



Deer Park Community Advisory Council

Summary of November 28, 2016 Meeting

Community Emergency Communications Discussed at DPCAC

Deer Park Community Advisory Council (DPCAC) completed a series of meetings on who does what to respond to and communicate a significant plant event, such as a fire or explosion. The October meeting explored emergency *response*; the November 28 meeting focused on emergency *communications*. In such events, plants *notify* responsible agencies in impacted cities and in the county. Those agencies then *communicate* with the public if, for example, there were a need to shelter in place. Plants may communicate with the public by posting a courtesy message on the Community Awareness and Emergency Response (CAER) Line.

Robert Hemminger, City of Deer Park Emergency Management Coordinator, described Community Emergency Communications Protocols to be used by all plants and all east Harris County cities as well as Harris County as a whole. He talked about e-Notify, the system that plants located in Deer Park use to notify responsible agencies of an incident and also listed the community warning systems the city has in place to warn residents of the need to shelter in place. At www.deerparktx.gov, the Emergency Management and Deer Park Local Emergency Planning Committee links provide information needed by everyone who lives or works in Deer Park.

Jeff Suggs, incoming chair of the East Harris County Manufacturers Association (EHCMA) Emergency Management and Communications Committee, described the CAER Line's purpose, and how it works. Suggs also sought input on how to improve the CAER Line. Anyone may call the CAER Line at 281-476-2276 or look for a message on www.ehcma.org/caerline when there is a major plant event. Readers may learn more about Community Emergency Communications and the CAER Line at www.deerparkcac.org.

Visitors are welcome to attend the January 23, 2017 meeting to hear DPCAC plants report their 2016 achievements and 2017 goals and plans. For details about the 6 p.m. meeting, contact Marlene Mercado at 281/727-3151.

Visit www.deerparkcac.org to read about recent meeting topics, find links to useful resources on emergency communications and the environment, see lists of DPCAC community and plant members, and read our mission and purposes.