas via rail. Thus far, Calbag Resources has recycled 24,000 tons of concrete and 19,000 tons of steel. The recycled concrete will be used as pit run to fill basements and topographical irregularities. When asked about dust containment during crushing operations, Cliff said water cans and trucks are used to minimize dust. He added that Calbag has asbestos abatement permits from Montana Department of Environmental Quality.

Cliff discussed the upcoming auction of items at the site. Two-hundred fifty people pre-registered online at www.rabin.com for the auction that is scheduled for July 28- July 30. Also, there will be an onsite pre-auction preview July 25th through July 27th. Cliff said there are hundreds of truckloads of equipment that will be auctioned. Nino Berube suggested usable equipment be donated to the City or County. Chief Hagen noted the Columbia Falls Fire Department received a fire truck, Hazmat trailer and other items valued at $25,000.

Cliff shared an update on the asbestos effort. He said the effort began when they received a permit from MDEQ. Removal began in the west rectifier three weeks ago. He said the process involves the use of negative air pressure within temporary enclosures, which helps contain airborne asbestos particles. Using a state-approved process, the air is cleared for employees to safely work in the area.

Currently, Calbag Resources has 33 employees and 7 security guards. Nearly half of the current employees are from the area and some are former CFAC employees. Cliff said Calbag's work in May was conducted safely without a lost-time, first aid, or near miss. He added that Calbag has a "good catch" program, which encourages employees to turn in something that could have become a safety hazard and potentially caused an accident. Cliff said safety meetings and job hazard analyses are conducted every morning by a safety manager. Post-job hazard analyses are also conducted by the safety manager.

Responding to a question about mercury in the east rectifier, Cliff said there was mercury there and it has been removed. He added that rectifier and transformer demolition will be done by hand.

CFAC Project Update Brochure

Mary reviewed the Columbia Falls Aluminum Company Project Update brochure. She said it was mailed late last week and is expected to arrive in the next few days. Issued every few weeks, the purpose of the brochure is to provide a progress update and to provide information about upcoming activities.

The brochure was mailed to residents in Aluminum City and the adjacent community as well as those on Nucleus Avenue and the neighborhood one block back. Brochures were also mailed to members of the Community Liaison Panel, Flathead County Commission and other elected officials, and the Chamber of Commerce.

Donations

Cliff Boyd announced that equipment donations were provided to the Columbia Falls Road Department. He added that requests have been made by individuals and other organizations. Steve Wright is working with the Public Works Office to provide an ore truck and an aluminum tapping crucible to be displayed at the welcome park. He added that pictures and other items have been donated to the Columbia Falls Historical Society.

Cheryl Driscoll announced that Glencore is working with Gateway to Glacier to draft a licensing agreement for a bike path on the south side of the Flathead River. The draft was sent to Jamie Belt earlier in the day.

Nino Berube suggested CFAC contact the industrial arts department at the high school to see if they would be interested in receiving a donation of scrap steel.

Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study Work Plan

Drew Baris, Roux Associates shared information about the draft Remedial Investigation/ Feasibility Study (RI/FS) Work Plan. Roux is an environmental consulting firm that has been in business for 34 years, focusing primarily on investigation and remediation of industrial sites. Drew shared that he had been with Roux for 26 years and that Roux has 20 years of experience working with the aluminum industry on environmental projects.

Drew's presentation provided an overview of the CERCLA (Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act) process, RI/FS objectives, process and work plan development as well as a review of key site features, RI/FS data needs, RI/FS approach and sampling plan, and preliminary RI/FS schedule. He said the CERCLA process includes various steps, such as Site identification, RI/FS, remedy selection, remedial design and implementation, and operation and maintenance.

Phil Mitchell asked if information provided by former employees will be taken into account as part of the process. Drew responded that the community is encouraged to look at the plan and provide comment. He added that the plan will be available online and at the Columbia Falls Library.

According to Drew, the overall objective of the RI/FS is to gather information necessary to evaluate the impact of the site on human health and the environment and to evaluate potential alternatives to address those impacts. Some of the things Roux will evaluate include the identification of chemicals of potential concern and the nature and extent of those chemicals within groundwater, soil, surface water and sediment. Further, Roux will gather data to understand the fate and transport of those materials and identify potential exposure pathways. These data will provide the foundation to conduct a baseline risk assessment and ultimately evaluate remedial alternatives.

The RI/FS Work Plan uses a phased process that includes scoping, work plan development, site characterization, and development and evaluation of remedial alternatives. Drew noted that results of each sampling event are used to refine subsequent plans. The RI/FS scoping process for work plan development includes the evaluation of existing data, the development of a conceptual site model, preliminary identification of applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements (ARARs) and remedial options, the identification of data quality objectives, and scope of work development. Drew said ARARs are standards that govern the clean-up.

Drew showed an aerial photograph of the site with highlighted site features indicating potential areas of concern. The highlighted areas include landfills, percolation ponds, the main plant area, other operational areas, and surface water features. Drew noted potential exposure pathways such as groundwater, surface water, and soil will also be evaluated. Nino Berube said he would like to see Aluminum City added to the map of concern. Drew said Aluminum City is not part of the RI/FS; however, he said he understands wells in that area are currently being monitored.

Phase I site characterization objectives were shared. Drew said Roux will evaluate current conditions at all site features and refine the list of chemicals of potential concerns. They will also work to understand the hydrogeological units, groundwater flow and groundwater quality, and seasonal influence on groundwater and surface water. Roux will gather data for the baseline risk assessment work plan as well as data for the identification and screening of remedial technologies. Other Phase 1 work includes record review, geophysical surveying, and screening level ecological risk assessment, among others. Shannon Stringer asked if four quarters of data will be enough to gauge the seasonal influence of groundwater and surface water. He added that unusual conditions must be factored into the report. Drew said further data collection will be conducted if needed. He added that long-term monitoring will be conducted at the end of the project.

Responding to a question from the CLP regarding a monetary decision to not remediate following the outcome of the risk assessment, Cheryl Driscoll said a budget has not been established; however, she said performing the RI/FS is a multi-million dollar project. She added

that CFAC and Glencore are committed to the project. Erin Sexton asked if there is an economic feasibility study. Drew replied, not when evaluating risk.

Drew reviewed the draft scope of work for the Phase I Site Characterization sampling and analysis. He said approximately126 soil borings and 51 gridded sampling locations are proposed to be sampled for a variety of constituents. He added that 43 new monitoring wells will be installed; including 17 deep monitoring wells. The 43 new wells and 25 existing monitoring wells will be sampled along with 16 surface water and sediment locations. In all, approximately 750 analytical samples will be taken. Shannon Stringer asked if soil samples will be taken after Calbag Resources removes the basements. Drew said samples beneath the basements are not part of Phase I. However, it was noted that he and Steve Wright were recently looking at those areas in consideration of potential future sampling needs. Shannon inquired as to the benefit of wells/borings at different depths. Drew said it will help to evaluate extent and concentrations at different depths beneath the Site. Nino Berube noted that the average well in Aluminum City is 100-170 feet deep.

Following the Phase I Site Characterization, the RI/FS tasks include preparation of a baseline risk assessment work plan, Phase II site characterization, final remedial investigation and risk assessment report, feasibility study work plan and feasibility study. Jessy Coltrane asked if there is planned sampling for ecological impacts. Drew replied that a screening level ecological risk assessment will be conducted as part of Phase I. This will include a detailed assessment of habitats and comparison of concentration data to regulatory benchmarks to determine if further ecological risk assessment work is needed in Phase II.

Drew reviewed the preliminary proposed work schedule. He noted several factors could change the schedule, including regulatory review and approval process, availability of specialized subcontractors for certain aspects of the project, and investigation findings. The proposed schedule is as follows:

	*Completion Date**
• RI/FS Work Plan Finalization	4th Quarter 2015
• Phase I Site Characterization Field Program	4th Quarter 2016
• Phase I Summary Report and Phase II SAP	1st Quarter 2017
• Baseline Risk Assessment Work Plan	2nd Quarter 2017
• Phase II Site Characterization Field Program	4th Quarter 2017
• Baseline Risk Assessment and Final RI Report	3rd Quarter 2018
• FS Work Plan	1st Quarter 2019
• Feasibility Study	4th Quarter 2019

When asked about whether there would be regulatory oversight and how that could affect the plan, Drew said Glencore and CFAC have been in touch with EPA regarding a draft Administrative Order of Consent (AOC) for the plant. He added the project is in the initial stages. Virginia Loranger said EPA has communicated with Glencore/CFAC regarding the order. She asked if it had been signed. Cheryl Driscoll said the paperwork had just been received. Virginia asked about a timeline for review; Glencore/CFAC indicated they could not provide one since the draft AOC had literally just been received. Cheryl added that the AOC on the potlines has been

signed. Cheryl Driscoll thanked Virginia and her office for helping to facilitate the discussion with EPA.

Responding to a question regarding the purpose of an AOC, it was noted that the AOC is a binding legal document that includes a commitment to perform the work, and a statement of work and process to be followed. It provides for regulatory oversight and agency review, and the potential for penalties if obligations are not met.

Erin Sexton said EPA can support a Visioning Process with charrettes. She added that it provides the community with a say in the process.

Drew Baris reviewed the next steps for the RI/FS process. He said a public comment period is open and that comments will be received on an ongoing basis. The comments received will be evaluated, and it is anticipated that an updated draft RI/FS Work Plan will be developed. To make comments online, please go to www.rouxinc.com/Cfac-draft-ri-fs-work-plan-available-for-public-comment/ or email comments to CFAC-Comments@rouxinc.com. As a reminder, the RI/FS work plan is available online and at the Columbia Falls Library.

Kyle Schmauch asked if there is a more easily understood version of the draft plan. Mary suggested a glossary of terms be developed for this group. She said it will be evergreen and be revised as needed.

Columbia Falls Mayor Don Barnhart said the presentation was great. He asked if the state and USEPA will accept the plan. Drew said the agencies may want additional work or may ask for modifications to the plan. Mike Cirian, USEPA said there is a scope of work attached to the AOC, and that the AOC and scope of work is subject to negotiation between USEPA and CFAC. He said EPA and DEQ work together. He added that EPA is recommending final listing of the CFAC site on the Superfund National Priorities List ("NPL") based on comments EPA received on its proposal to list the site on the NPL. Lyle Mitchell said the people of Columbia Falls want this to be done without the Superfund label.

Nino Berube asked if Glencore would fund a technical consultant to help the community understand the process. Haley Beaudry reminded the CLP that CFAC is the owner of the project, not Glencore. Glencore is supporting CFAC financially and with executive personnel as necessary.

Unfinished Business: Topics for 2015

Mary reviewed the topics suggested at the organizational meeting. As a result of discussion regarding hydrology and flow during the RI/FS discussion and draft Order of Consent, Mary added the topic to those suggested at the organizational meeting. Mary removed tonight's

presentation from the list. Members used weighted voting to determine priority order for upcoming topics. The number of votes appears in parenthesis beside the topic.

- Goals of the project (5)
- How will the CLP turn into action/community involvement (3)
- Identify community needs (9)
- Site redevelopment (8)
- Jobs (5)
- Timeline/schedule (2)
- RI/FS -- *ongoing*
- History of site and how material was handled and disposed (1)

- Environmental status/next steps (3)
- Building studies (0)
- Bullet points regarding demolition status --*ongoing*
- Glencore's plan for the site post clean-up (2)
- EPA's community visioning (7)
- Hydrology flow / Study of groundwater flow (7)
- Superfund site vs. non-Superfund site (8)
- Finalized Order of Consent (14)
- Other responsible parties (0)

Expectations of Ann Green Communications

Mary will prepare a meeting notice to be shared with the Hungry Horse News.

Next Meeting and Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05p.m. The next meeting will include a discussion of Superfund versus non-Superfund status. The meeting will take place on Thursday, July 9 at North Valley Hospital Teakettle Community Room located at 235 Nucleus Avenue, Columbia Falls. The meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m.; a buffet dinner will be available at 5:30 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: **Thursday, July 9, 2015**
5:30 p.m. – dinner
6:00 p.m. – meeting
Location: North Valley Hospital Teakettle Community Room
Topic: Superfund versus Non-Superfund

KM/6-11-15/222