

CITY OF  
**BENSON** MINNESOTA  
CITIZENS ADVISORY PANEL

**Minutes**  
**Citizens Advisory Panel**  
**October 22, 2003**

Members present: Carolyn Lee, Leroy Noreen, Renee Hayden, Bruce Holgate, Ray Millett, Jan Lundebrek, and Brian McNeill,  
Members absent: Allen Saunders, Steve Verhelst, Barry Jungwirth, and Bill Lee  
Present: Fibrowatt: Terry Walmsley and Greg Langmo  
City: Rob Wolfington, Bob Flaws and Marge Scheffler

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

**Approve March 20, 2003 CAP Minutes**

The minutes were set out on the table for review. It was decided to wait on approving the minutes until the panel has had time to read through them.

**Background Noise Survey Work**

Terry Walmsley distributed a copy of the background noise survey that was prepared by Wenck Associates. The noise levels were measured in the summer time during the daytime and nighttime hours. The purpose of the study was to assess the existing noise environment at the boundaries of the site and at a number of selected receptors in the area. It was found that train traffic and vehicle traffic contributed significantly and nighttime insect sounds were a contributing factor. It was mentioned that Fibrominn's goal is to not increase the noise levels more than four decibels.

**Review of the Conditional Use Permit Application**

Terry Walmsley informed the panel that there are three phases to this process: Site Plan review, Essential Services Permit, and Conditional Use Permit. In order to secure the final financing for the project, these processes need to be completed. When final financing is secured the final design for the project can be completed. The public hearing for the Conditional Use Permit is scheduled for 12:00 Noon on October 28 in the Benson City Council Chambers. Final approval of the Conditional Use Permit will be presented to the Benson City Council at their meeting at 7:00 p.m. on October 28.

**Project Update, Construction**

Terry Walmsley reviewed with the panel the new layout of the facility.

The panel was informed that the stack has been moved 180 feet from its original location. The Airport Zoning Board has approved a variance and the FAA has determined no hazard to air navigation for the original stack location. The City Manager informed the panel that the City has contacted Aviation Systems in California to begin work on the necessary approvals for the new stack location. The new stack location will have less impact to aviation traffic and thus improve aviation safety.

It was mentioned that the companion facility to process the ash may be constructed on-site or adjacent to the facility site.

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It was mentioned that the goal is to use the financing package for this project in future projects. Member Lundebrek informed the panel about the unique financing package that was put together for this project.

## **Topics for Next Meeting, Questions/Concerns**

There was no mention about when the next meeting will be held.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.