

Notes of Meeting #55 – Algoma Steel Community Liaison Committee

Date: Tuesday, December 2nd, 2025

Location: Algoma Steel Administration Building Conference Room and Teams Meeting

Time: 12:00pm to 2:00pm

CLC Members in Attendance

Corey Jackson – Algoma Steel

Autumn McLean – Algoma Steel

Nick Nogalo – Algoma Steel

Laura Devoni – Algoma Steel

John Naccarato – Algoma Steel

Dennis Gagne – 2251 Health and Safety Representative

David Trowbridge – Public

Andrew Mallette – City of Sault Ste. Marie

Rick Lalonde – Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)

Jace Dominey – Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)

CLC Members not in Attendance

Josh Ingribelli – Algoma Steel

Anton Schoahs – Public

Jillian Marquis – Public

Lori Jalak – Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)

Issac McKechnie – SSM Tribe of Chippewa Indians

Robert Schulte - SSM Tribe of Chippewa Indians

Lauren Febbraro - Algoma Public Health

Melissa Francella - Algoma Public Health

Steve Carey - Chippewa County Health Department

Suzanne Lieurance – Chippewa County Health Department

Dan Sayers Jr. – Batchewana First Nation

Richard Perrault – Garden River First Nation

Carl Rumiel – City of Sault Ste. Marie

Dean Law – United Steel Workers Local 2251

Lisa Derickx – St. Mary's River RAP Coordinator

Raquel Gonzalez - St. Mary's River RAP Coordinator

Bill Slater – United Steel Workers Local 2724

Meeting notes

1) Review of the Agenda and Meeting #54 Notes

No concerns were raised regarding the previous meeting minutes, which had been revised and posted following a minor correction.

2) Business Update

An overview of recent business developments at Algoma Steel was provided.



Algoma Steel has faced significant trade disruption over the past year, driven primarily by the unprecedented 50% tariff imposed by the United States. This measure effectively closed off the USA market that has been essential to Algoma's viability, undermining the competitive foundation on which the company has operated. The tariff rendered traditional blast-furnace steelmaking no longer viable, forcing an accelerated exit from Blast Furnace 7 and Coke Making operations, and early transition to Electric Arc Furnace (EAF) steelmaking.

Government actions—including strengthened Tariff Rate Quotas and anti-dumping enforcement, transportation supports, and emerging “Buy Canadian” policies—are helping to rebuild stable, competitive conditions for domestic producers. These measures aim to restore balance in a market severely disrupted by foreign trade actions and support a resilient Canadian steel supply chain.

3) Membership Items and Terms of Reference

Andrew Mallette advised the committee that he will no longer serve as the City of Sault Ste. Marie representative. The current alternate, Carl Rumiell, will assume the role of primary member.

The committee discussed the Terms of Reference related to alternates and designates. Members agreed that a call for interest to be a member would also be the preferred approach for filling public alternate positions. Algoma Steel will issue a call for public members in the new year to fill the vacant public seat. Algoma will also update the language related to designates and circulate the revised Terms of Reference to the committee for review.

Discussion ensued regarding consistent member attendance. Algoma committed to continued outreach efforts to encourage participation, including exploring broader community representation beyond administrative staff.

The committee also discussed meeting times. While some members expressed interest in an evening meeting option, it was noted that for members attending on behalf of employers, the preferred meeting time remains 12:00pm–2:00pm.

4) Electric Arc Furnace (EAF) Transition Update

An update was provided on the commissioning and ramp-up of the EAF project. The first furnace is currently undergoing commissioning with staged production increases. The second furnace is expected to begin commissioning in the first half of 2026.

Algoma confirmed that ironmaking and cokemaking operations are expected to be decommissioned in early 2026. As a result, Algoma expects to remain in compliance with Ontario Regulation 419 once these operations cease.

It was clarified that during the transition period to EAF steelmaking, production is temporarily supported by Algoma's Lake Superior Power natural gas power plant, with full integration into Ontario's grid anticipated following completion of transmission upgrades in 2029-30. Production intensity and emissions will continue to improve as grid power becomes available and EAF operations stabilize.



5) Cokemaking Emission Performance

An update was provided on cokemaking performance. It was noted that this would be one of the final meetings where detailed cokemaking performance would be reviewed due to the decommissioning of primary operations.

Recent issues with Battery #8 door and off-take emissions were discussed. Corrective maintenance campaigns have been completed, and performance has returned to compliance, with continued downward trends observed across Batteries #8 and #9. Charging emissions and lid performance remain well below regulatory limits.

Average pushing opacity remains under historical averages, with more than 70% of audited pushes below the 30% threshold. Stack opacity continues to trend downward, reflecting focused maintenance and operational controls and it was noted that #9 Battery had recorded days with less than 20% stack opacity.

6) Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Program (AAQMP)

The committee reviewed Q3 Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Program results for July through September. PM10 and PM2.5 excursions were noted and were largely attributed to road dust and seasonal summer conditions. Transwest's road dust management efforts were acknowledged as effective.

Concerns were raised regarding the communication of air quality exceedances and perceived inconsistencies between industrial monitoring results and public wildfire air quality advisories. It was suggested that outstanding questions be formally directed to Algoma Public Health, with a request for follow-up and reporting at the next committee meeting.

Monitoring results from the Bonney Street, Fourth Avenue, and Western/Cathcart stations were discussed. Members noted that most monitored parameters remained stable or showed improvement compared to the previous quarter.

7) Environmental Compliance Approvals and Abatement Plan

Algoma confirmed that the EAF Air and Noise Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) was issued earlier in 2025, with additional conditions including source testing, noise abatement planning, fugitive dust management, ambient monitoring, and public engagement.

Algoma confirmed that the Fugitive Dust Management Plan, Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Plan, and Public Engagement Plan have been submitted to MECP and are currently awaiting approval. Once approved, the Public Engagement Plan will be shared with the CLC for review and feedback.

Committee members raised questions regarding Algoma's compliance status under Ontario Regulation 419 during the transition period and the role of the Abatement Plan. Algoma clarified that the Abatement Plan is an approved regulatory compliance mechanism under O. Reg. 419, intended to provide a structured pathway from current operations to full compliance where immediate compliance is not technically or economically feasible.

Questions were raised regarding source testing requirements, including dioxins and furans. Algoma advised that annual source testing is a standard requirement for EAF facilities in Ontario and that, based on the installed controls and activated carbon injection system, compliance with applicable limits is expected.



MECP representatives noted ongoing engagement with Algoma through regular meetings and confirmed that regulatory oversight continues throughout the transition period.

8) Community Engagement

Algoma shared recent community engagement activities, including:

- Algoma employees prepared, packaged, and served over 150 meals to community members in need, with plans to return the following week to continue this effort.
- In November, Algoma welcomed 100 Grade 8 girls for a hands-on introduction to manufacturing and the skilled trades, aimed at building confidence and awareness of career pathways in the sector.
- Algoma Steel employees, in collaboration with USW Local 2724, assisted in restoring the historic artillery gun at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 25.
- Plate Mill General Manager Tom Katagis participated in the Allies in Steel panel at the AIST Women in Steel Conference, highlighting the role of male allyship in advancing inclusion across the industry.

It was noted that, given current economic conditions, Algoma is placing increased emphasis on volunteerism.

9) Next Meeting

The committee agreed to schedule the next Community Liaison Committee meeting for Monday, March 3, 2026, subject to confirmation. Algoma anticipates providing significant updates at that time as EAF commissioning continues and primary operations wind down.

