

MEETING SUMMARY

Community Environmental Working Group

“Striving for Continuous Environmental Improvements at Intel”

Date: December 21, 2016
Time: 5:00–7:00 p.m.
Location: Corrales Senior Center

Members Attending

John Bartlit, NM Citizens for Clean Air & Water
Mike Williams, NM Citizens for Clean Air & Water

Hugh Church, American Lung Assc. in NM
Sarah Chavez, Intel
Dennis O’Mara, Corrales resident, Corrales Residents for Clean Air and Water

Non-Members Attending

Ron Eppes, Intel
Lynne Kinis, Corrales resident

Facilitator

Shannon Beaucaire, Facilitator

CJ Ondek, Recorder

HANDOUTS

- CEWG Draft Agenda
- Draft Meeting Summary, November 2016
- Action-Item Progress Report, November 2016
- EHS Activity Report
- Draft 2016 Annual Report
- Letter to Dr. Smolinske
- Letters from Dr. Fisher to Heidi Krapfl and the CEWG
- Priority Topics

PROPOSED AGENDA

Welcome, Introductions,
Announcements and Brief Items
Standing Agenda Items
Action Item Progress Report

Reflections on 2016—Finalizing the
2016 Annual Report
2017 Planning—Topics for 2017
Adjourn

Filename: 2016-12-21 CEWG_FINAL Meeting_Summary. Approved: 1.18.2017 Prepared or presented by: CJ Ondek & Shannon Beaucaire Prepared for: CEWG Date prepared or presented: December 28, 2016

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND BRIEF ITEMS

John Bartlit opened the meeting by referring to the CEWG mission, which was to make environmental improvements at Intel, reduce chemical emissions at Intel, and improve community dialogue. Introductions were made.

Agenda—Revisions and Approval

No comment.

Meeting Summaries—Revisions and Approval

No comment.

Other Announcements

Sarah Chavez said she added a new handout to today's meeting, which included a letter to Heidi Krapfl at the NM Dept. of Health (NMDOH) and a second letter to the CEWG, both from Don Fisher, M.D., Intel's medical director. His letter to Ms. Krapfl offered comments on NMDOH's current ALS study for her consideration.

John Bartlit said Roger McClellan, a consultant for Intel and some national groups, emailed him recently. Mr. McClellan previously attended CEWG meetings in the past, but he hadn't attended in years. However, it appeared that he had been reading CEWG meeting summaries, Mr. Bartlit said. Mr. McClellan offered information on aldehydes in urban air via three attached references, and in particular a reference on diesel trucks and aldehydes, which were relevant to Mike Williams' questions. Mr. Bartlit said he forwarded the references to Mike Williams.

Mike Williams said he had been worried about aldehydes that showed up in the FTIR task force study. He had wondered whether automobiles might have added aldehydes to the urban haze. The references from Roger McClellan indicated that there were significant aldehyde emissions from diesel trucks. However, since 2007 improvements in technology reduced sulfur emissions in diesel trucks, which also reduced aldehyde emissions by one to two orders of magnitude. The FTIR study data was collected in 2003, so that might explain why aldehydes showed up in the study, Mr. Williams said. Also, as new trucks replaced the older trucks, urban haze would become less dangerous to the community's health. He said that he would need to do some back study to see if the numbers made sense, but it was interesting to him because progress was made on a problem they didn't even know they had.

John Bartlit said that since Mr. McClellan responded to Mr. William's questions, the references should be distributed to the group.

ACTION ITEM: Mike Williams will send the references to the group.

John Bartlit said he had an email from Peter Kowalski saying he hoped that ATSDR would respond in early January to Mr. Williams' questions.

Public Comment

Lynne Kinis said that she had not called Sarah Chavez about this issue, but many of her neighbors called her to say that a chemical smell was prevalent for a longer period of time and seemed to be hanging around. Sarah Chavez said Ms. Kinis should tell the neighbors to call her at Intel, because then they could check on the possible source. Ms. Kinis said it was important for Intel to know that people were noticing the smell and were hesitant to call Intel because they said it was worthless to do so.

Dennis O'Mara said recent weather was calm, and he wasn't sure of the effect of colder weather. Mike Williams said that weather was usually associated with dispersion, and emissions spread slowly during colder conditions.

STANDING AGENDA ITEMS

ALS Study

Dennis O'Mara reported that there had been some community-based reporting, but other than that he did not have any updates at this point on the ALS study.

Dennis O'Mara said he briefly looked at Dr. Fisher's email letter to Heidi Krapfl at tonight's meeting. The email was sent on November 3, and he asked Ms. Chavez why the letter wasn't brought to the November CEWG. Ms. Chavez said they had run out of time in November and chose to distribute in December instead. Mr. O'Mara stressed that the CEWG should have been informed about the email letter in November.

Dennis O'Mara said obviously Dr. Fisher had looked at the National ALS Association Web site and copied whatever information he could find to include in the email. He said he had two comments for Dr. Fisher: "1. Tell us something we DON'T know; and 2. Keep your nose out of this study." Mr. O'Mara stressed that NMDOH staff involved in the study were professionals who knew how to conduct a study of this nature. They did not need Dr. Fisher or Intel's input. He emphasized that the professionals conducting the study, and he as the requester, had been very clear that the study would not draw any conclusions about causality. The study was looking at whether a cluster of ALS cases occurred sometime between 2000 and 2015. Mr. O'Mara said he resented that Dr. Fisher sent the letter to NMDOH, and from this point on he would not give the CEWG any information about the study. He said to take the ALS study item off the CEWG agenda moving forward. He stressed that the communication was interference by Intel on a study that was none of their business.

John Bartlit asked how the CEWG could get information about the study's progress. Mr. O'Mara said that the results would be published, and they could know then. Mr. Bartlit asked if it would be perceived as interference if he called the NMDOH for an update. Mr. O'Mara said anyone could call NMDOH, since it was the public health department. It was one thing to call and ask for an update, and another to try to tell them how to conduct and interpret the study, as though they didn't understand these things already. It appeared that, in his letter, Dr. Fisher laid out a protocol about how the study should be done, what should be done, how it should be looked at and how it should be interpreted. Mr. O'Mara said this action did not sit well with him.

Sarah Chavez asked that if Dr. Fisher, as Intel's medical director, wanted to make sure that NMDOH was aware of this basic information, which they were according to Mr. O'Mara, then what was the concern? Mr. O'Mara said it appeared Dr. Fisher was trying to influence the people doing the study in a certain direction. As known from past experience, Intel had influenced state policy and its response to issues related to Intel. Intel was assuming that this study was directly related to their interests, and he was not sure it was. He requested the study because it was an issue that need to be explored in more depth. He said he had the strong feeling that Intel did not need to be involved at all, and if they wanted to comment then they could do so after the study results were published.

John Bartlit said Dr. Fisher could have sent this email letter to the CEWG before it went anywhere else. Sarah Chavez said that was why Intel provided the letter to the CEWG now, but agreed that Intel could have informed the CEWG that Dr. Fisher would be sending the email letter before he actually sent it. Ms. Chavez said that as a toxicologist and medical director for Intel, Dr. Fisher was fulfilling his role to look at these kinds of issues, which was why he sent the email letter, knowing that by protocol Heidi Krapfl was limited in what she could communicate to him. Also, he had been involved in the historical work done at the Intel site.

John Bartlit suggested CEWG members take the time to read the letter after the meeting. He said he understood Mr. O'Mara's response, although it did not serve the CEWG well. Dennis O'Mara said this letter would unduly influence people at the state health department. If the study concluded a cluster existed and more study was warranted, then at that point it was appropriate for Intel to comment.

John Bartlit proposed CEWG members read the letter in detail and then discuss thoughts about the letter contents and come up with ideas on how to proceed (or not). He said his role was to speak as the CEWG acting chair. He said Dr. Fisher threw the CEWG out of the equation, and now Mr. O'Mara threw the CEWG out of the equation. And maybe that's what should happen, but still he would like a broader discussion on the matter.

Dennis O'Mara said he was sorry he informed the CEWG about the study and that Intel found out about it.

Lynne Kinis said to keep in mind that Intel never seemed to initiate any study into anything that Corrales residents or CEWG was interested in. She pointed out that Mr. O'Mara had been magnanimous about sharing information timely on the Cancer study, ALS study and emergency action committee work, while Ms. Chavez delayed informing about Dr. Fisher's letter for over a month. Also, she reminded that at the most recent ATSDR meeting in the Old Church, a community member mentioned that her mother died of ALS, a couple neighbors had it, and she thought she also had it. That number of people with ALS living in a small area certainly implied some kind of cluster, which was why Mr. O'Mara pursued a formal study.

John Bartlit said the CEWG needed to be clear by consensus on their role in Dr. Fisher's letter and the ALS study and decide how to move forward, if at all, after reading the letter in detail.

Sarah Chavez said that Dr. Fisher would be willing to come to a CEWG meeting to discuss the matter and their concerns, should the CEWG want that. Mr. Bartlit thanked her for the offer. Ms. Chavez also clarified about Dr. Fisher's letter being included in the Meeting Summary. If Intel communicated any information to a regulatory agency, their goal was to communicate that act to the public. That had been Intel's protocol and why the EHS report was created. Mr. Bartlit reiterated that the CEWG could have been included in the loop earlier.

Dennis O'Mara said that regardless, he had been "around the block a few times," and in his view this letter was an attempt to influence. Mr. Bartlit said he could not comment until he read the letter in detail. Right now he did not know enough to comment. Mr. O'Mara said that Dr. Fisher was trying to tell NMDOH how to do their work, and they did not need to be told how to do their work. It would influence their study, guaranteed, and it was wrong. Mr. Bartlit said the CEWG should discuss what to do in this matter, but they couldn't make a decision until they were more informed about the letter details.

Sarah Chavez asked if there was something in the letter that wasn't already public information, then why did Mr. O'Mara consider it influential? Mr. Bartlit said that the other side of that question was then why send it. Mr. O'Mara said the letter was a shot across the bow to let NMDOH know that Intel was looking over their shoulder. The people working on the study were beholden to the department organizational hierarchy, and everyone was aware of how political influence worked in the state; it was not good for the public.

Shannon Beaucaire reiterated Mr. Bartlit's proposal of taking the time to read through the letter and then discussing what to do about it, if anything. John Bartlit said he wanted to find a useful role for the CEWG or to decide to not be involved at all. Mike Williams said

the CEWG was not in a position to nor should they attempt to influence the study. He did not see a role for CEWG until the study was completed.

Lynne Kinis read the following sentence from Dr. Fisher's letter:

“ALS is a relatively rare disease with a prevalence rate in the general US population of around 4 per 100,000...the finding of a single case in a population of less than 25,000 could appear to suggest an elevated prevalence rate when, in fact, it may only be an artifact of very small numbers—and therefore due to chance alone.”

Ms. Kinis said this statement was wrong and he was printing it as if it were gospel. Mr. O'Mara agreed that this statement was wrong, as 1 per 25,000 was equivalent to 4 per 100,000 proportionally speaking, which was the current prevalence.

Shannon Beaucaire pressed the group on what they wanted to do. Mr. Bartlit made a proposal to go home and read the letter, and Mr. Williams added that the group could agree to not do anything about it. Mr. Williams made a counter proposal that the group should go home, read letter and communicate by email about whether or not it should be on the January agenda. Mr. Bartlit agreed that was a reasonable proposal.

Lynne Kinis said the name of the group was the “CEWG,” and she asked where the community came in. This issue was about the community. This was not about 1 in 25,000, but about one woman who had 4 within a stone's throw. She asked if the CEWG was here to “BS” their way through meetings and not deal with issues. She heard “denial” in their response. Mr. Williams commented that they weren't forgetting about it but wanting time to study and think about whether there was anything to do to mitigate its effects.

Dennis O'Mara said if CEWG believed this letter equated to undue influence, then the CEWG could write a letter to Heidi Krapfl expressing this concern. John Bartlit said there were many possibilities about how to respond.

CONSENSUS: The group agreed to read the letter and have an email discussion about how or how not to respond to the letter.

Lynne Kinis said she would send Shannon Beaucaire her comments on the letter. Sarah Chavez said she needed to abstain but would not block consensus.

EHS Report

Sarah Chavez noted that on November 30 Intel had to report to NMED via their non-emergency hotline about a leak of deionized water into the stormwater outfall on Intel's Southwest end of the site. An estimated 30,000 gallons of deionized water escaped. The

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discharge was contained immediately by closing the sluice gate valve. The event was not an emergency but had to be recorded and reported to NMED.

Dennis O'Mara asked about the significance of deionized water. Ms. Chavez said all the minerals were removed from the water, but Intel was only allowed a certain types of discharge, and this discharge was not approved and therefore required notification. There was no health issue here.

Regulatory Engineering Update

Sarah Chavez said Intel was close to appointing a staff person as a Regulatory Engineering liaison and would most likely make the appointment in the New Year.

UNM Cancer Study

Dennis O'Mara said he had nothing new to report at this time.

REVIEW ACTION ITEM PROGRESS REPORT

On item #3, Sarah Chavez said she learned how to make changes to both the file name and Web site name without impacting the newsletter.

John Bartlit reported on item #6. He said that he had focused on writing the CEWG Annual Report and letters this past month and had not contacted Dr. Kesler. He said he would attempt to contact her again in the New Year.

Dennis O'Mara reported that Dr. Smolinske would attend the next Sandoval County Emergency Management meeting.

Mike Williams said he was okay with Ms. Beaucaire sending the thank you letter to Dr. Smolinske, as were the other group members. Sarah Chavez reminded Ms. Beaucaire to attach the pdf.

ACTION ITEM: Shannon Beaucaire will send the thank you letter to Dr. Smolinske and attached pdf.

Mike Williams asked if they wanted to put the ATSDR draft report for public comment on the CEWG Web site. Ms. Chavez said that they had to be clear that one version was draft and the other was final and the two needed to be linked. John Bartlit said when the ATSDR final report came out, the CEWG agreed formally to not put it on the Web site because it was controversial. He did not want the two to be tangled up. Ms. Chavez remembered that they couldn't agree what to include and not to include. She suggested to only put the pages in the report with information on aldehydes. Mr. Williams said he was fine either way.

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ACTION ITEM: Mike Williams will identify pages on aldehydes, and Shannon Beaucaire will scan them as a pdf, and then post on the CEWG Web site.

Sarah Chavez reported that Ann Kelleher at Intel had received the CEWG's letter, but she was on work and holiday travel and would respond in the New Year.

Shannon Beaucaire said in 2017 the Senior Center would not allow the CEWG to rent the Center before 5 pm. They suggested moving the meeting start time. Ms. Beaucaire asked if they wanted to move the meeting to another facility or change the start time. Mike Williams suggested starting at 5:15 and ending at 7 pm. If they needed an extra 15 minutes they would add them to the end. Mr. Bartlit said they had been doing more work between meetings. They could try the new meeting time and see how it went. Ms. Beaucaire said she might need help with setting up in the short time—15 minutes. Mr. Bartlit said this space was quiet and accessible with good parking. He voted for Mr. Williams' proposal. Ms. Beaucaire asked if she should book for three months or for the entire year. The group agreed to book for the entire year so as not to lose their time slot.

CONSENSUS: The group agreed to change the meeting time from 5:15 pm to 7 pm and to book the space for one year.

ACTION ITEM: Shannon Beaucaire will contact Carolyn O'Mara to change the time in the advertisement. Shannon Beaucaire will book for a full year from 5 pm to 8 pm.

Shannon Beaucaire said they would not get to the 2017 priorities item tonight and asked if the group would like to move the item to the next meeting. Sarah Chavez suggested having an email discussion about it. Shannon Beaucaire said she would pull together a list of priorities for the group to discuss by email.

ACTION ITEMS:

Shannon Beaucaire will put together list of priorities for next year for the group to discuss by email.

The group will brainstorm priority topics for 2017.

REVIEWING AND FINALIZING THE 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

John Bartlit said he added an introductory paragraph to the report that informed readers about the CEWG's mission and work, followed by six items worked on in 2016. Also, he included a paragraph on emission reductions that several people in the community noted. He added this paragraph to show that there was benefit in further reducing emissions.

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Sarah Chavez said information in the parentheses at the end of each item refers to the topic index, which would help people find information more easily than having to go through all the meeting summaries. This was a new addition to annual report.

All present worked together to review and revise the Draft CEWG 2016 Annual Report and to reach an agreed upon final draft.

CONSENSUS: Group members in attendance approved the final draft for the 2016 Annual Report.

John Bartlit reminded that to draft the Annual Report, Shannon Beaucaire initially went through all the meeting summaries to pull pertinent items.

Sarah Chavez said she and Shannon Beaucaire needed to update the topic index. Once that was finalized they could release the Annual Report to the public.

John Bartlit asked Shannon Beaucaire to send the final Annual Report to the group after making changes and before publishing on the Web site.

ACTION ITEMS:

Shannon Beaucaire will make the final changes and distribute the final version of the 2016 Annual Report to group members.

Shannon Beaucaire and Sarah Chavez will update the topic index before publishing on the annual report on the Web.

ADJOURN

NEXT MEETING: January 18, 2016, 5:15 to 7 pm, Corrales Senior Center.

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