

SiteLine

Joffre Site Community News

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Turnover to operations: the ultimate PE1 Expansion milestone

No matter how you look at it, it was a big project that took tremendous teamwork and collaboration. Construction of our new \$1-billion polyethylene reactor at Polyethylene 1 (PE1) took more than three years. Workforce numbers peaked at 800 craft workers in late 2015. By late 2016, we had made our first granular test product from our new reactor.

I can't tell you how exciting it is to see this significant growth at the Joffre Site all come together. The commissioning and project teams have now turned over the expanded new facilities to site operations. But there were so many other critical steps and **almost a decade leading up to this ultimate milestone:** from design work and market assessments, to securing feedstock, to seeking regulatory approvals and ongoing community support.

The expanded facility positions us well for a sustainable future, continuing to serve our growing customer demands while **bringing economic value to Alberta and Canada.**

We are also fully **integrating the expanded facility into our Responsible Care® and Sustainability management systems and monitoring programs.** This is an important consideration for our community — and all of us at NOVA Chemicals.

As our current Operating Approval and Waterworks System Approval from Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP) expire in 2019, we will be developing renewal applications during 2017 (see Regulatory updates page 4). Our Operating Approval



Our focus now turns to optimizing operations at our new expanded polyethylene facility to reach full capacity during 2017.

application will include a **comprehensive evaluation of our site's environmental performance.** As always, this information will be shared with you through *SiteLine* and our regular Open Houses.

We hope you will join us at the **April 5 Community Open House** (invitation page 4) to discuss any aspect of our operations as well as this application.

On behalf of NOVA Chemicals and all of our PE1 project resources, thank you, our **neighbours, for your patience** as we achieved this important milestone. I hope you will enjoy features in this year's *SiteLine* as we together commemorate another milestone — Happy Birthday Canada!

Rick Van Hemmen, Joffre Site Leader

**Celebrating together...
Canada's 150th**
(see more pages 2 and 3)

NOVA Chemicals receives United Way Award of Excellence

We were honoured to receive an Award of Excellence from the United Way of Central Alberta to acknowledge the success of our 2016 employee campaign and our long-standing support for “our charity of choice” which over the years has raised more than \$7.3 million through employee contributions and corporate matching. Our employees and leaders are also keen volunteers for the annual Day of Caring initiative.

In making the presentation, United Way Co-Chair Craig Curtis noted: “A well trained team runs the campaign each year, with

planning starting in the spring. They embrace every campaign best practice, and then come up with some new ones for us....

NOVA Chemicals employees contribute 34% to the overall United Way campaign. 137 employees embraced a leadership role and personally contributed \$1,200 or more to the campaign. This year, they increased their contributions 1.4% and raised more than \$746,000.”



Our incoming Chair Bobbi Liebrecht and Vice-Chair Graeme Mack were thrilled to accept this Award of Excellence for NOVA Chemicals from United Way Co-Chairs Craig Curtis (far left) and Ken Johnson (far right) on February 10.

From Joffre to Florida: the railcar has arrived!

Early in 2017 we watched with anticipation and real pride as a railcar travelled from the newly commissioned PE1 Expansion Project in Joffre to our customer Sigma Plastics in Pompano Beach, Florida.



The resin is being turned into trash bags and liners — seemingly simple things but a necessity that make our lives easier, healthier and safer.

This railcar journey marked a major milestone in the growth of our world-class Joffre Site.



Recyclables donation

The PE1 Expansion Project construction closed with a final good neighbour gesture. A truck load of recyclables were donated to the Hamlet of Joffre Community Society which yielded \$330 towards the NOVA Chemicals Community Activity Centre operations.

Celebrating together... Canada's 150th



Our industry and our company are proud of the contributions we make to Canada's ongoing success. Canada's chemistry industry transforms raw materials like natural gas liquids, oil, minerals, electricity and biomass into the building blocks needed to manufacture some 70,000 products that we depend on every day. Vehicles, electronics, textiles, building materials, paper and pharmaceuticals all exist thanks to Canadian chemistry.

New stormwater retention pond expected to be commissioned this Fall

Construction of the new stormwater retention pond located just east of the existing pond is expected to be complete in August 2017 with commissioning in September. The original schedule was impacted last year by weather conditions.

The new pond incorporates best practices and will help the site more effectively capture run-off from major storm events. This water, once it is softened and clarified, is normally re-used in our operations. No additional regulatory approvals are required for this new pond.

Once the new pond is operational we will be able to remediate the existing pond using a staged *in-situ* approach to reduce

the potential for issues like odour. The existing pond has been in operation for many years and there is some contamination contained within the sediment from historical spills dating back to the early 1980s.

The first phase in the remediation program will be a soils investigation. Samples of the sediment will be obtained and submitted for analyses. We expect to do this work during freeze-up in 2017. Based on the findings of the soils investigation, a detailed remediation plan will be developed. The remediation of the retention pond is scheduled to begin Fall 2018.



New brochure outlines measures for community safety

Lacombe County Mutual Aid Organization (LCMAO) is the mutual aid emergency response organization in the Lacombe County area. It was formed in 1998 to facilitate coordinated emergency response between municipal and industrial emergency response departments in the region.

LCMAO members are emergency management and response professionals from local industry and municipalities. Together members — including NOVA Chemicals — train, plan and share best practices for emergency response in our area.

LCMAO has a new brochure that provides an overview of its approach to enhancing community safety in this area. It also contains important information on how to Shelter-in-Place. We will have copies of the brochure available at our Open House April 5. You can also contact LCMutualAidOrg@gmail.com if you would like to obtain a copy.

Celebrating together... Canada's 150th



Polyethylene is the most common plastic in the world representing about 40% of all resins produced globally. This year, our NOVA Chemicals Joffre Site brought into operation our \$1-billion PE1 Expansion, increasing our polyethylene capacity by about 40% and bringing added economic value to Central Alberta and Canada.

Regulatory updates

Additional regulatory requirements for new back-up well: In 2016, we undertook the installation of a second, (back-up) caustic deep well on the site to enhance reliable operations and provide flexibility for system maintenance. The back-up well will not change the source, characteristics or quantity of fluids being injected into the disposal system.

Regulatory approval was received to drill the new well (under Alberta Energy Regulator [AER] Directive 056) in September 2016. We expect to make additional regulatory applications this Spring under AER Directive 051 (well design and designation) and Directive 065 (amend the existing disposal scheme approval). This will be done once surface rights holders within 0.5 km of the wellhead and subsurface rights holders within 2.4 km are formally notified.

Assuming all necessary approvals are received, the new disposal well will be operational in 2017. For more information please view our fact sheet at www.novachem.com/pages/joffre/joffre.aspx

Applications for Renewal of Operating Approval and Renewal of Waterworks System Approval:

In 2019, both our Operating Approval and Waterworks System Approval expire. During 2017, we will be developing renewal applications to Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP) for both of these approvals. We expect to submit both applications by early 2018.

The application for our Operating Approval will include a comprehensive evaluation of our site's environmental performance for the last 10 years. The waterworks renewal application will include the performance of the approved upgrades made to the potable water treatment plant over the past few years.

An essential component of both of these renewal processes is consultation with our neighbours and community. We will continue to provide you more information about these applications in future SiteLine editions and at the 2017 Community Open Houses (see right for April Open House invitation). Your input is welcome.



The new disposal well was drilled during the latter part of 2016 and completions work was done in January 2017.



Community Open House

- Date:** Wednesday, April 5, 2017
- Time:** 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. "Drop in to Chat"
6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Presentation/Discussion
- Place:** Haynes Hall (Travelling east on Highway 11, turn north (left) on Range Road 244 for 3.3 km to Township Road 390. Cross over 390 and take first left into parking lot of Haynes Hall.)

Refreshments will be served

- Agenda:**
- Get business and facility operations updates
 - Information on upcoming renewal of operating approval
 - Discuss any topic of interest
 - Provide your input and suggestions

We hope to see you there!



**Celebrating together...
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SiteLine is published by NOVA Chemicals Corporation

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For more information, please see these websites:

- www.novachemicals.com | www.novachemicals.com/Joffre
- Chemistry Industry Association of Canada: www.canadianchemistry.ca
- American Chemistry Council: www.americanchemistry.com

