

**MINUTES  
KPPC/EJP2  
WEST COUNTY COMMUNITY TASK FORCE  
MEETING**

**Tuesday, May 16, 2000**

The KPPC/EJP2 West County Community Task Force Meeting was held at 6:00 p.m. at the Louisville Urban League, 1535 West Broadway, Louisville, Kentucky.

**ATTENDEES/MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Ms. Arnita Gadson, KPPC, WCCTF  
Mr. Jonathan Miller, DuPont Dow  
Mr. Tom Herman, Zeon Chemicals  
Ms. Linda Weathers, Commissioner Owens Office  
Mr. Carl Hilton, DuPont Dow  
Ms. Daphne Wilson, APCD  
Ms. Karen Cairns, UofL  
Ms. Peggy J. Bolton, Shawnee  
Ms. Bonnie Biemer, City of Louisville LDA/DEI  
Mr. Wade Helm, KY Conservation Committee  
Mr. Ken Mitchell, US EPA Region IV  
Mr. Art Williams, APCD  
Mr. Bill Wetter, Jefferson County Health & Environment  
Mr. Fred Schuler, Geon  
Ms. Laura Hackett, Russell  
Ms. Mayme Whaley  
Ms. LaLetta Jenkins  
Mr. Tom Fitzgerald, KY Resources Council  
Ms. Penny Williams, KPPC

Arnita Gadson called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

Any corrections to previous task force meeting minutes should be e-mailed to Penny at [plwill01@gwise.louisville.edu](mailto:plwill01@gwise.louisville.edu).

**Special notice!**

Effective May 31, 2000, the West County Environmental Information Center will no longer be located at the City View Park address at 11<sup>th</sup> and Chestnut. Our new location will be at the Nia Center, Suite 218, 2900 West Broadway, Louisville, Ky. 40211, effective June 1, 2000

We would like to thank Commissioner Darryl Owens and staff for offering the use of the conference facility for our monthly meetings until other space could be found, however as of the

July monthly meeting, we will began our regular meetings at the NIA conference room. Thanks again to Commissioner Owens for the offer.

Armita will attend the NEJAC (National Environmental Justice Action Council) Conference in Atlanta, Georgia beginning May 22<sup>nd</sup> and will provide an update at the July WCCTF Meeting.

### **To Industry**

All industries who made donations in any form to the WCCTF Information Center are asked to provide Armita, on official letterhead, a listing of all donations and its estimated value.

### **Please note:**

The June 20, 2000 meeting will be a reception for Senator Gerald Neal and all those who helped us to continue our air toxics initiative with funding of \$300,000 effective July 1, 2000 from the commonwealth.

**GEON PRESENTATION** – Fred Schuler of GEON gave a presentation on the company, and its progress. Oxi-Vinyls is now the host company for Geon. The company is the world's largest producer of vinyl (PVC) compounds of \$900 Million (as Synergistics Industries Ltd., Oxychem Compounding), and is North America's largest producer of dispersion resins and formulators of \$270 Million (as Plast-O-Meric, Wilflex, Adchem, Acrol, and Dennis Chemical). The company also produces engineered films of \$215 Million (as Oxychem Film, and O'Sullivan). Adhesive bandages are made by Geon, and marketed under various product names i.e. Johnson & Johnson. Novelty foam headware, and T-shirts for laminating.

Geon is presently located in the former BF Goodrich chemical facility. It currently has 36 employees; seven years of no recordable injuries, ten years of no lost time injuries and 120 pounds of production. The primary products produced are wire and cable products, general flexibles. In addition, they are no longer a chemical facility, but strictly a processor. It does not handle liquids, or volatiles, only solids, powders.

Question from task force : "What are the Geon's emissions?"

*Answer:* "Soybean oil, alcohol and resin transfer. There is no lead emissions because it's pressurized in a vacuum".

Question from task force: "Will it show up in a toxic release inventory?"

*Answer:* "Yes. Lead only."

Question from task force: "Is there a high employee turnover?"

*Answer:* "The turnover rate is very low because of the high pay level. People leave only upon retirement. Our group is the smallest and the highest paid in the industry. Processors are not usually paid at rates equal to ours"

Question from task force: "Where do most of the employees live"

*Answer:* "Most of the employees live in the Shively, Cane Run and Dixie Highway areas as well as, Indiana." The factory is located on Bells Lane at the former BF Goodrich site. They are also apart of the United Food Consolidated Workers Union, and there are no other facilities of this sort within the state of Kentucky.

**EPA PRESENTATION** – Ken Mitchell of EPA Region IV gave a presentation on "Air Toxics Studies". The presentation included the following: basic steps, identifying the study goals, monitoring techniques, identifying stakeholders, developing project goals, siting analysis, potential sources and pollutants, identifying exposed populations, areas of maximum impact, finalizing and setting up monitors, community monitoring, risk assessments and health assessments.

Once the air toxics study has been completed, a health assessment analyses will begin. It must be done from completed annualized study data, whether it is one or two years. It was suggested that ATSDR (Air Toxics Survey and Disease Registry), a branch of EPA, be used as an integral source for this study. An ATSDR representative will make a presentation at the July meeting. Copies of Ken's presentation will be available at the June meeting.