

DRAFT MINUTES
Waste-to-Energy Facility Monitoring Group
MEETING

November 17th, 2021
Covanta Alexandria/Arlington Waste-to-Energy Facility – Eisenhower Avenue
8:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Virtual Meeting

The Facility Monitoring Group, City and County Staff, and HDR representatives present for the meeting included Helen Lee, Erik Grabowsky, Morgan Routt, Emily Hughes, Vijetha Huffman, Alaeedin Mohamed, William Skrabak, Amanda Hamm, and Dan Domato. Don Cammarata and Lucas Dushac attended the meeting from Covanta. This FMG Meeting was held as a virtual meeting.

I. Comments on Agenda

There were no edits made to the Agenda. Grabowsky made the motion to approve. Routt seconded. All in favor of approval.

II. Approval of Final Minutes from the August 11th, 2021 Facility Monitoring Group Meeting.

Revise language on pg. 5 to ‘City Manager has announced his retirement’

With that edit made to the Meeting Minutes, Grabowsky made the motion to approve. Routt seconded. All in favor of approval.

Draft of meeting minutes will be sent out at least a week prior to FMG meeting for review.

III. Requisitions for Payment

The requisitions for payment that were submitted for approval totaled \$10,300. The sole invoice was the invoice for HDR Engineering, Inc. for the period August 1st, 2021 to October 23rd, 2021 in the amount of \$10,300.

New process for requests for payments – they will need two approvals. Mohamed will verify the hours and rates. With the City’s approval, the invoice will be sent to the County (Grabowsky or Hughes) for approval. Will electronically vote on invoice.

IV. Operations and Facility Status

A. Summary of Plant Operations (by Covanta)

Dushac provided an update on the Plant Operations since the previous meeting: Dushac discussed the Facility's Environmental and Safety Highlights: There were no environmental exceedances. There were no injuries or incidents during the previous quarter. There were two COVID cases in the previous quarter (both isolated with no serious symptoms).

There was a black plant outage in August was due to a City water main break along Eisenhower Avenue. The City shut down water supply and the Facility had no process or fire water. There was a quick turn around by the City to return water supply.

Dushac discussed the Facility's staffing update: Covanta has hired new aux. operators and mechanics. However, there have been internal promotions and resignations on both operations and maintenance. The Facility currently has four positions open (one mechanic, and three auxiliary operators).

Dushac discussed Facility Maintenance: No major outages during the previous quarter. Processing tonnage is up from last year.

Cammarata discussed Facility tours: The Facility is hosting tours at a limited capacity. Recently gave a tour to the Northern Virginia Community College Environmental Science Class (split into two separate tours – October and November).

Lee asked what the capacity of these tours have been. Cammarata replied that they have limited these tours to 10 guests.

Huffman highlighted that there are a few entries on the deficiency list for steam leaks and asked whether these were major. Dushac replied that these leaks have not been major and in general the priority of the leak is dependent on the severity. Covanta will continue to monitor the severity of the active leaks. Work orders will stay open until repairs are made during scheduled or forced outages.

Lee asked that Covanta still provide the City with notifications for upcoming outages. The City is still receiving noise complaints from Residents.

B. Discussion of Quarterly Report and Facility Performance to Date (by HDR)

Domato discussed the Quarterly Report and Performance Trends. There were two boiler outages in Q1FY22 (See Pages 4 & 24 of the Quarterly Report). Two scheduled cleaning outages on Unit 1 and 3. All three units on standby during a water main break (August 20) – The T-Gs were also on standby during this period. Two unscheduled outages on Unit 2 (two separate repairs to the UFA Fan).

Dushac commented that for the UFA fan failures on Unit 2 were due to a cable in the conduit deteriorated and grounded out. Bearing coupling replacement was more proactive after seeing high vibrations.

In Q1FY22, the average boiler availability was 98.4%. In Q1FY22, the Facility processed 91,485 tons of waste. See in Chart 1, the monthly MSW processing rate was consistent with the previous two fiscal years. Total Waste Deliveries were slightly higher than the previous two fiscal years through Q1 (Chart 8 page 17).

In Q1FY22, ash generation continues to trend upward; however, this is partially caused by the lower efficiency of the temporary magnet – was 1.4 percentage points higher than last year. (Page 10 Chart 2). In Q1FY22, ferrous recovery averaged 2.6% (as a percentage of waste processed), this is down from the previous quarter and was due to the lower efficiency of the temporary magnet (Page 11). Seen in Chart 3, for FY21, the monthly ferrous recovery rate was down between 0.4 and 0.5 percentage points from the previous fiscal year.

Dushac commented that the new ferrous magnet will ship before thanksgiving; contractor lined up to install the new magnet in December. Will need to get a new VFD due to the increase in size in magnet.

In Q1FY22, the steam production was consistent to the previous Q1s (Chart 4 Page 12). In Q1FY22, gross and net electric generation were comparable to the previous fiscal years. See Chart 12 (Page 19), the Facility averaged 411 kWh/ton which was comparable to the previous fiscal years. Turbine Steaming Rate at 12.4 lbs/kWh is slightly higher (lower performance) than the previous three fiscal years. In Q1FY22, the fuel oil usage back in line with expected (given the outages during the quarter).

Domato discussed the performance trends through October 2021. Reviewing NOx Emission and Ammonia Usage (from performance summary): Ammonia usage trending down slightly through October. Dushac commented that the reduction is from the optimization from Covanta, reduced Unit 1 ammonia usage from 30 to 25 gals/hr. Adjustments in air flow, has led to higher furnace temperature. Does not appear to have additional wear on tiles or boiler waterwall tubes. Unit 1 at 2,000 degF vs 1700-1800 degF.

Grabowsky added that the Facility already runs higher than design and asked if Covanta has any study for assessing the waterwall tubes and boiler box. Dushac responded that Covanta's boiler reliability group is brought in to do testing on boiler tubes during major outages. Grabowsky asked if this was only done on areas not protected by tubes and tiles. Dushac added that its further down

the boiler yes, but it's also cooler. Domato asked if assessment reports are kept on record for the Facility. Dushac responded that they keep records of all their details.

While reviewing the decreased trends in October 2021. Domato asked if this was due to a scheduled outage. Dushac explained that Covanta intentionally put a boiler on standby to set the processing rates for an upcoming T-G outage during October 2022. A normal October is around 900-1000tpd with 24k to 30k tons during the month – the standby allows for them to plan for a similar processing rate (lower) during next year for the T-G outage. This will set up the rolling average steam/processing limit. Grabowsky asked what the operational impact was for this plan. Dushac replied that there is no impact of waste received – pit inventory will be managed for this plan. Processing more in November. Grabowsky asked about any impacts on delivery queues (with the expected two open bays). Dushac replied that he does not expect more issues than normal. The queues can be managed, and they will still expect to have their normal issues during major outages in general. Grabowsky requested that the FMG be notified if Covanta believes that there will be any

Huffman and Dushac discussed the turbine maintenance expected during this outage. The turbine blade not to be included in plan because of the extra time needed during the outage. Covanta continues to evaluate the need of the missing blade.

Domato provided an update to Table 1 (Page 7) Report Deficiencies: HDR performed a walk-through last week (11/10). Items to be removed from the list (completed): Item 16 – stair treads were replaced, Item 12 (partially) – Units 1 and 2 addressed, and Item 13 (partially) – Units 1 and 2 addressed. New items to be added to the punch list: updated item 14 to include T-G no. 1.

V. Covanta Items

A. Update on LN System

Dushac discussed the LN system status. Unit 1 and Unit 2 in continuous and normal operation with the LN system in service; production around 85 ppm of NOx emissions. Unit 3 is on track to be installed in January with testing and optimization in April/May (July certification).

B. Covanta Sale

Cammarata discussed the recent sale of Covanta: The sale was approved by the shareholders and should be finalized by the end of November. Company being converted to private – no longer be publicly traded. The Company will not change name.

C. Supplemental Waste

Waste generation/deliveries has been down across the country. Adjustments have been made on the sales side.

VI. Old Business

A. Air Quality Report/ Eisenhower West Plan Implementation Update

There was no update to provide on the Plan.

VII. New Business

A. Jeff Duval's Departure

Duval has departed his position with the City. Grabowsky, Lee, Hughes, and Routt are now the FMG's voting Members. Interviews for Jeff's replacement have started and they will be Lee's alternate. Lee will be the new FMG Chair for the City of Alexandria.

Additionally, introducing Amanda Hamm to the FMG; she is the Assistant O&M Director and will be an alternate to Routt.

B. Legislative Issues

Lee and Cammarata discussed potential impacts of the Build Back Better Plan. Lee mentioned that they could be impacts from recycling infrastructure funding. Cammarata mentioned that there has been high level discussion around waste management but is unsure where that will end up.

Cammarata discussed the solid waste fee under legislature of the DEQ. DEQ is looking to achieve 100% cost coverage (up from 40%). Incineration (or WTE) fee was able to remain at current rate. DEQ will still need to send for approval.

C. Public Initiatives

The City and County are looking for opportunities for tours of the Facility. Covanta will help and support arranging time for tours.

D. Waste-to-Energy 101 Webinar and Fund Discussion

Lee will send the final scope of work for the HDR presentation. Will be looking for approval and scheduling during next meeting, as well as a list of attendees.

Lee will also be reaching out to the FMG members for an additional session to discuss use of FMG funds.

On a motion by Grabowsky, seconded by Routt, the meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

The next Facility Monitoring Group Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 9th, 2022 either at the Covanta Facility or to be held as a virtual meeting.