

**Environmental Advisory Council  
Jefferson Hills Borough, Pennsylvania  
September 28, 2022 Meeting Agenda**

**Roll Call:** Terry Ackman, Lori Bartrug, Tom Donohue, Rick Moore, Christina Weir Ripley, Joe Lynch, John Stinner

**PFAS Discussion**

*AFFF (firefighting foam) used by JHFR replaced with a type that does not contain PFAS. John asked to provide the name of the new material.*

*Further discussion on the public water companies and the requirement to test for PFAS. Rick discussed that there are no requirements, but the next USEPA Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) will require some individual PFAS chemicals to be analyzed and reported. This testing will be in 2023 to 2025, likely reporting in 2026.*

**New Website and EAC Information**

*John Stinner discussed that a new Borough website is in development. EAC to include the website design in future EAC Agendas to discuss how the EAC wants the information organized for public availability.*

*Additional discussion of the generation of opinion papers, or presentations by EAC members. An awareness of the potential conflict of interest or proprietary information from personal work should be considered.*

**Peters Creek Adopt-a-Highway**

*Scouts Update, U.S. Steel Update.*

*Troop 210 from Whitehall, PA completed the inaugural litter pickup along Peters Creek from Gill Hall Road to Waterman Road in May 2022 and collected about 5 bags of trash. The troop will complete their next litter pickup of this road section in October.*

*US Steel has adopted the remainder portion of Peters Creek from Waterman Road to Oak Road. The adoption is final, waiting on signage. US Steel to schedule their litter pickup.*

**US Steel Clairton Coke Works Air Quality**

*Clairton Plant provided the 2021 Environmental Report. An environmental information brochure was provided. Need to ask Kevin for the white paper of environmental performance. Tom to discuss with Kevin.*

*Discussed continuing conflict/additional fines; Allegheny County Health Dept. fines earlier this year Braddock Plant & Clairton Plants.*

*A tour has been discussed. No dates set yet. Continue to seek a tour if not too late this year or spring of next year.*

*Discussion continued on US Steel on the potential issues if Clairton Coke Works were to close down. Discussed briefly the impending environmental cleanup and the regulation that would guide that cleanup.*

**Marcellus Gas Drilling:**

*Update on proposed Marcellus Gas Well in Union Twp. No notification to borough concerning the Union Twp. Well. System is in place to receive Act 14 notifications. EQT recently applied for a solicitation permit to visit property owners to discuss leasing land.*

*Discussed Oil & Gas Well Development/Potential Risks: No update on this. This topic to be discussed during next meeting*

*EQT's Public Relations rep., Stephanie Paluda, recently retired, new contacts given.*

*Discussion on the new zoning for Jefferson Hills and the ability to drill in the borough. Conditional use permitting is required if drilling is proposed.*

*John Stinner discussed putting together an article for "InCommunity" magazine about zoning.*

### **Beedle Park**

*Discussed Beedle Park expansion and multi-use field. This park is close to the new proposed well pad in Union Township. What could the impact be? Should an environmental impact study be needed before park expansion?*

*Continued discussion on the Union Township Marcellus well and its impact on the entire borough. A 4 mile radius would reach a majority of the borough.*

### **Local environmental projects – Discuss practicality, implementation path, and funding opportunities prior to approaching Borough Council:**

*Interpretive Wetland, held field trip with Amy Miller at Conservation District. Visited 4 wetland sites:*

- 1. A wetland along Peter's Creek Rd., highly valued wetland with unique and protected species, however property's ownership could be an issue with Tomko Construction and concerns that publicly promoting it could expose it to human damage or harvesting of protected features.*
- 2. A wetland on the high school property. Contacted Dan Giger, Science Dept. With new Superintendent he's looking for some direction as to out-of-classroom activities and use of the property. Wetland is on backside of property overlooking Beam Run.*
- 3. Wetland at the bottom of Chamberlain Rd. where Beam Run crosses. Multiple owners, some have been very receptive to environmental issues*
- 4. The pond areas off Peters Creek Rd. Ownership issues, access and railroad crossing are potential issues for public access.*

### **Abandoned gas wells and mines**

*Plugging of abandoned gas wells from infrastructure bill; Not much info on abandoned wells in borough. Initial indication is there are not many known.*

*Terry discussed contacts with mine and map repository. Terry talked to Office of surface mining to identify mine openings in borough. The Borough now has the conversion software available from Gateway to view the older digitized maps. John to talk to Mike Glister about a time to view these maps.*

*Supporting Protection of Wildlife Habitat and Corridors in PA (Wildlife Corridors of PA). Tom discussed this topic.*

### **Other Discussion Items:**

*Discussed environmental issues.*

*John brought up landslides and other unfunded mandates for the borough as major issues, such as runoff water.*

*Terry brought up the need for bike signs within Jefferson Hills. Jefferson Hills borough cannot put up signs on any county roads. Most major corridors are county roads.*

*Tom asked about speed bumps along Peters Creek Rd. John said that can be mentioned in discussion on the Borough's new Comprehensive Plan.*

*Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.*

**Next Scheduled Meeting:** Wednesday, October 26. At 6:30 pm.