



## Waukegan Harbor Citizens' Advisory Group

P.O. Box 297  
Waukegan, Illinois 60079

<http://waukeganharborcag.com>

**Minutes of the September 19, 2013, CAG meeting held at Lilac Cottage, Waukegan Park District, Waukegan, Illinois - respectfully submitted by Natalie Dutack, acting as Recording Secretary of the Waukegan Harbor Citizens' Advisory Group.**

The September 19, 2013, meeting of the Waukegan Harbor Citizens Advisory Group was called to order at 6:05 pm by Chair, Susie Schreiber.

The Chair welcomed those in attendance, and asked everyone to introduce themselves and any group that they represent.

### **Attendance at the September 19, 2013 CAG Meeting:**

<b>Duane Ambroz</b>	IDNR
<b>John Bairstow</b>	Concerned Citizen
<b>Larry Brewer</b>	LaFarge Corporation
<b>Penny Bouchard</b>	Concerned Citizen
<b>Tom Chefalo</b>	Lake County Planning, Building & Development
<b>Roy Czajkowski</b>	Concerned Citizen
<b>Tim Drexler</b>	USEPA
<b>Natalie Dutack</b>	Concerned Citizen
<b>Ross del Rosario</b>	USEPA
<b>Claudia Freeman</b>	Waukegan Park District
<b>Joseph Hmieleski</b>	Concerned Citizen
<b>Trey Jackson</b>	National Gypsum
<b>Paul Kakuris</b>	Concerned Citizen
<b>John Legge</b>	IDNR
<b>Heriberto Leon</b>	USEPA
<b>Bill Lebensorger</b>	Concerned Citizen
<b>Christine Nannicelli</b>	Sierra Club
<b>Sharon Sandoval</b>	North Shore Sanitary District
<b>Susie Schreiber</b>	Illinois Audubon
<b>Diane Tecic</b>	IDNR
<b>Fred Veenbaas</b>	Midwest Generation
<b>Barbara Waller</b>	First Baptist Church

### **GUESTS:**

<b>Randy Syms</b>	Waukegan Junior Sailing Program
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## **AGENDA**

No additions to the agenda.

## **MINUTES**

The July, 2013 Meeting Minutes were presented. A motion for approval was made by Larry Brewer, and seconded by Randy Syms. The motion carried, stipulating that if a correction is noted, it will be brought up at the October 2013 meeting.

## **UPDATES**

### **USEPA**

***North Shore Gas former manufactured gas plant sites-Integrys Energy Services is the parent holding company.***

The USEPA has been working at two North Shore Gas plants sites: 1.) North Plant and 2.) South Plant.

**South Plant:** The South Plant is a 1.5 to 2 acre area, located by Pershing Road and South Harbor Place. It is bisected by Pershing Road. Contamination affects Akzo Nobel, the Waukegan Port District, Union Pacific and Canadian National Rail Roads, and City of Waukegan properties. For six months the USEPA has been completing the review of the remedial investigation (RI) report submitted by North Shore Gas. The goal is to get the report to an approved status before the end of this year. The USEPA has been assisted by IEPA and USFWS. The final RI report will be available to public.

There are some issues to work out. One is determining whether the south harbor sediments have been impacted. There are some concerns about ecological receptors. They are hoping North Shore Gas will come up with revisions based on USEPA suggestions soon. Field wise, groundwater sampling was conducted in spring, and they are about to embark on a second sampling round later this month. They want to ensure they are generating sufficient data. The next phase will be a feasibility study, reviewing various alternate technologies that can be applied to remediate contaminants and bring risk levels down to acceptable levels. There could be a Record of Decision (ROD) by the USEPA in late 2014 or early 2015.

**North Plant:** This is a 16 acre site, owned by the City of Waukegan, the EJ&E railroad, and North Shore Gas. It is located east of Pershing Road with Darhinger Road as its northern boundary, and just west of the North Shore Sanitary District. A lot of field activities have been conducted. The USEPA created a removal action to address the egregious contaminants onsite. Work started in May 2013, and 21,000 tons of contaminated media were removed. Pollutants of concern included poly aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH), benzo-a-pyrene, and the BETX components: benzene, ethyl benzene, toluene and xylene. In-situ stabilization is being used for remaining contaminants – chemicals are being injected into ground to make contaminants below the surface inert and prevent their migration. The work plan requires North Shore Gas to conduct air monitoring to ensure there are no impacts to neighboring areas. The USEPA has also required North Shore Gas to conduct a remedial investigation (RI) assessing the status of the site. They need to evaluate the extent and magnitude of the remaining contamination which may be more wide spread than initially identified. A Record of Decision (ROD) for the North Plant could be reached by 2017.

## Questions

*Does in situ stabilization make the contaminants it inert or immobile? Both*

*Where did the 21,000 tons go? Countryside Landfill in Grayslake, Illinois.*

*Is there concern that contamination has migrated offsite? We don't have those studies yet, but we are finding that the contamination is greater than previously thought. The answer is being sought.*

*Of the total contamination, how much do you think remains? The original estimate was 500,000 tons. We would like to propose studies to determine the actual amount of contamination in order to answer that question.*

*Do they treat contamination at the landfill? No.*

### ***Outboard Marine Corporation (OMC):***

*Update on the Outboard Marine Corporation Site from Tim Drexler, USEPA Remedial Project Manager*

#### *Harbor (Operating Unit 1)*

As everyone knows, Environmental dredging was completed on July 8, 2013. Conformational sampling showed that we were well below the required levels, at 0.06 ppm for PCBs. Capping has begun in areas along sea walls using geotextile fabric covered by armoring media. Originally riprap was going to be used, but mattress armoring was chosen to accommodate deep draft vessels. The mattresses reduce the armoring foot print from the original 5 feet down to 6 inches instead. The mats, held together by cables, are 35 feet long and 8 feet wide. Anyone who is interested can view the work from the Waukegan Yacht Club. They are putting in 7-8 mats a day.

The bathroom and shower facilities located on the docks in the North Harbor Marina are being rebuilt as they had to be demolished to do the sediment removal. The Waukegan Port District is planning to extend portions of the North Harbor Marina so they can handle larger draft /commercial fishing boats. The USEPA hopes to be finished and out of the North Harbor Marina by November, 2013.

#### *Coke Plant (Operating Unit 2)*

Dismantling of the Superfund dredging equipment (pumps and piping) at the Coke Plant site is set for spring of 2014. This will make way for US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to dredge the clean sands/sediment from the Outer Harbor in the Navigational Channel and move them to the Coke Plant site where it will be used as clean cover. Currently the Coke Site has been cleaned to the required commercial use level as was required. A three foot layer of clean material must be laid on top of the Coke Site if it is to be used for residential purposes. USACE will commence dredging work in May/June 2014 after the Superfund equipment is removed from the site. This project will provide 100,000 cubic yards of cover which will result in 1 ½ feet of the needed three foot cover.

#### *Triax Building (Operating Unit 4)*

CH2M Hill will start dismantling the portion of the water treatment plant behind the Triax building in November. They are working to clear off the concrete pad it is sitting on so they can address soil contamination beneath it. In the southeastern portion of the site they have now excavated more contaminated soil, which contains relatively low levels of PCBs. 12,000 cubic yards from the west shelf was placed between the bags in the consolidation facility. Soil with higher PCB levels (50,000 cubic

yards) has been trucked off to a special landfill in Michigan. The rest of the material went to local landfills. There is also soil contamination running from the south side of the Triax building to the parking lot, with more work to be done at the front of the building. That work will begin towards the end of this year. This doesn't affect the schedule, and they hope to finish clean-up of site by September 2014.

#### *Water on Plant 2 site (Operating Unit 4)*

An air sparging unit is being used to prevent the lower levels of tri chloro ethylene (TCE) contamination (5 ug/l maximum contamination level) from moving off of the site. There are no risks for vapor intrusions to any buildings on the Larsen Marine. At the same time, they still have plumes to deal with onsite. In order to breakdown TCE plumes, sodium permanganate solution was injected. Because the effectiveness was so high they will use it in all contaminated areas. A single injection will be done sometime next summer, and it will be monitored with a well to measure success.

A temporary cap will be placed on the consolidation facility in the next 6 weeks. The permanent cap will be placed next spring. Once on, there won't be so much weep water to be treated in the treatment plant and it can be dismantled. A smaller plant will be built to treat remaining water in the northwest part of the site. It will handle water from the new consolidation facility, west cell and new cell.

#### Questions

*Will concrete mattresses be wrapped around south end of yacht club?* No

*Once installed, do you know depth of the water?* The shallowest is 10-11 feet.

*Who will monitor the site and consolidation facility?* IEPA is responsible for monitoring and maintenance of sparge cell and treatment system. Monitoring wells will be in place.

*Do we have commitment that the outer harbor sand is coming to the Operating Unit 2 site?* The funds have been secured and the work scheduled. USACE is working the approach channel with Hurricane Sandy funds as a separate project.

#### **CAG BUSINESS**

##### **Great Lakes Conference**

The 2013 Great Lakes Restoration Conference took place in Milwaukee, Wisconsin last week. There was a range of discussions on the Wisconsin AOC's, urban green infrastructure programs, and the USEPA's streams and wetland science reports, etc. It was an excellent networking experience. Duck's Unlimited is interested in coming down and seeing what wetland projects they can be of help on in the Waukegan Harbor Area of Concern and Extended Area of Concern.. The Canadian Consulate asked how they could be of help to the CAG. It was noted that more on the ground restoration work has been done in the last 3 years of GLRI, than in last 20 years of Great Lakes restoration work.

##### **State of Lake Michigan Conference** - October 15-17, 2013

This conference is just on Lake Michigan issues. Please let us know if you are interested in attending. The CAG has funding.

### **New Google Maps for Waukegan Harbor AOC**

The newest Waukegan Harbor Area of Concern and Extended Area of Concern maps are color coded to match the USEPA Document Repository color coded files located at the Waukegan Public Library. This makes the documents and maps easier to interpret. Site locations/boundaries are easier to identify. Little Fort Media in Waukegan is creating the maps.

### **Bathymetric Survey of Swimming Area**

We have partnered with National Gypsum to have Brennan Industries use their equipment currently on site in the harbor to do a full bathymetric survey of the swimming area, north wing wall and southeast end of Gov. Pier. They are able to get in and survey as close as 2 foot depths. We hope to have the full bathymetric survey results soon. This is a more complete follow up of the bathymetric surveys done by both Scudder Mackay in 2011 and the US Army Corps of Engineers.–This will assist in the long term management of sand in the Federal Channel and the Approach to the Federal Channel for navigation purposes.

### **IDNR updates - Diane Tecic**

#### **Waukegan Beach Health Survey**

The Waukegan Beach Health Survey of the swimming beach has been completed at the end of August. It contains site analysis and Best Management Practices recommendations on remediation. The survey was conducted by Dr. Julie Kinzelman, an expert in Great Lakes beach health, who works for the city of Racine, WI. The assessment will be made available shortly.

#### **Beneficial Use Impairments (BUI)**

The IDNR would like to move forward on the Beneficial Use Impairment for Dredging based on the recent Superfund full PCB removal from Waukegan Harbor. A packet of information is currently being gathered together for support of the Dredging Impairment BUI removal. The IDNR may have the draft document, summarizing why we can move in the direction of removing impairment, for the next CAG meeting.

The Habitat BUI has already been removed (August 2013). As part of the Habitat BUI removal, the IDNR developed a habitat management plan for the Waukegan Harbor Area of Concern (AOC) and Extended Area of Concern. It may be possible to have that ready for the next meeting.

Concerning For the Fish Consumption BUI, a pre-dredge fish sampling and analysis was completed. The IDNR will go back after the dredging is completed for a second round of sampling.

It was also noted that another round of Illinois Coastal Zone grants are coming up for Education, Outreach and Planning.

### **Energy Policies**

Oil, wind, solar, gas, water and coal present both upsides and downsides in meeting the US and world energy needs. Each of these energy sources have issues involved which can affect Lake Michigan and the Great Lakes. An overview presentation and discussion of all the energy sources would be welcome at a Waukegan Harbor CAG meeting. There currently are many issues east of Pershing Road on the lakefront that also factor into such a discussion.

*Christine Nannicelli from Sierra club had a question for Midwest Generation: Where are you in process of installing sulfur dioxide controls in stacks? The process is going forward. Midwest Generation is complying with the IEPA and the duct work has been ordered. The work will be done in 2014 and 2015 for each unit. They are in the process of planning how to use, move, and install what they is needed.*

#### **Waukegan Dunal Area Update**

Davey Resources has almost completed lyme grass and cottonwood sapling herbicide treatment. They are conducting phragmites herbicide treatment on the Waukegan Dunal area up to the North Shore Sanitary District (NSSD), and on the Midwest Generation property.. On the Johns Mansville property they are treating areas along the inside the fence for crown vetch. Davey Resources has also cut and bagged sweet clover so as not to disturb soil. The Re-vegetation Scope of Work is being modified and will be completed soon.

#### **Bowen Park Update**

CLS is working on herbaceous invasives on site. In fall and winter they will finish up woody management in Priority Areas 1 and 2. It is possible that changes to the Re-vegetation scope of work could allow the creation of a prairie buffer in Priority Area 2 where the old baseball field was.

#### **Glen Flora Ravine**

The Cool Learning Experience students will be conducting water tests on the Glen Flora Ravine in Bowen Park, looking at oxygen, pH, turbidity, and more. They will be seeking permission to use several of the neighbor's sites as well.

#### **Chicago Wilderness - Leave No Child Inside – Canoeing and Water Testing in the harbor**

The day was very successful. The Cool Learning Experience students and their families, plus LNCI participants saw the harbor from a different perspective – on the water – not looking down at the water from the shore. Parents learned from their children how to take and process water samples, and all enjoyed learning how to paddle canoes. There was very positive feedback from children and their parents!

#### **Salmon Unlimited**

The children's Fishing Derby was held last weekend at the harbor by Salmon Unlimited. We will have an update at the next meeting when John Ohl from Salmon Unlimited is present.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

##### **Grant Administrator**

The Waukegan Harbor Citizens' Advisory Group would like to announce that they are hiring Bill Lebensorger as the new Grant Administrator. Barbara Wallers is retiring. Congratulations to Bill, and thank you to Barbara for her dedicated service!

##### **Grant Application**

Unfortunately, we did not get Alliance for the Great Lakes grant. We are looking at taking parts of that grant to work with the Glen Flora Country Club and create a future plans for the B2 Wetlands.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Great Lakes Beach Association Conference**

This will be conducted in conjunction with the State of Lake Michigan Conference in Sheboygan, WI. For those interested in attending, please let us know.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Cool Learning Experience will be having a cookout and car wash this weekend from 11:00am – 4:00 pm to help meet their program budget goals. We are all invited.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn was made by Claudia Freeman, and seconded by Tom Chefalo. The motion passed and the meeting ended at 8:07 p.m.

### **CAG Members**

*Abbott Laboratories  
Akzo Nobel  
Alliance for the Great Lakes  
Bombardier Recreational Products  
Carol Dorge, Attorney  
City of North Chicago  
City of Waukegan  
College of Lake County  
Commonwealth Edison  
EJ & E Railway  
Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council  
Illinois Audubon Society  
Johns Manville  
LaFarge Corporation  
Lake County Audubon  
Lake County Chamber of Commerce  
Lake County Planning, Building and Development Dept.  
Lake County Health Department  
Lake County Stormwater Management Agency  
Larsen Marine, Inc.  
LFR Levine • Fricke  
Liberty Prairie Conservancy  
Midwest Generation  
National Gypsum  
North Shore Gas  
North Shore Sanitary District  
Outboard Marine Corporation  
Salmon Unlimited*

### **CAG Members (continued)**

*Waukegan Charter Boat Association  
Waukegan Main Street  
Waukegan Lakefront Development Corporation  
Waukegan Park District  
Waukegan Port District  
Waukegan Yacht Club  
Concerned Citizens*

### **CAG Associates**

*Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning  
Delta Institute  
Illinois Citizen Action  
Illinois Depart. of Natural Resources  
Illinois Environ. Protection Agency  
Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant  
Illinois Lake Management Association  
Illinois Pollution Control Board  
International Joint Commission  
Maritime Administration  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
U.S. Environ. Protection Agency  
U. S. Fish and Wildlife  
University of Illinois- Marine Extension  
Waukegan Public Library  
Concerned Citizens*

## WEB SITES

<http://www.waukeganharborcag.org>

The Waukegan CAG website.

<http://www.epa.state.il.us/environmental-justice>  
<http://www.ilenviro.org>

Illinois EPA – Environmental Justice website.  
Good listing of all environmental bills in the IL House & Senate.

<http://www.glc.org>  
<http://www.binational.net>

Great Lakes Commission.  
Great Lakes Binational Toxics Strategy – Annual Progress Report  
Great Lakes Water Levels

<http://www.glerl.noaa.gov/pubs/brochures/wlevels/wlevels.html>  
<http://www.cciw.solec>  
<http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/solec>

State of the Great Lakes – SOLEC full report

<http://www.lkmichiganforum.org/>  
<http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/lakemich>  
<http://wi.water.usgs.gov/lmmcc/index.html>  
<http://www.epa.gov/lakemich>  
<http://www.sph.umich.edu/ehs/umaql/mass.html>  
<http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/lmmb>  
<http://biology.usgs.gov/S+t/noframe/x186.html>

The Lake Michigan Forum  
Lake Michigan Lake Wide Management Plan (LaMP 2000)  
Lake Michigan Monitoring Coordinating Council  
Lake Michigan Sensitive Areas  
Lake Michigan Mass Balance Study  
Lake Michigan Mass Balance  
Zebra Mussels in Southwestern Lake Michigan

<http://www.gvsu.edu/wri>  
<http://www.epa.gov/OST/GLI/glimixqa.html>

Annis Water Resources Institute  
A document on Bioaccumulative Chemicals of Concern (BCCs)

## USEPA WEB SITE

Go the EPA Home site at *epa.gov*

Select *Illinois* from the map. It will go to an Illinois page.

Then select *Outboard Marine Corp Superfund Site* in the *EPA in Illinois* section.

Addition information may be reached by the top right hand box labeled Site Information.

Select *NPL Fact Sheet*. At the bottom you can click on *Site Profile Info* and it will take you to Superfund.

The Superfund Site Progress Profile contains the following additional information on the Superfund sites:

The site, contamination, cleanup progress summary, cleanup impact summary, land re-use, post-construction, five year review and community involvement.

For Area of Concern Information:

Go the EPA Home site at *epa.gov*

Select *Illinois* from the map. It will go to an Illinois page.

Select *Great Lakes Area of Concern* in the *EPA in Illinois* section.

Choose *Waukegan Harbor* for AOC information.