



**Middleport**  
**Community Advisory Panel**  
P.O. Box 163  
Middleport, NY, 14105

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## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### ***WHAT IS A CAP?***

A CAP is a group of residents who represent various parts of the community who meet monthly with FMC representatives to discuss issues relating to FMC and the community. The CAP is an independent group and does not speak for the company.

### ***HOW DOES THE CAP WORK?***

The CAP meets monthly at the plant. FMC representatives attend every meeting and are available to answer CAP questions as well as share information on FMC activities and environmental concerns associated with the Middleport plant. The mission of the CAP is to provide residents of Middleport credible information regarding community issues, FMC activities, and environmental concerns.

No one is authorized to speak on behalf of the CAP because the CAP encourages different viewpoints.

The CAP sets its own meeting agendas and an independent facilitator facilitates the meetings. Meetings include presentations from FMC representatives and others, discussions, and question and answer sessions. The CAP also participates in annual plant tours and sponsors its own newsletter called *VIEWPOINTS*. The newsletter is distributed to Middleport residents and other interested parties.

### ***HOW DOES THE CAP KNOW IT CAN TRUST THE INFORMATION PROVIDED BY FMC?***

CAP members are encouraged to bring issues of concern and questions to every CAP meeting. Questions are answered thoroughly and candidly. Everyone is encouraged to express his or her own point of view and facilitated discussions allow for multiple perspectives on issues. This is an important part of the CAP process.

In addition, a representative of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation attends CAP meetings to provide the regulatory agency perspective on the environmental issues.

### ***WHY DO PEOPLE PARTICIPATE ON THE CAP?***

CAP members are committed to providing information on FMC activities that wouldn't otherwise be available to the community. In addition, the CAP has successfully worked with FMC to address community concerns. For example, the bio-monitoring study completed in the fall of 2004 was a

recommendation of the CAP. The purpose of the study was to alleviate people's fears about exposure to arsenic. The study concluded that residents' exposure to arsenic in soil is extremely low.

### ***WHAT ELSE HAS THE CAP ACCOMPLISHED?***

The CAP has been a consistent source of credible information for residents. For example, the CAP was instrumental in urging FMC to keep neighbors informed on the remediation of the Royalton-Hartland schoolyard and sponsored a Community Information Fair which provided information on that remediation project to a broad cross-section of the community.

In addition, when the state and federal agencies announced plans for remediation activities on South Vernon and South Main Streets, the CAP involved state elected officials to address concerns about the lack of community input. The CAP wanted to make sure that the community interests are protected during the remediation planning and before remediation activities are approved by the regulatory agencies.

### ***WHAT ABOUT THE LAWSUIT FILED AGAINST FMC?***

These are issues between FMC and the plaintiffs. The CAP is not involved in any way and we do not discuss these matters in the CAP.