Final CEWG Annual Report 2019

The Community Environmental Working Group began in 2004, with the mission of making environmental improvements at Intel New Mexico, including reducing chemical emissions from the facility, and improving community dialogue. Since then, the CEWG has had contact with a wide variety of people and organizations to gather and use a large amount of information about the emissions. The CEWG also has made independent measurements of crystalline silica emissions from the stacks, it has done independent modeling of the dispersion of stack emissions in nearby communities, and it has helped (along with the public, public agencies, and Intel management and engineers) in bringing various reductions in emissions.

None of these additional steps could be required by law.

A number of persons with varied interests have commented to the CEWG that local effects of the emissions are noticeably less than in the years before the CEWG began. These reports strengthen the prospects that further reducing emissions would be beneficial to the community. Reducing emissions further remains part of the CEWG mission.

In 2019, no further emission reductions were achieved. The most persuasive talking points for further reducing emissions rely on the most solid evidence that can be mustered. The CEWG continued to contact more sources of information and apply the best reasons to promote continuous improvements.

The chief work products completed in 2019 are the following (detailed information can be found in the topic index @ http://www.cewg.org/index-of-topics-and-documents/. Topic headings for finding more details are listed in brackets for each item below):

1. A panel discussion was held in February 2019 to review the results of a November 2017 study published by the New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH) regarding the prevalence rate of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) among Corrales city residents. The report was requested by a community member on October 1, 2015. The request was to compare ALS prevalence rate in Corrales to the national ALS prevalence rate. Panelists included Heidi Krapfl (NMDOH), Dr. Andy Rowland (University of New Mexico, UNM), Dr. Elijah Stommel (Dartmouth University), and Steve Dickens. [Epidemiology and Health Effects]
2. A panel discussion was held in December 2019 to review the results of a September 2019 study published by the New Mexico Cancer Concerns Work Group (NM CCWG) regarding the number of cancer cases diagnosed among residents in 14 census tracts selected based on their proximity to the Intel manufacturing plant. The report was requested in 2015 by the Corrales Residents for Clean Air and Water (CRCAW). The request was to compare the number of cancer cases in census tracts near the Intel

manufacturing plant to the number of state-wide cancer cases. Initial discussion was between CEWG members, Corrales residents, and Dr. Chuck Wiggins (UNM, primary author of the report). [Health Effects]

3. Intel prepared presentations throughout 2019 to provide an overview of the New Mexico site air permit and permit requirements from monitoring, recordkeeping, reporting, and testing perspectives. This was a continuation of the 2018 New Mexico Environment Department Air Quality Bureau (NMED AQB) presentation which provided an overview of the Clean Air Act, its architecture, a history of some of the programs, and a look at how the permitting process works. [Permits]
4. At the request of the CEWG in 2018, Intel communicated the CEWG mission and work to Intel employees. Intel sent out communication to all employees via employee newsletter in March 2019. [Public communication and public engagement – didn't find any mention in topic index]
5. A preliminary meeting was held on June 19, 2019 to discuss research to identify changes in vegetation via satellite imagery. Dr. Louis Scuderi (UNM) provided an overview of his proposed methodology and overall timeframe to complete the study. The CEWG will continue to follow-up with Dr. Scuderi for additional updates on the status of the research. [Vegetation]