

CITY OF
BENSON MINNESOTA
CITIZENS ADVISORY PANEL

Minutes
Citizens Advisory Panel
April 30, 2001

Members present: Carolyn Lee, Bill Lee, Barry Jungwirth, Steve Verhelst, Jan Lundebrek, Brian McNeill, Allan Saunders, Renee Hayden, Leroy Noreen, Bruce Holgate
Members absent: Lynette Hofland, Ray Millett
Also present: Terry Walmsley, Nina Butcher, Greg Langmo, Mayor Paul Kittelson, City Manager Rob Wolfington, EDA Chair Rick Horecka, Marge Scheffler, and Andrew Zurn

The Mayor acted as the moderator for the meeting. Each member introduced themselves. Terry Walmsley, Nina Butcher and Greg Langmo each introduced themselves and gave a brief overview of their part in the Fibrominn project.

A history of the Fibrominn project was given.

Nina Butcher updated the group on the three Fibrowatt projects in the UK and the lessons learned from those projects. She gave a slide presentation of the three facilities and their differences.

The following items of information were given to the Committee:

- The trucks will be cleaned and disinfected before leaving the plant.
- The goal is to have zero discharge of water.
- The contract with Excel Energy has been signed, through the PUC (Public Utility Commission) process required by the Bio-mass mandate.
- The plant will be designed to burn other bio-mass materials besides poultry litter.
- The goal is to burn at least 500,000 tons of manure a year.
- The litter will be stored for 5-10 days; there is an advantage to having the litter sit a couple of days.
- Roughly one-half of the manure contracts have been signed.
- Fibrominn recently went out for requests for qualifications to secure a qualified EPC contractor for the 50 MW poultry litter-fired power plant and expect to narrow the list down this week. The final engineering will happen soon.
- The site plan should be complete within a couple of weeks.

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Video tapes and a draft mission statement were distributed to the Committee. The Committee Members were asked to come back to the next meeting with ideas for a mission statement.

There was discussion on how often the Committee should hold meetings. It was decided that the next meeting will be Wednesday, May 30, at 6:30 p.m.

Open discussion:

- It was expressed that the Committee needs to listen to concerns/questions from the public and bring those concerns/questions back to the meetings.
- Some ways to get information out to the public: set up a website, use Channel 8.
- Need to get information out to the public regarding transportation and odor issues.

Some items for the next agenda:

Appoint a Chair
Talk about open or closed meetings
Financing the plant
Involvement in community

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.