

Mobile City Council Recognizes PEP and BPS



From left: Perry Studstill, Oil Recovery; Steve Murrill, Huntsman Advanced Materials; Lamar Larrimore, Alabama Power; Karen Lowe, Mitsubishi Polysilicon; Rebekah Bell, Alabama Power;
Back row: Maurice Ware, BASF; Dr. John Steadman, USA; Jim Backes, Hargrove Engineers + Constructors; Bill Klutz, Evonik Degussa
Front Row: Tyrone Rogers, ExxonMobil; Jennifer Denson, PEP; Gary Criscione, Evonik Degussa; City Councilwoman Connie Hudson, Mayor Sam Jones

On June 29, 2010, the Mobile City Council and Mayor Sam Jones awarded a certificate of recognition to PEP and the 12 forward thinking companies in By-Product Synergy Central Gulf Coast for the project's success and the resulting environmental and economic benefits to the community.

Background on BPS

In May 2009, as part of its mission to promote a sustainable Alabama Gulf Coast, Partners for Environmental Progress (PEP) launched its By-Product Synergy Central Gulf Coast (BPS CGC) project to achieve significant economic benefits for participating companies while simultaneously advancing environmental protections. Using a process developed by the U.S. Business Council for Sustainable Development, PEP formed a diverse network of companies to actively seek opportunities to turn one company's waste or by-product into raw materials for another. This has resulted in "win-win" projects that will enhance the region's triple bottom line by providing economic, environmental and social benefits.

Local industry is committed to making a significant, positive impact on the region's sustainability. BPS CGC puts in place a system where businesses can constantly network and systematically review opportunities to reduce their environmental footprint. This type of innovation and collaboration can only help recruit like-minded, environmentally progressive new industry.

BPS CGC is the practice of matching under-valued waste or by-product streams with potential users, helping to create new revenues or savings for the companies involved while simultaneously addressing social and environmental impacts. Synergies are not limited to material flows but can include energy, transportation services and best practices.

During the past year, the 12 participating entities met in a series of workshops to review and analyze product streams. An experienced technical team, headed by Dr. John Steadman, Dean of the College of Engineering, University of South Alabama, categorized, analyzed and helped identify priority potential synergies that would be commercially viable and environmentally significant. Action plans were developed to address technical, regulatory or other barriers.

First Project Phase is a Success

The projects successful first year is a result of the leadership of PEP, the participation of a variety of local industry partners and the creativity of the engineers, operators and managers who came together seeking innovative solutions. The cumulative economic and environmental impacts of the BPS project, include, but are not limited to:

- \$1.6 million in company savings; \$3.2 million local economic impact;
- 8,200 tons of materials from landfills, wastewater treatment plants and other disposal sites; 5,300 tons of acid diverted from waste treatment plants; and
- More than 8,800 tons of CO2 emissions were avoided.

PEP is currently recruiting for 20 additional companies. If you are interested in turning waste into profit, please contact Jennifer Denson, 251-345-7269 or jdenson@pepmobile.org.