

PEARCE CREEK IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE MEETING

June 17, 2016 10:00 AM

90B North Center Street

Cecilton, MD 21919

Attendees:

AECOM: Chris Rogers

Bay View Estates (BVE) Residents: Dave Heacock, Jennifer West, Ken Cowley, John Sobon, Sandra Stake, George Hansell, Wilma Fitzner, Bob Fitzner, Dianne English

Cecil County Health Department (CCHD): Angela Scramlin

Maryland Department of the Environment: Ginny Kearney

Maryland Environmental Service (MES): Christine Holmburg, David Peters

Maryland Port Administration (MPA): Chris Correale, Kristen Fidler, Dave Bibo

MPA Consultant: Fran Flanigan

Representative from Office of Congressman Harris: Mary O'Keefe

Representative from Office of Senator Mikulski: Bart Kennedy

Sunset Pointe: Kathy McDonough

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE): Jerry Jones, Tony DePasquale, Tim Kelly, Bill Roche

West View Shores (WVS) Residents: Valerie Woodruff, Patricia Korja Dooley, Wayne Dooley, Gary Shetzline, Bobby Joplin

1.0 Welcome & Introductions

Kristen Fidler

- The attendees were welcomed to the meeting and everyone introduced themselves.

2.0 Summary Approval

Committee

- The draft February and April 2016 Pearce Creek Implementation Committee (PCIC) meeting summaries were approved as written; the summaries will be posted as final on the Pearce Creek outreach website (www.pearcecreekoutreach.com).

3.0 MPA Update

Kristen Fidler

Bottled Water Delivery Information

- To date, 158 of 239 homes have signed up to receive bottled water. Residents have been calling Eastern Shore Coffee and Water Company to adjust the amount of water being delivered; most cases involve decreasing the delivery amount.
- The Maryland Port Administration (MPA) will be providing water through August 1st 2016, and subsequently the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) until the waterline construction is complete.

Community Feedback on Water Distribution

- The USACE is expecting to contract either the current company or Maryland Environmental Service (MES) to continue the water delivery; a seamless transition is anticipated.
- Residents should contact the Eastern Shore Coffee and Water representative (Sarah Chandler; 410-749-4494) to adjust the amount of water that is delivered. Contact information for the Eastern Shore Coffee and Water Company is also located on the outreach website.

Elected Official Outreach

- The annual elected official update meeting is expected to be held soon and elected officials will be invited to visit the site to view the liner installation process.
- This past week the Dredged Material Management Program (DMMP) Executive Committee meeting was held. The State of Maryland's DMMP serves as a body of advisory committees to the Governor on dredged material management solutions for the State of Maryland.
- The DMMP Executive Committee received in-depth updates on all of the dredging projects in the State of Maryland with Pearce Creek being a specific agenda item.

Community Outreach

- A public meeting was held on May 28th, and a DMMP Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting was held in April.
- Bay View Estates (BVE) resident Bill Haines serves on the DMMP CAC and spoke on behalf of the Pearce Creek project. Fran Taylor, the DMMP CAC representative, reflected the Pearce Creek information at the DMMP Executive Committee meeting.

Exterior Monitoring Updates

- Anchor QEA (Anchor) is the subcontractor performing the exterior monitoring and previously presented the results of the fall 2015 baseline exterior monitoring sampling event which focused on sediment quality, benthic community, and water quality.
- The second round of baseline exterior monitoring sampling was completed in May. Anchor is currently processing all of the samples and results should be available by the October meeting.
- Two sample sites were added in the Elk River at the request of residents; one at the mouth of Stemmers Run and one adjacent to Black Rock Beach. The results of the two new locations are for general informational purposes only, will be included in the exterior monitoring report as appendices, and will not be used to identify trends with the other sample location results.
- There will be additional baseline sampling events conducted before inflow begins. A summary of the fall 2015 exterior monitoring sampling and results are available on the outreach website.
- MPA is conducting the voluntary exterior monitoring and the USACE will be conducting the mandatory groundwater monitoring, which will include some sample locations within the communities.

4.0 Philadelphia District USACE (CENAP) Updates

CENAP

Liner Construction

- An aerial photo was used to indicate areas where the existing liner has been placed which will be covered with 12 inches of on-site topsoil material as construction progresses.
- Two liner sections, out of ten, have been covered with topsoil material and a third section is in process of being covered. A sample of the liner was passed around which consisted of a geotextile fabric underneath and above the liner to provide protection. The liner sections are 22 foot rolls that are 750 feet long which get heat welded together to incorporate the whole area.
- Heavy equipment traffic over the liner is not expected. Dump trucks are bringing in stones to maintain the roads and for the gas line trenches.

Groundwater Monitoring Plan Update

- A Groundwater Monitoring Design Narrative was submitted to MDE before the project began; it is not the official submission to MDE, but it has all of the essential components which the USACE intends to monitor.

- Four deep wells were installed in the communities and are currently being monitored along with the preexisting monitoring wells. The results have not been compiled from the most recent background monitoring in May 2016.
- Eight additional wells are likely to be installed in the spring of 2017 prior to dredging; the wells are strategically placed based on groundwater flow to indicate any possible changes after dredging begins. The USACE does not anticipate any changes in groundwater to occur.
- The attendees were reminded that influences from the dredged material containment facility (DMCF) to the communities has occurred over several decades, and any issues from the DMCF currently being experienced by the residents is from historical activities.
- A groundwater monitoring plan is required by the Water Quality Certification (WQC) and will be submitted to MDE for approval before dredging begins.
- MDE will be meeting with the USACE to discuss the groundwater and discharge monitoring plans and evaluate the data currently available.
- Groundwater sampling efforts will not include resampling of private residential wells; the USACE wells surrounding the DMCF and communities will be monitored, which includes both the deeper and shallower aquifers. The intent is to install the monitoring wells in spring 2017 in preparation for dredged material placement in October 2017.
- The Groundwater Monitoring Design Narrative is available on the Pearce Creek outreach website and can be found under the “Related Reports” section of the Pearce Creek DMCF page. (<http://www.pearcecreekoutreach.com/PearceCreekDMCF.html>)

Discharge Monitoring Plan Update

- The USACE plans to submit a discharge monitoring plan to MDE as soon as possible. The USACE will monitor the water that discharges from the disposal site into the Pearce Creek Lake.
- The intent is to monitor the volume, discharge rate, suspended solids, pH, nutrients and metals.
- The dredged material smell is typical of wet mud. The smell is not similar to a landfill or sewage plant, and the odor does not carry. The only place a scent can be detected would be at the end of the pipe inside the DMCF, or possibly downwind by 50-100 feet; the smell would be organic and very similar to a marsh. If odd odors are detected then inspectors and residents would need to notify the USACE immediately because it would indicate an unexpected occurrence.
- Noise is possible, but it is dependent on the material type. Steel pipes are not used anymore which would reduce any potential noise.
- All material that is dredged in the Chesapeake Bay is sampled prior to disposal.
- Tour opportunities at the other DMCF sites are occasionally available during inflow. A video can be shown to the PCIC at a future meeting.

Tree Planting

- Some of the tree plantings did not take and the USACE is reexamining the issue; the USACE is going to wait until construction is completed to replant trees by the parking lot.
- The USACE will work with MES to plant as many trees as practicable along Pond Neck Road. The tree planting information will be placed on the website when all of the details have been determined.

Mosquito Spraying

- There is currently no need to spray for mosquitoes because there is no standing water on-site.

- When inflow begins the USACE will be monitoring the situation and more specific details will be discussed at a later meeting once a plan is developed. Mosquito traps will most likely be used to track the mosquito density to determine when spraying is necessary.

5.0 Drinking Water Line Planning Progress

Chris Rogers

Water System Construction Updates

- Construction has started on the Transmission Main (TM) and Distribution Main (DM) projects. The Notice to Proceed was issued to Eastern States Construction in April for the TM and to Reybold Construction for the DM in May.
- Eastern States has started construction on the TM in Cecilton, heading out to the service area. Reybold has mobilized and are installing silt fences along Pond Neck Road. Both contracts are scheduled to take one year for substantial completion. There is one construction trailer located in BVE, which is required by the TM contract; the DM contract does not require a trailer.
- Re-inspections by AECOM should begin to be scheduled, as well as first-time inspections for houses not yet surveyed. Reybold will be installing stakes in front of each lot showing where the connection to the house will occur which is consistent with the plot plan. Residents with any questions, issues, or concerns should contact AECOM.
- A presentation regarding what to expect during on-lot construction will be given at the appropriate time prior to on-lot construction. Reybold is required to notify the impacted lots via door hangers prior to construction.
- On-lot construction will begin once the TM and DM construction is completed; on-lot construction should be completed by March of 2018.
- Residents will have access to running water as each home is hooked up to the new system since wells will be simultaneously abandoned. A citizen recommended scheduling hook-ups based on the type of resident they are (i.e. seasonal vs. full-time).
- The TM is being completed at 200 feet a day. The DM will be completed by the end of May 2017 and on-lot work should begin immediately; most likely the first houses will be connected early to mid-summer 2017. Fire hydrants will be functional prior to on-lot connection.
- Only houses within the service area will receive water; the houses along Grove Neck Road and Pond Neck Road outside of the service area will not be permitted to hook-up to the system.
- It is state law that all wells will be properly abandoned to prevent future contamination from cross connections. The Cecil County Health Department forwarded the applications regarding exceptions to capping residential wells to MDE who has not responded yet; all responses will be provided in writing.

6.0 Citizen Comments

Community Representatives

Community Meetings – Feedback from the Community Members

- Residents should coordinate with the Town of Cecilton operator to shut the water off.
- All public water suppliers are federally required to send a report to the citizens each year and are mailed with the bill. The most recent report for 2015 is on the Town of Cecilton's website and will be made available on the Pearce Creek website. There were no violations reported for 2015.
- Prior to the bottled water meeting, AECOM requested the Cecilton operator to test for manganese and the results indicated no concentration of manganese in the water.

7.0 Future Meeting Discussions

Fran Flanigan

- The next PCIC meeting will be held on August 19th followed by a tour of the DMCF. Inflow tours would most likely be held during the winter months.
- The DMMP CAC would be going on a tour to Poplar Island to observe inflow and there are a few spots available on the boat; admission is free and lunch will be provided.

Adjourn

Kristen Fidler