

Omya Community Issue Team – Trucks and Transportation

February 28, 2008 Meeting Summary

Location: Maclure Library, Pittsford, VT

Date: February 28, 2008

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Meeting Attendees (in alphabetical order):

Shawn Erickson – Foreman, Town of Pittsford Highway Department

Aric Farrar – Verpol Logistics Manager, Omya

John Keith – Keith’s Country Store

Andy McIntosh – Geologist, Omya

Absent:

Linda Poro - Resident

Lynn Silloway - Resident

Note Taking: Mary-Kaye Macaulay - Omya

I. Welcome and Introductions

Issue Team co-facilitators Aric Farrar (Verpol Logistics Manager) and Andy McIntosh (Geologist) welcomed the Team.

II. Old Business

Membership:

Team membership was discussed. Several names of local residents were mentioned as possible new members to the Trucks and Transportation Issues team and the group supported Aric contacting these individuals to see if they would like to participate. Members were asked to continue to talk among neighbors to see if there are others interested in joining this team.

Approval of the Notes from Meeting 3:

The members present reviewed the notes from the third meeting on December 6, 2007 and the notes were approved. Both Lynn Silloway and Linda Poro will be contacted for their comments on these notes as they were present at the December 6, 2007 meeting. Upon their review, the notes will be posted at www.omyainvermont.net.

III. Report on Existing Action Items and Discussion of New Issues

Andy and Aric were asked to follow up on a few questions related to existing issues regarding speeding, truck route signage, Kendall Hill Road Bridge, road sweeping and trestle maintenance.

Speeding

- Aric received a letter from VTrans on how to secure the use of the Radar Trailers (Smart Carts) and their availability. The Smart Carts are solar powered. The Town of Pittsford has to sign a wavier to borrow the cart from the State. Aric will speak with Kathleen Ramsey for possible placement of the speed cart during April. One

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- member mentioned that the use of the solar powered cart should be noted in some manner on the Web page when it has been placed for use.
- Andy followed up on his suggestion that a “recommended speed” sign be posted on Omya property near the exit to Hogback Quarry. This sign will encourage drivers to slow down while traveling the approximately ¼ mile from the Quarry to Kendall Hill Road. It was agreed that a posted speed recommendation of 23mph through the village area might help reduce speeding. Andy noted that Florence Crushed Stone supports the request for the speed recommendation sign.

Truck Route Signs Update

Aric updated the team on the issue of directional signs to the Verpol Plant. Omya has taken several steps to improve truck traffic to the Plant:

- o Omya has placed directives to all carriers on fax correspondence that trucking contractors **must** travel U.S. Route 7 to access the Omya facility. GPS systems are misdirecting drivers to travel alternate roads via West Rutland and /or Proctor. Omya will continue to communicate to its trucking contractors. Aric stated that the more information neighbors can collect on truck traffic – especially the Truck Number (usually located on the door at the back of the trailer) – allows Omya to follow up with trucking companies more effectively. It was suggested by a team member that Omya provide instructions on their web site about what to specifically report about trucks when calling into Omya directly or to the Community Feedback Line (802-770-7644).
- o Omya has worked with the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTAOT) to upgrade the existing US Route 7 and Town road signs (black sign with Omya white lettering & logo) to an improved reflectivity specification. These signs were installed in February.
- o With both Town and VTAOT approval of the sign specifications and locations, “Florence Truck Route” directional signs (Green 9 inch blade with white 6 inch lettering) were placed on February 18, 2008 at multiple locations from US Route 7 to the Omya facility.
- o Working with the Town of Pittsford, VTAOT and officials from West Rutland and Proctor will discuss posting signs to prevent through truck traffic to Omya specifically from Proctor (Florence Road, West Creek Road) and West Rutland (Whipple Hollow Road). Agriculture-related trucks will be exempt.
- o If truck issues persist, Omya and the Town will need to lobby VTAOT.

It was mentioned by several members that two signs on Kendall Hill Road near the intersection of Markowski Road and West Creek Road were placed too close to each other making one difficult to read and it was felt that one of the signs at that location needed to have an arrow to clearly direct truck traffic to follow West Creek Road to the Plant instead of turning in error onto Markowski Road.

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Kendall Hill Road Bridge Update

- The Town of Pittsford continues to explore funding options for the repair of the Kendall Hill Bridge. No other updates were provided.

Road Sweeping

- At this time of year, due to salt and sand, sweeping is not advisable until weather conditions warm up. In addressing the excessive amounts of dust and debris collected in the corner area intersection of Whipple Hollow Road and West Creek Road at the Rail Road Trestle, Andy and Aric mentioned Omya's previous collaboration with the Town to address the road condition on the opposite corner. Omya will explore with the Town the option of using the same type of swaling and rip-rap technique to address the corner at the trestle. Andy to discuss the sweeping of town roads with the Town of Pittsford.

Rail Road Trestle

- Aric contacted Vermont Railroad to inquire about their maintenance schedule for the Rail Road Trestle at the intersection West Creek Road and Whipple Hollow Road. There is no maintenance scheduled by Vermont Railroad for 2008 for this structure. The State of Vermont does inspections of the Trestle, however, and Vermont Rail will look into getting that report from the State and provide it to Omya. This issue will stay on the agenda.

IV. Next Steps

New Issues:

1. Andy will follow up with the placement of a recommended speed sign of 23mph, agreed to by the team, at Hogback Quarry.
2. Aric will follow up with Kathleen Ramsey on the possibility of adding additional signage ("No Through Trucks" signs) on Proctor and West Rutland roads leading to the Plant.
3. Aric and Andy will speak with both Lynn Silloway and Linda Poro on the addition of two new team members. Aric will contact the potential new members to invite them to participate on the Trucks and Transportation Issue Team.

Action items continue to include:

1. Speed Cart: Securing and placing cart during April to present data to Team in May.
2. Kendall Hill Road Bridge updates.
3. Directional signage on the Florence Truck Route and their effectiveness.
4. Road Sweeping/Washing.
5. Provide the Vermont State Inspection Report of the Rail Road Trestle at corner of Whipple Hollow Road and West Creek Road.

V. Wrap-Up

It was proposed that the next Trucks and Transportation Team Meeting take place on Thursday, May 15 at 6:00 PM at the Maclure Library. Meeting adjourned at 6:50pm.