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**CITY OF NEWPORT  
GEORGIA PACIFIC TASK FORCE  
Meeting of March 19, 2009  
Minutes**

Meeting Start Time: 5:30PM

**ATTENDANCE**

Members present: Franz Cosenza, Tim Johnson, George Ragsdale (via phone), John Clark (via phone), Peggy Sabanskas (via phone), Dan McCarthy (via phone).

Also present: City Councilor Terry Obteshka (in for Lon Brusselback), City staff Dale Shaddox and Gary Firestone, Tom Picciano, G-P Public Information Officer; public – Jenny Stokes and Nyla Jebousek.

**DISCUSSION**

Franz Cosenza was selected to Chair this meeting.

Public Comment: As she had done at the previous meeting of March 5, Jenny Stokes spoke in favor of requiring ocean testing of the effluent as part of any agreement between the City and G-P. In addition, she also suggested that a program to label fish products at retail could lead to a direct negative impact on retail sales of fish products labeled as from Newport, depending on the outcome of ocean testing of the effluent.

General discussion then centered on the status of the DEQ permit conditions regarding a restriction to effluent only generated at the G-P Plant, ocean testing of effluent, and the timing of an application and new permit in 2010.

Chair Cosenza confirmed that the current permit expires in 2010. He also explained that the ocean testing will include seasonal sampling under a plan that needs to be prepared and submitted to DEQ as soon as possible.

The Task Force then undertook further discussion about whether the subject of the permit should continue to be a part of the Task Force consideration now that new conditions have been imposed by DEQ, and viewed simply as a direct relationship between G-P and DEQ. Part of the discussion was whether to make a decision regarding additional testing or postpone the decision until more members were present. Those present agree that the issue of additional testing would be further discussed at the next meeting.

Public Comment: Nyla Jebousek addressed the Task Force on the subject of ocean testing, contending that this should remain a primary focus of the Task Force scope of work and that simply relying on DEQ would not be appropriate.

The membership then considered the upcoming schedule of meetings, with additional meetings to be scheduled, and considered a new meeting time of 5:00PM. Gary Firestone volunteered to poll the membership as to future meeting dates and start time.

The meeting adjourned at 6:20PM.