

**Owens Corning Composite Materials Canada LP  
Guelph Plant  
Public Liaison Committee (PLC)  
DRAFT Meeting Summary  
March 25, 2025  
5:30 p.m. – 7:05 p.m.**

**PLC Members in Attendance:**

Tyler Black, Environmental Health Specialist, Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health  
Calvin Hyde, Membership Sales/Engagement Specialist, Guelph Chamber of Commerce  
Stefanie Nadalin, Principal, Sacred Heart Catholic Elementary School  
Lorraine Pagnan, Community Member  
Marcel Schlaf, Ph.D., Department of Chemistry, University of Guelph

**Guests:**

Jeff Burdon, Manager Local Air Quality, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)  
Phillip Labarge, P. Eng., Air Pollution Control Engineer, MECP

***Absent:***

Caroline Forsyth, Guelph Water Works  
John Kinhead, Community Member  
Melanie Lamb, Two Rivers Neighbourhood Group

**Representatives from Owens Corning Guelph:**

Brett Arnold, Quality Leader  
Patrick Drabicki, Environment, Health and Safety Leader  
Kate Stanley, Community Liaison Representative  
Jeff Taylor, Plant Manager

**Other Attendees:**

Danielle Agar, Montrose Environmental Group  
Penny McInnis, Montrose Environmental Group

**Facilitator**

Kelly Henry

**Meeting Handouts:**

- Draft PLC Meeting Summary – January 21, 2025
- Facility Fact Sheet, March 2025
- Site Specific Standard Application: Request Summary Fact Sheet, March 2025
- Draft Consultation Report, Site-Specific Air Concentration Standard Request, Owens Corning Composite Materials Canada

**Executive Summaries:**

- Emission Summary and Dispersion Modelling Report for a Site-Specific Standard
- Technical Benchmarking Report, Hexavalent Chromium

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Kelly Henry greeted the committee members and reviewed the mission of the PLC. Jeff Taylor welcomed and introduced Jeff Burdon, Manager Local Air Quality, and Phillip Labarge, Air Pollution Control Engineer, both with MECP, as guests.

### **Old Business**

- The group finalized the summary of the January 21, 2025, PLC Meeting. The summary will be posted to the website (ocguelph.com).

### **Plant Update**

- Jeff Taylor gave an update on:
  - Community
    - The company is supporting the Sacred Heart Carnival again this year. The event takes place on June 19. In previous years, Owens Corning rented a bouncy castle, a bungee run and other equipment for the event.
    - Stefanie Nadalin said this is her first year as a principal, after working for 10 years as a teacher. The Carnival is the largest fundraiser for the school. She thanked Owens Corning for its ongoing support.
- Patrick Drabicki reviewed:
  - Health and Safety
    - No reportable incidents or injuries occurred since the last PLC meeting.
    - To better protect employees from potential injuries, the company is replacing existing “machine guarding” on various pieces of equipment, particularly in multiple sections of the Continuous Filament Mat Line. The new guarding, which is better suited to a wet environment, is being installed in three separate areas of the plant and involves the replacement of 30 guards in total. This project is being done with input from the employees who operate the machines each day and have a better understanding of access points, common maintenance and operator interactions.
- Jeff Taylor discussed:
  - Supply Chain
    - In anticipation of potential American tariffs being placed on goods, Owens Corning has relocated a significant amount finished goods inventory to the U.S.
    - The company has communicated to customers about the potential impact of the tariffs and has increased inventory on potentially impacted items.
    - Management is investigating the feasibility of Canadian alternatives and has reached out to Canadian suppliers to better understand the risks and potential implications.
    - In addition, the company is ensuring that suppliers are itemizing the freight on all goods (exempt from tariffs).
- Brett Arnold shared information regarding:
  - Operations
    - The facility is now operating a newly installed oxygen generation system to supplement the supply of liquid oxygen needed for melting glass. This initiative results in reduced liquid oxygen consumption, fewer trucks on the road, less fuel used for transportation, reduced noise in the community and lower operating costs.
- Jeff Taylor, Brett Arnold and Penny McInnis discussed:

- Site-Specific Standard (SSS) Renewal Application
  - The SSS for hexavalent chromium expires on June 30, 2026; the renewal application is required to begin 15 months prior to that date and submission of the application is planned for March 31, 2025.
  - The basis for Owens Corning's updated site-specific standard is the use of a Ministry approved mathematical air dispersion model.
  - The calculation is in part based on five years of local meteorological data and site-specific emissions for hexavalent chromium.
  - The model is the prediction of the highest annual concentration that may occur at any location along the property line or beyond (referred to as a Point of Impingement or POI).
  - A renewal schedule is being followed, and much work has been completed, including:
    - Two rounds of source testing (performed in the winter and summer of 2024) on all emission sources of hexavalent chromium, and technical benchmarking.
    - Performing the required elements of technology benchmarking and jurisdictional review.
    - Based on the information from these efforts, Owens Corning is requesting a SSS of 1.33 micrograms per cubic meter on an annual average basis, which is a significant reduction from the current SSS. The request includes:
      - Emission summary and dispersion modeling report
      - Technical benchmarking report
      - Action plan for achieving the lowest air concentrations possible considering only technical feasibility
      - Public consultation report
      - Note: the company has chosen not to submit an economic feasibility study report, which is deemed optional
    - The facility is also preparing an Action Plan for continued improvements over the life of the permit as part of its submittal
      - Milestone 1 (2025-2026) would look at the installation of additional pollution control devices and would result in a POI reduction of 48.5%
      - Milestone 2 (2030-2033) is driven by the condition of the furnace and forehearth assets and the implementation of a design change. This phase would result in a further POI reduction of 49%
  - The plant meets monthly with representatives from the MECP to confer on the SSS renewal application process.
  - The team will continue to communicate with MECP regarding any public concerns.
  - The team engaged in an active discussion with PLC members regarding the SSS renewal process and the geography of the modelled concentrations.
- Updated Emission Reduction Action Plan
  - In the spirit of continuous improvement and as part of the mandated application protocol, Owens Corning will research, assess and implement additional emission reduction technologies that may be able to be applied at different stages (from the beginning to the end) of the manufacturing process.

- Public Consultation
  - Jeff Taylor explained that public consultation also is required as part of the application process.
  - It is Owens Corning's position, and Jeff Burdon agreed, that this Public Liaison Committee, which has been meeting quarterly since it was established in 2017 for the exchange of information between the Plant and the local community, meets its requirements for public consultation.
  - The company shared the draft version of the Public Consultation Report with the PLC. Additional information will be added, based on the comments from this meeting. In addition, the plant is scheduled to meet with city officials, including members of city council, on Thurs., March 27. Comments from that session will also be included in the report.
- Questions to Jeff Burdon
  - Jeff Burdon engaged in answering questions from the PLC about the Ministry's application process and the state of applicable science.
  - As part of his comments, Jeff Burdon also stated that this meeting of the PLC is part of the public consultation process. He said that the request will be posted to the Environmental Registry of Ontario, with the proposed documents, steps and conditions, as part of the submission. This will trigger a 45-day comment period.
  - Following the comment period, the Ministry will make a "decision posting" and adhere to the requirement to amend the environmental compliance permit.

### **Regulatory Reporting**

- Jeff Taylor reviewed:
  - The regulatory reporting schedule for 2025:
    - Written Summary for Site Specific Action Plan (Due: March 31)
    - Site-Specific Standard Renewal Application (Due: March 31)
    - National Pollutant Release Inventory (Due: June 1)
    - Emission Summary and Dispersion Modelling Report Update (Due: June 30)
    - Acoustic Assessment Report (Due: June 30)
    - ECA Annual Written Summary (Due: August 31)

### **Community Hot Topics**

- Calvin Hyde said that the Chamber is actively looking at the potential impact of the tariffs and voiced concern over the effect they may have on local businesses.
- Tyler Black reminded the PLC members that it is the start of tick season. He distributed special cards to identify the various ticks found in the Guelph area.
- Lorraine Pagnan talked about some of the new residential developments and the trails being constructed in the area. She also reminisced about the tree planting that was done by the plant several years ago and said that, now that the trees have gotten bigger, the lot adds important greenery to Huron Street.
- Marcel Schlaf said the University of Guelph is going through challenging times and is facing a budget shortfall. He thanked Brett Arnold for arranging a great chemical industry class earlier in the month.

### **Action Items:**

The company will:

- Seek and implement opportunities for driving additional reductions.
- Continue to report stack testing results to the Ministry and PLC.
- Post the July 15, 2025 PLC agenda to the website a month prior to the next meeting.
- Commit to continue the PLC.

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, July 15, 2025

- Review the Site-Specific Standard (SSS) Renewal Application
- Provide an update on regulatory reporting for 2025
- Share information on the company's operations