

Viewpoints

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Middleport CAP Members

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- John Shuttleworth
- Davey Smith
- Dick Westcott

Facilitator – Ann Howard
Agency Liaison – Mike Hinton, NYSDEC
FMC Liaisons – Brian Vain, Bob Wojcik, Patt Fagan

VIEWPOINTS - A PUBLICATION OF THE
MIDDLEPORT
COMMUNITY ADVISORY PANEL
P.O. Box 163, Middleport,
New York 14105

THIS NEWSLETTER IS COMPILED AND PUBLISHED BY THE MIDDLEPORT COMMUNITY ADVISORY PANEL. IT IS THE EXPRESS INTENT OF THE CAP TO PROVIDE RESIDENTS OF MIDDLEPORT CREDIBLE INFORMATION REGARDING COMMUNITY ISSUES, FMC PLANT ACTIVITIES, AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS.

The Who, What, Where, Why and How About the CAP

By Christa Lutz, Middleport CAP member

Two years ago, after retiring from my teaching position, I was asked if I would be interested in joining the Community Advisory Panel (CAP). With FMC a major employer within our community, I saw this as an opportunity to learn about this company and the facility that has been a source of so much controversy. I had heard about this group but was really not clear about their objective. I would like to share with you some things I have learned over my term with the CAP which I hope you will find informative.

WHAT IS A COMMUNITY ADVISORY PANEL?

Formed throughout the U.S. and Canada, the concept of a CAP started in the 1980s. The idea was to include interested citizens and community leaders in open and honest communication with the corporations within their community. In a sense it

was a way for the community to have access to the company decision makers.

Since the company is a part of the community, it needs to be responsible and receptive to the voice of its stakeholders. Many other industries as well as the government, the private sector and non-profits, have adopted this concept.

WHO ATTENDS THE MEETINGS?

A typical CAP is made up of 12-18 members chosen from all groups within the community. Our CAP in Middleport has had participation from lawyers, teachers, community leaders, clergy, business owners, fire department and police personnel, administrators, workers,



How About the CAP

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citizens and students from the high school. The idea is to have a diverse group of people who are interested in the issues that pertain to their community. Managers from FMC and agency representatives also attend each meeting. A facilitator is in charge of keeping the meeting flowing smoothly.

WHERE AND WHEN DOES THE CAP MEET?

At the present time, our CAP meetings fall on the first Wednesday of each month and are held at the FMC facility. Meetings generally last for about two hours, starting at 6PM.

WHO RUNS THE MEETINGS?

Our present facilitator is Ann Howard, who comes to us from Rochester where she is a professor on the faculty of RIT. She has the task of keeping all the members of the CAP working together and on track as outlined by the agenda. She is not a spokesperson for FMC or the CAP. Her job is to make sure that the group is successful with the items on the current agenda. When a question comes up that may need a more specialized answer, she will find the person who can help us.



WHAT ARE SOME OF THE CAP'S

ACCOMPLISHMENTS?

for approval. Every meeting contains presentations on topics of interest to the CAP, regular updates on FMC activities and environmental issues, time for questions and answers that may have been asked of CAP members and planning for future meetings. Questions from any member of the group are taken seriously and are answered honestly and thoroughly.

It is the charge of the CAP to get credible information to the residents of Middleport and we hope we accomplish that with the publication of our newsletter. Working with FMC, the members of this group try to address the communities concerns as they are conveyed to us. There have been regular updates on the schoolyard remediation, the Price Protection Program, the remediation of the Northern Railroad Project, and air deposition sampling. CAP members also attend special community meetings scheduled by the Agencies (United States Environmental Protection Agency, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, New York State Department of Health). Recent meetings pertained to Corrective Measures Studies and Vapor Intrusion. Keep looking for more information on both these topics. FMC

How About the CAP

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is a part of our community and CAP members want our residents to understand the place FMC has in Middleport. We are presently working together to hold another Open House, scheduled for October 21, 2006 so that anyone interested can tour the plant and learn about the workings of this facility.

In the notebook that accompanies me to the meetings, there is a mission statement that

sums up well what this group is all about.

"It is the express intent of the FMC Middleport Community Advisory Panel to provide residents of Middleport credible information regarding community issues, environmental concerns and activities, and FMC activities."

Maybe you will be called upon one day to



Past to Present CAP Membership

Barb Albone

Lisa Allen

Fr. Joe Badding

Greg Bass

Leslie Bewley

Aaron Boyle

Kathleen Casey

Mike Chapman

Randy Coleman

Dr. Thurston Dale

Jason Driscoll

Tom Fuller

Joe Frazier

Mary Grabowski

John Grabowski

Darrell Gilbert

George Gougas

Ron Houseman

David Hufnagle

Dr. Herb Koenig

Emily Klinzing

Jay Kugler

Joanne Kugler

Megan Logan

Christa Lutz

Larry Lutz

Julie Maedl

Denny McAvoy

Alyssa Ostrowski

Marinna Ostrowski

Hollie Pierson

Ryan Pierson

Pastor Andy Pollack

Michael Pollack

Butch Rhinehart

Rob Richards

Rebecca Schweigert

Kristin Schultz

Jamie Shafer

John Shuttleworth

Stephen Shuttleworth

Davey Smith

Sharon Smith

A.J. Stegeman

John Swick

Lori Ubiles

Sarah Waite

Dick Westcott

Marshall Wilson

Pauline Wittkopp

FMC's Command® – Questions and Answers

Questions by Lisa Allen, Middleport CAP member

In a recent FMC newsletter, Plant Manager Brian Vain mentioned that FMC may bring back the Command® product line to be mixed and packaged in Middleport. This herbicide product line was formulated in Middleport for 17 years until 2003. We feel it is important to have correct information about Command. These questions were posed to Brian Vain by Lisa Allen of the CAP, and he provided the answers.

1. What is Command™?

Command® is an herbicide formulated with the active ingredient clomazone registered with the USEPA (and numerous other governments around the world) for agricultural or commercial use for the control of annual grasses and broadleaf weeds in crop fields (i.e., cotton, peas, soybeans, fallow wheat, sweet potatoes, pumpkins, tobacco, winter squash). It has been applied extensively in the US and Europe since the mid 1980s.

Clomazone was discovered in 1979 at FMC's ag products Research and Development center located at that time in Middleport, NY. Clomazone is a selective herbicide that prevents the production of green chlorophyll pigment that is important for photosynthesis.

Although the compound was tested and discovered in the FMC Middleport research center, the FMC Middleport Plant did not manufacture Clomazone.

Clomazone is manufactured at other facilities and was shipped to the FMC Middleport Plant Site for



formulation. Currently, FMC produces and sells Command® in a microencapsulated (ME) form that is water-based and in emulsifiable concentrates (EC) that are solvent-based formulations.

2. What is the main use of Command®?

Clomazone is a selective herbicide that controls susceptible plants by inhibiting their production of chlorophyll. Therefore, farmers use this type of product to control the growth of weeds in crop fields.

3. Is this product harmful to people or pets if used correctly?

The pure form of clomazone, the active ingredient in Command® products, has low oral, dermal and inhalation acute (or short-term) toxicity. Animal studies indicate that Clomazone does not cause any long-term adverse effects, cancer, birth defects, reproductive effects, or gene mutation.

The USEPA has determined that clomazone meets the Food Quality Protection Act's standard of "reasonable certainty of no harm" for all sub-populations.

Due to its physical-chemical properties, cloma-

CAP MEETING NOTES AND INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE

Read the CAP's mission statement, guidelines and newsletters online at:

www.teapothollow.com



zone has a low potential to accumulate or move in groundwater, and is expected to have minimal impact on the environment.

4. Is this a major product for FMC? For Middleport?

While the Middleport FMC plant has not handled commercial production of Command® recently, we did mix and package Command® EC products for approximately 17 years from 1986 through 2003. During that time, liquid clomazone was shipped to the Middleport Plant and stored for use in tanks. It was then mixed with inert ingredients and/or other pesticides within FMC's buildings, and packaged into containers. Finished containers of products containing Clomazone were stored in the warehouses at the Plant.

During a pilot study conducted in late 2004 and early 2005, the FMC Middleport Plant packaged Command® 3ME, but did not formulate the product in bulk quantities. Formulated Command® was shipped to the Plant and packaged into micro-capsules.

For FMC Corporation, Command® is a significant part of the herbicide business. The active ingredient in Command® (clomazone) has been combined with other inert ingredients and packaged for sale by FMC as well.

We look forward to the return of Command® to the Middleport facility, which will significantly improve the plant's cost efficiency. We invite residents to tour and learn more about the process at our October 21 Open House.

5. Should the residents be concerned about Command® being mixed and packaged at FMC?

FMC will need to have NYSDEC permits/registrations for air emission sources related to the

Command® production processes. Appropriate engineering controls and practices will be used to control and minimize the potential for emissions of Command®.

In the 1980s, during the initial period of production of Command®, some temporary bleaching of vegetation was evident at and near the FMC Middleport Plant (e.g., along the railroad tracks). As a result, FMC conducted studies and re-evaluated and modified its production process and associated equipment to minimize the potential for emissions of clomazone from the FMC Middleport Plant. Emission controls (i.e., use of activated carbon absorption air treatment systems) were installed and other best management practices incorporated into the Command® production process.

FMC plans to produce Command® 3ME (the microencapsulated form) and Command® 4EC (the liquid form) at the Middleport Plant in late 2006 or early 2007.

Liquid clomazone (also referred to as technical grade Command®) will be shipped to and stored in tanks at the plant. Liquid clomazone will be mixed with inert ingredients and packaged into micro-capsules to make Command® 3ME or packaged into finished containers of Command® 4EC.

The Command® 4EC mixing and packaging process will be similar to the previous 17 years of operations.

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CAP Member Profile: DICK WESTCOTT



DICK WESTCOTT joined the CAP in October 2004. Dick is a life-long Middleport resident and he graduated from Roy-Hart in 1968. Dick work at Delphi and he retired in 2002. He is an active member of the Middleport Fire

Department. Dick also enjoys coaching for the Roy-Hart high school football program. Has two children and three grandchildren. About his CAP experience Dick says, " I get first-hand knowledge right from the source. I don't need to rely on second-hand information."



Meet the CAP at FMC's OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, October 21
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

MEET YOUR CAP MEMBERS

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