

NEWPORT CHEMICAL DEPOT REUSE AUTHORITY

BOARD MEETING

April 16, 2026

Public Hearing

Public Meeting

MINUTES

The Newport Chemical Depot Reuse Authority held a Public Hearing on Thursday April 16, 2026 at 5:30PM at the Cayuga Community Center - Cayuga, IN.

Public Meeting at 6:00PM

Board:

Willie Wyres, President

Eddie Thompson, Vice President

Joe Ellis, Treasurer

Adam Winland, Board Member

Staff:

Jerry Acy, Executive Director

Chad Harris, Facility Manager

Cindy Wilson, Utility Manager/Bookkeeper

Scott Craig, Attorney

Visitors:

A list of the visitors is available at Newport Chemical Depot Reuse Authority

President Wyres called the Public Hearing to order.

Scott Craig, attorney, read Resolution 2026-01 amending the Newport Chemical Depot Reuse Authority plan to add property to the facility. Those properties being; The North Half of the Northwest Quarter of Section Fourteen (14), Township Fifteen (15) North, of Range Ten (10) West. Also, Forty-five (45) acres off of the South side of Southwest Quarter of Section Eleven (11), Township Fifteen (15) North, of Range Ten (10) West.

Part of Parcels: 83-11-14-100-001.000-007
83-11-11-300-010.000-007

A portion of the Northeast Quarter of Section 16, Township 16 North, Range 10 West as described as follows: Beginning at the Coast Guard marker in concrete found on the west line of the Northeast Quarter of Section 16; thence North 88 degrees 51 minutes 20 seconds East 2200.00 feet to a set monument; thence North 01 degrees 21 minutes 40 seconds West 2000.00 feet to a mag nail with washer stamped "HENNESSY LS20200026" set on the north line of Section 16; thence South 88 degrees 52 minutes 40 seconds West 2200.00 feet to railroad spike found at the northwest corner of the Northeast Quarter of Section 16; thence South to the place of the beginning.

Parcel No. 83-08-16-100-002.000-011

The Floor was opened to Public Comment:

Phil Cox read his written remonstrance including;

- The notice was not made public until April 13, 2026.
- No description on the location of parcels.
- No response for requested agenda for April 16, 2026 (Public Hearing and Regular Meeting).
- Disapprove of any land use or transaction that does not advance conservation.
- Any action that promotes development in areas designated as "Open Space Outdoor Recreation" located in the northwest and southeast areas of the facility.
- Proper use of undeveloped land owned by NeCDRA is for wildlife including Indiana Bat, migrating birds, native flora and fauna that inhabits this area, as well as, future species that are used in restoration of the prairie habitat, as well as human recreation which does not adversely affect wildlife.

Scott Craig stated the legal notice checked all legal boxes for publication.

President Wyres closed the Public Hearing at 5:50PM.

President Wyres called the Public Meeting to order at 6:03PM.

Resolution - Eddie Thompson made a motion to adopt Resolution 2026-01. Adam Winland second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes – Eddie Thompson made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Joe Ellis second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Easement for Garmong – Garmong would like to extend the easement at the Shell Building. Joe Ellis made a motion to extend the easement. Adam Winland second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Notice to Proceed – Willie Wyres signed the Notice to Proceed for foundation removal by ES Smith & Sons Excavating.

Public Comment – Nolan Mihail expressed his concerns on data centers; water consumption and environmental impact. Eddie Thompson stated all waste goes through a wastewater facility.

Willie Wyres stated there are no contracts with data centers at this time. Mr. Mihail asked about Jerry Acy, President Wyres expressed his concern about misinformation regarding Mr. Acy. Mr. Acy did not work in Sullivan County.

Leonard Akers talked about the Aquifer, he expressed his confidence in the current board. Joe Ellis explained crypto mining. Brad LeClaire stated that not everything can be filtered through wastewater.

Mike Kelley said “People are worried about being snowed.” Public would like to be informed in a timely manner. Never give up the water.

Mary Kay Darnell asked about the deep wells that was injected during VX. Board stated the wells are capped and concreted.

Derrick Ostrum asked about the progress made to date. Eddie Thompson stated the board has hired outside firms to navigate and educate through the industrial process of any type facility.

Phil Cox stated in the Sept 16, 2025 minutes there was a presentation about a RV Campground in the potential DNR area. The board answered there was never a proposal submitted. Phil Cox asked about the status of the DNR area. President Wyres answered that there has been no communication.

Unnamed person stated the electricity will go up for consumers if a data center is in the area. Mr. Wyres stated a data center provides its own power.

Joe Ellis discussed prospects that weren't fitting for the Rise. Mr. Ellis stated we need 20 small businesses. Leonard Akers agreed. Mr. Ellis explained that NDA are common to protect both parties. He also explained the State of Indiana Economic Development. Joe Ellis explained the current Garmong contract.

Commissioner Bill Peebles thanked everyone for coming and getting involved.

Adjourn – Adam Winland made a motion to adjourn, Joe Ellis second. Motion passed unanimously.

