**Environmental Advisory Council**

**Jefferson Hills Borough, Pennsylvania**

**July 12, 2023, 6:30 P.M., Meeting Minutes**

*NOTE: This meeting is a rescheduled meeting from June28, 2023.*

**Roll Call: Kevin Pollick, Lori Bartrug, Rick Moore, Judy Kaufmann, and Christine Weir at 6:52 P.M. joined.**

**Temporary Batch Plant for Concrete:**

Councilman Lynch circulated an application letter for temp batch plant permit. Joe Reviewing, Appears to be built. No additional concerns raised.

**Marcellus Gas Drilling**

* Update on proposed Marcellus Gas Well pad in Union Twp. (Sarah Well Pad)

Question from Judy: Have there been any baseline studies done by EQT prior to commencing operations for the Sarah well pad and if not how can the affects be judged on the local population. As far as the EAC knows there have not been any baseline studies completed.

**Abandoned Gas Wells and Mines**

* update on GIS files – Tom to review with DEP. Christina recommended a social media post on borough’s website to alert residents to notify the borough if they notice any unknown obstacles that may be part of an old abandoned/orphaned gas well. EAC will work through Borough Manager and Council for this.

**US Steel Clairton Coke Works Air Quality Discussion - Benzene**

* Christina and Rick led discussion centered on exposure levels and differences in minimum risk levels. Christina discovered information on cumulative effects from a combination of particulate and benzene matter (studies in China). Christina interested in finding research that would focus on any information for these type of cumulative effects. Judy will look for this.
* Citizens Advisory Panel met this past month. Kevin handed out the Operations and Environmental Report for 2022 - a link is available to the report online and via the US Steel website noted that during the implosion of the old El Rama Power plant there was an inversion and Allegheny County Dept. of Health had ordered U.S. Steel to go on a longer coking cycle but Washington County didn’t delay the implosion creating a significant slowly dispersing cloud during the inversion.
* No 1 & 3 batteries were shut down per the consent decree.

**Open Discussion**

* PA fights dirty, litter cleanup.

Concerns over new waste management contract, bigger official cans, pay for an extra can. Result of significantly higher prices: dumped garbage on remote borough roads, etc.

* Do we want to look at the issues of fluoride in our water. Tom made pictures of a newspaper series of articles exploring concerns with fluoridating and distributed in a “Reply to All” email, with subject “ EAC May, 2023 Agenda” on 6/20/23. He noted that PA American Water does fluoridate. Rick noted the concentrations appeared low from their website. Lori expressed interest in looking at the articles.

**Remaining EAC meeting dates for 2023:**

September 27, October 25, November 29

December – No meeting