PARatus

Region 8 Preparedness

Volume V No.2 Quarterly Newsletter 2015

Welcome to the Region 8 Preparedness Newsletter. In this issue, you'll find articles on:

Feel free to browse through the entire newsletter or click on the links to the stories your want to read first in full.

Winter Ozone Pollution

A recent study released by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA) stated that chemicals released into the air by oil and gas exploration, extraction, and related activities can initiate reactions that lead to high levels of ozone in wintertime—high enough to exceed federal health standards. The study comes at a time when new technologies are accelerating oil and gas development and its findings may help air quality managers determine how to best minimize the impact of ozone pollution.

Winter ozone pollution is surprising because, normally, intense summer sunlight sparks the chemical reactions that create ozone pollution, according to Peter Edwards, a scientist with NOAA's Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES). However, Edwards and his colleagues have shown that, in winter, levels of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) build high enough that they can trigger pollution-forming reactions themselves. The warm air aloft can trap cold air below, creating an inversion that concentrates VOCs. The presence of snow increases light reflection and accelerates ozone production.

"It's the same ingredients (nitrogen oxides and VOCs) that form ozone during the summertime but it's a different spark in winter," said Steven Brown, a scientist with NOAA's Earth System Research Laboratory (ESRL) in Boulder, Colorado. "Under wintertime conditions, the much higher VOCs in oil and gas break down to make carbonyl compounds, which set off the ozone production."

The research is based on data collected in a series of wintertime studies in Utah's Uintah Basin led by James Roberts, of NOAA's ESRL. "We encountered a range of conditions during the three winters, from snowy in 2013 and 2014, to virtually no snow in 2012," said Roberts. "Oil and gas emissions of VOCs were high in all three years, but high ozone occurred only in the cold, snowy stagnant periods."

"These studies in Utah have caused us to think about air pollution chemistry a little differently," said Joost de Gouw, a researcher with CIRES working at NOAA ESRL. "Our findings could help state and local air quality managers who are faced with ozone episodes to design policies, and industry representatives to meet air quality standards in the regions where they operate."

Research in the winter ozone phenomenon is continuing through an NSF-funded project 'Wintertime Investigation of Transport, Emissions, and Reactivity', or WINTER 2015. Participating scientists are from CIRES at the University of Colorado Boulder, NOAA's Earth System Research Laboratory (ESRL), the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) and several universities.

What Is Ozone?

Ozone is a gas that occurs both in the Earth's upper atmosphere and at ground level. Ozone can be "good" or "bad" for your health and the environment, depending on its location.

Ozone occurs in two layers of the atmosphere. The layer closest to the Earth's surface is the troposphere. Here, ground-level or "bad" ozone is an air pollutant that is harmful to breathe and damages crops, trees and other vegetation. It is a main ingredient of urban smog. The troposphere generally extends to a level about six miles up, where it meets the second layer, the stratosphere. The stratosphere extends upward from about six to 30 miles. This stratospheric or "good" ozone protects life on Earth from the sun's harmful ultraviolet (UV) rays.

Ground level ozone is not emitted directly into the air, but is created by chemical reactions between oxides of nitrogen (NOx) and volatile organic compounds (VOC) in the presence of sunlight. Emissions from industrial facilities and electric utilities, motor vehicle exhaust, gasoline vapors, and chemical solvents are some of the major sources of NOx and VOC. Breathing ozone can trigger a variety of health problems, particularly for children, the elderly, and people with lung diseases such as asthma. Ground level ozone can also have harmful effects on sensitive vegetation and ecosystems.

Read More at http://www.epa.gov/groundlevelozone or http://www.epa.gov/airquality/gooduphigh.

Bridger Pipeline Oil Spill in the Yellowstone River

On Jan 17, 2015, a Bridger Pipeline controller noticed some abnormal pressure readings on the Bridger Poplar Pipeline and began to investigate. When a release was confirmed, Bridger filed a report to the National Response Center (NRC). The section of the Poplar Pipeline involved was 12 inches in diameter and located in the area of the Yellowstone River crossing approximately six miles upstream from the city of Glendive, Montana. Between the two block valves, which were about 6800 feet apart, the pipeline fill was approximately 900 barrels of Bakken Crude oil.

Based on the NRC report and communication with the DOT Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, EPA immediately mobilized a Federal On-Scene Coordinator and contractors to the scene.

Safety concerns and odor complaints from residential water consumers triggered water quality testing which indicated that a treatment plant had been contaminated by the oil spill. As a result, bottled water was provided for the residents until the treatment plant water tested below detection limits for benzene and all other contaminants of concern (volatile organic carbons).

Oil recovery remains difficult due to ice on the river. The spill site is just downstream from two convergent river channels where the ice is highly fractured and irregular and it appears that some residual oil is trapped within the fractures and frazzle ice. Crews continue to recover oil as weather allows. When the ice begins to melt, shoreline assessments will be conducted and further response actions will be taken as required.

Return to top

Red River Supply Warehouse Fire

What began as a request to help monitor the air around an intense chemical fire with a large smoke plume at an oil and gas industry warehouse in Williston, ND, quickly grew as copious amounts of water used to suppress the fire leached toxic chemicals from the warehouse into storm drains. The blaze became so large and so hot that eventually the city fire department decided to abandon attempts to extinguish it. All that was left of the Red River Supply Warehouse was charred buildings, contaminated soil and debris.

Prompted by a call from the North Dakota Department of Public Health, EPA responded and, after reviewing the Safety Data Sheets (previously known as MSDS) on a long list of oil industry chemicals stored in the warehouse, set up monitoring stations to ensure that the nearby community would be safe from potential volatiles.

Federal On-Scene Coordinator Paul Peronard quickly realized that particulate matter caused by the fire would be the chief concern. After reviewing concerns with Incident Command, the city put out an advisory to the citizens of Williston to evacuate or shelter in place.

"Of course, we had to deal with all of the water used in the fire which was now contaminated with chemicals from the warehouse," said Peronard, and so responders blocked storm drains and built berms around the periphery to contain the contaminated water. Responders also shut down Army Corps pump station on a canal adjacent to the site and drained clean canal waters above the site directly into a Missouri River tributary, the Little Muddy River, thus isolating the chemically-contaminated waters.

Locally heavy rains, immediately after the response, compounded the challenge of isolating large amounts of contaminated water, and caused chemically-contaminated on-site water to breach an earthen berm and enter the canal. When the berm burst, oxygen scavengers, chemicals used in the petroleum industry to prevent corrosion and bacteria growth, washed into the canal and depleted the oxygen supply, resulting in a fish kill. The EPA added strippers/aerators to raise the dissolved oxygen levels and remove many of the contaminants and, within a couple of weeks, mitigation efforts were effective enough to return the trapped water in the canal to the Little Muddy River.

"The berms helped us to contain more than 250,000 gallons of contaminated water on site, most of which was captured in frac tanks," said the OSC. "We used some of the water for gross decon and dust suppression, some was sent off-site for treatment and some disposed of through deep well injection."

Before the project was complete, Red River Supply and the State of North Dakota removed burned and damaged buildings, debris and the top 18-inches of soil. In addition, disposal and reclamation locations were identified and approved and off-site shipments began.

Return to top

Black Tail Creek Produced Water Spill

A large produced-water spill occurred in Marmon, North Dakota, impacting Blacktail Creek, a tributary to the Little Muddy River and eventually the Missouri River. Seventy thousand barrels of produced water, including oil, were released from a four-inch pipeline conveying produced water from 37 oil well pads to a disposal well. After discovering the potential line break on January 6, 2015, the line was shut-down. It remains unclear exactly when the spill occurred and what caused it. Cleanup crews have pumped at least four million gallons of produced water, fresh water, and oil.

Oil drilling and leaks from a ruptured pipeline, operated by Summit Midstream Partners LLC, generated the nearly three million-gallon spill of produced water according to the EPA.

The produced water pumped from the creek will now be stored underground.

The mixture of fresh water, brine and oil that was pumped from several locations along Blacktail Creek is now being transported to a well site and injected underground. Produced water is typically pumped underground for permanent storage from a network of pipelines that extend to hundreds of disposal wells.

EO 13650 Update

The Region 8 Tri-Chairs [Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)] have been hard at work developing a strategic plan to implement Executive Order (EO) 13650 *Improving Chemical Facility Safety and Security*, signed on August 1, 2013 to enhance the safety and security of chemical facilities and reduce risks associated with hazardous chemicals to owners and operators, workers, and communities.

Since the last update, EPA hosted the first meeting of the full Region 8 EO 13650 working group on December 16, 2014 to establish an overall regional strategy and work plan. A meeting in January 2015 with the full group led to a much more detailed work plan and specific tasks assigned to federal, state, or local partners. Since then, the Tri-Chairs have met three times to hash out roles and ensure the federal framework of collaboration through resources, training, and data are in place before we bring in the states and assess their needs.

Next steps are to reach out to Region 8 state and tribal partners to come up with specific needs and tasks to help you better prepare and have access to tools, information, and resources. Stay tuned!

Please feel free to contact Rebecca Broussard at Broussard.rebecca@epa.gov with any questions.

Return to top

Stockpile of Chemical Weapons Headed for Destruction

Inside a 36-acre bunker, technicians will destroy 780,000 shells and 2,600 tons of mustard gas

While green pastures lie above, concrete bunkers are full to the brim with the largest stockpile of chemical weapons since the Second World War.

And they are about to be destroyed.

In a landmark move toward complying with a 1997 treaty banning chemical armory, the Pueblo Chemical Depot in southern Colorado plans to start neutralizing 2,600 tons of aging mustard agent.

"The start of Pueblo is an enormous step forward to a world free of chemical weapons," said Paul Walker, who has tracked chemical warfare for more than 20 years.

The U.S. amassed 30,600 tons of chemical weapons, both mustard agent and deadly nerve agent, much of it during the Cold War. The Army described them as a deterrent, and the U.S. never used them in war. Nearly 90% of the U.S. stockpile has been eliminated at depots in six states and at the Johnson Atoll in the Pacific, mostly by incineration.

Pueblo has about 780,000 shells containing mustard agent, which is a thick liquid, colorless and almost odorless. It got its name because early versions smell like mustard. It is also known as mustard gas and sulfur mustard.

The Pueblo plant can process up to 60 shells an hour, but the explosion chamber can destroy just six shells a day. Pueblo expects to finish the job in 2019 - more than 55 years after some of the shells there were produced.

Two methods of destruction will be used for the Pueblo stockpile. Initially, an estimated 1,400 shells that are leaking or otherwise damaged will be placed in a sealed steel chamber with walls up to nine inches thick. Explosives will tear open the shells, and the mustard agent will be neutralized with chemicals.

The remaining hundreds of thousands of shells will be run through a partially automated, $4.5 billion plant starting later this year. That process will dismantle the shells, neutralize the mustard agent in water, and then add bacteria to digest and convert the remaining chemicals.

Dan Elliott
Associated Press
Published:, 4 February 2015
Brennan Linsley, Photography, Associated Press

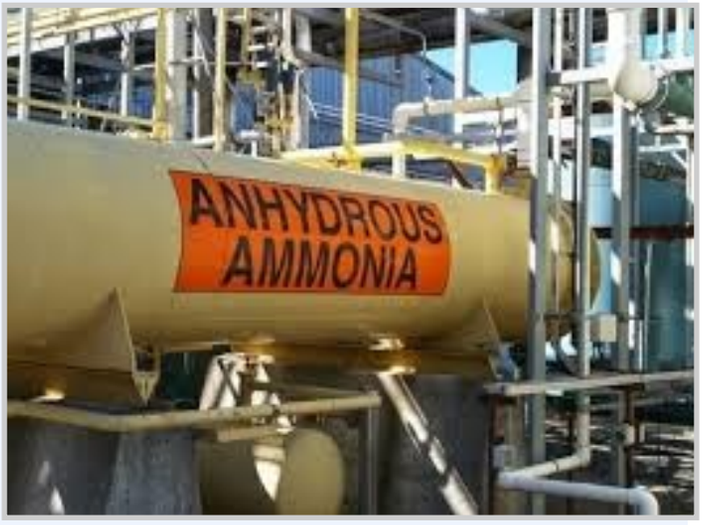
Return to top

Anhydrous Ammonia at Refrigeration Facilities

Evidence gathered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) indicates that some refrigeration facilities may be failing to properly manage hazardous chemicals, including anhydrous ammonia, as required by the Clean Air Act (CAA) Section 112(r). An EPA Alert dated February 2015 is intended to inform the industry that companies must take responsibility to prevent accidental releases of dangerous chemicals like anhydrous ammonia through compliance with CAA's Chemical Accident Prevention Program.

Introduction

The CAA designates anhydrous ammonia as a regulated substance for accident prevention. Anhydrous ammonia presents a significant health hazard because it is corrosive to the skin, eyes and lungs. Exposure to 300 parts per million is immediately dangerous to life and health. Anhydrous ammonia is also flammable at concentrations of about 15 to 28 percent by volume in air. It can explode if it is released in an enclosed space with a source of ignition present, or if a vessel containing anhydrous ammonia is exposed to fire.



Insufficient chemical accident prevention practices at some refrigeration facilities have resulted in releases of anhydrous ammonia into surrounding communities. Recently, releases at nine different refrigeration facilities have resulted in property damage, numerous injuries and hospitalizations, and several deaths. Since 2012, EPA responded to these incidents with enforcement actions, imposing over $8.4 million in civil penalties. In addition, companies will spend approximately $10 million on supplemental environmental projects, including purchasing equipment and providing training for emergency responders as well as converting refrigeration equipment to safer technologies.

To help refrigeration facilities comply with CAA requirements and prevent these types of dangerous accidents from occurring, EPA is highlighting four aspects of the CAA's Chemical Accident Prevention Program:

1) The Risk Management Program (RMP) Regulations
2) The General Duty Clause
3) Industry Standards
4) Enforcement Focus on Accident Prevention

1) Risk Management Program Regulations

The CAA required EPA to publish regulations and guidance for chemical accident prevention at facilities using substances that posed the greatest risk of harm from accidental releases. These regulations, which are in 40 CFR Part 68, require facilities that have more than a threshold quantity of certain regulated chemicals in a "process" (such as use or storage) to develop a Risk Management Program. For example, the threshold for anhydrous ammonia is 10,000 pounds. Among other requirements, facilities must:

- Analyze the worst-case release scenario to determine the potential effects of a release of an extremely hazardous substance;
- Complete a five-year accident history;
- Coordinate response actions with the local emergency response agencies; and
- Submit to EPA a written Risk Management Plan, which is a summary of the Program, updating the plan every five years or as changes occur.

Facilities that have processes from which worst-case releases could reach the public or where accidental releases within the past 5 years have resulted in certain offsite impacts have additional requirements as well.

Anhydrous Ammonia at Refrigeration Facilities EPA Alert — Continued

Recent cases indicate that refrigeration facilities may not be fully implementing RMPs, despite the requirements of the Chemical Accident Prevention Program. Note that if the ammonia refrigeration facility is subject to these regulations, it is also likely to be subject to the Occupational Health and Safety Administration's Process Safety Management standard.

2) The General Duty Clause
When Congress amended the Clean Air Act in 1990, it added the General Duty Clause (GDC) at CAA Section 112(r)(1). Under the GDC, owners and operators of facilities that have regulated substances are responsible for ensuring that these chemicals are managed safely. Safe management includes taking steps to prevent accidental releases of the extremely hazardous substances and to minimize the consequences of any accidental releases. Facilities subject to the General Duty Clause are responsible for:

- Identifying the hazards posed by the chemicals and assessing the impacts of possible releases;
- Designing and maintaining a safe facility to prevent accidental releases; and
- Minimizing the consequences of accidental releases that do occur.

Note: The GDC applies to many chemicals; it is not limited to the chemicals subject to the RMP regulations. The GDC applies facility-wide, regardless of the amount of chemical stored. In analyzing the standard of care, EPA consults industry standards, codes, and practices, including those mentioned below.

3) Industry Standards
In light of the potential hazards posed by the mishandling of anhydrous ammonia, industry trade associations have issued standards outlining good engineering and operating practices in the ammonia refrigeration industry. In collaboration with the American National Standards Institute, the International Institute of Ammonia Refrigeration (IIAR) has issued (and updated) "Standard 2: Equipment, Design, and Installation of Closed-Circuit Ammonia Mechanical Refrigeration Systems," along with other applicable standards and guidance. Also in collaboration with the American National Standards Institute, the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers has issued "Standard 15: Safety Standard for Refrigeration Systems." These standards and guidance are consistently relied upon by refrigeration experts and are sometimes incorporated into state building, fire, and mechanical codes. In addition, IIAR has published a guidance document for owners of smaller refrigeration systems that are subject to the GDC but not the RMP regulations.

4) EPA's enforcement focus is on preventing chemical accidents before accidental releases threaten human health and the environment.

Note: This article attempts to clarify in plain language some EPA regulatory provisions. Nothing in this article or the Enforcement Alert revises or replaces any regulatory provisions in the cited part, any other part of the Code of Federal Regulations, the Federal Register, or the Clean Air Act. For more information go to: www2.epa.gov/enforcement

Return to top

Oil Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) Program

Information for Farmers

What is SPCC?

The goal of the SPCC program is to prevent oil spills into waters of the United States and adjoining shorelines. Oil spills can cause injuries to people and damage the environment, and be costly to clean-up. A key element of this program calls for farmers and other facilities to have an oil spill prevention plan, called an SPCC Plan. The objective of these plans is to work with owner/operators (which may include farmers) to prevent oil spills which can damage water resources needed for farming operations, drinking water, and aquatic life.

What is considered a farm under SPCC?

Under SPCC, a farm is "a facility on a tract of land devoted to the production of crops or raising of animals including fish, which produced and sold, or normally would have produced and sold, $1,000 or more of agricultural products during a year."

Is my farm covered by SPCC?

The Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) of 2014 was enacted on June 10, 2014. Section 1049 of the WRRDA includes changes on how SPCC applies to farms. For more information on the Act please visit: http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-113hr3080enr/pdf/BILLS-113hr3080enr.pdf (page 65)

Regulated facilities, which may include farms, must develop and implement a site-specific SPCC Plan to address:

- Containment and procedures to *prevent* oil discharges;
- Proactive *control* measures to keep an oil discharge from entering waters of the U.S. and adjoining shorelines; and
- Effective *countermeasures* to contain, clean up, and mitigate any oil discharge that affects U.S. waters and adjoining shorelines (spill response measures).

Workshops

EPA recently participated in the Colorado Agricultural Stakeholders meeting in Fort Collins, Colorado to provide information on SPCC and how it pertains to the farming community. Future workshop opportunities will be announced on our R8 Preparedness website: http://www2.epa.gov/region8/emergency-planning-preparedness-and-response

For more information, please contact:

Melissa Payan, EPA SPCC (Oil) Program Coordinator and FRP Program Coordinator, at 303-312-6511

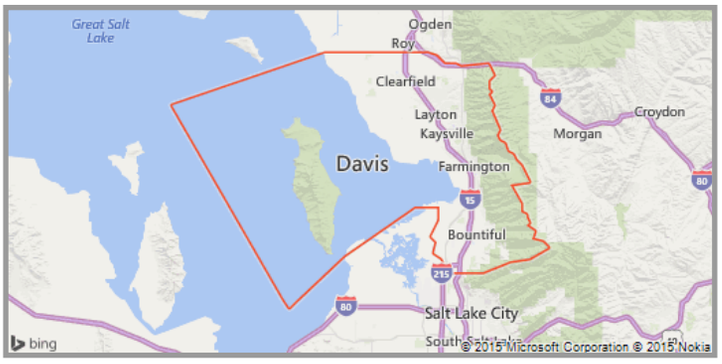
or Elaine Lai, EPA SPCC (Oil) Inspector and FRP Plans, at 303-312-7041.

Return to top

Profiling LEPCs from Region 8

A conversation with Ellis Bruch, Chairman of the Davis County LEPC

Davis County is a long narrow county along the I15 Corridor between Salt Lake City and Ogden. In addition, it includes Antelope Island State Park, an island within Great Salt Lake.



The EPA's Region 8 Preparedness Unit recently interviewed Ellis Bruch, chair of the Davis County LEPC, at the Utah state LEPC workshop.

Mr. Bruch has been chairman of the LEPC since the year 2000. He is a Deputy within the Emergency Services Davis County Sheriff's Office. The responsibility of the Emergency Management Administration is the "development and implementation of plans for the protection of the communities within the county and for minimizing the effects of a disaster." The Emergency Services website presents the Mission, and the four phases of Emergency Management: Preparedness, Response, Recovery and Mitigation, along with other pertinent information.

Over the years, Bruch has worked to best exemplify the role of the LEPC in the community. He related that he was chair for five years before he happened to invite a SERC chair to attend a meeting.

Up until that point, the LEPC was focused on Emergency Management, but he realized the LEPC could and should be so much more. This especially became obvious to him after the West Texas explosion, where Tier II documents had been completed, but not communicated thoroughly. From that point, he changed his tactics and the direction of the LEPC. He not only emphasized responder training for hazardous materials and chemicals, but he worked to have the LEPC be a conduit for information about facilities in the county.

The Davis County LEPC has strengthened its relationship with the facilities in the area to better understand what is being stored and where. However, it doesn't stop there. Bruch has invited facility operators to be active members of the LEPC and has taken steps to ensure there is always a vice chair from the private sector as well as one from the public sector. The LEPC also invites Tier II reporting facilities to not only attend the meetings but also to present. Additionally, he also invites the public residing in the vicinity to attend meetings to further improve communication between facilities and potential receptors. The facilities are invited about three months before they actually present, so no one is surprised. Finally, other facilities in the county are invited to attend and learn about safety measures, concerns, practices, and reporting that their neighboring facilities perform.

Looking toward the future, Bruch sees more focus on Hazard Materials along the interstate and the railroads.

Davis County LEPC has found the key to their success: communication and relation-

Return to top

Hazardous Chemicals During Transportation

Do hazardous chemicals that are subject to safety data sheets (SDS), and that are being transported, fall under the requirements of Section 311 and Tier II hazardous chemical inventory reporting under Section 312 of EPCRA (40 CFR 370)?

Section 327 of EPCRA **exempts** substances or chemicals during transport (or being stored incident to transportation) from any reporting requirement, other than the Section 304 notification requirements.

Transportation vehicles will be considered part of a facility, and the substances carried on these vehicles will be subject to reporting, when they are **not** under active shipping orders. For example, a shipment at a rail yard under active shipping papers would be exempt and would not be subject to the reporting requirements of Sections 311 and 312. However, tank car storage that is not under active shipping papers would not be exempt and would be subject to the reporting requirements of Sections 311 and 312.

Resubmitting Revised SDSs to LEPCs (HCS)

If a facility receives a revised SDS with significant new information, such as a chemical with a different hazard classification based on the new GHS criteria, should the facility submit the revised SDS to the LEPC, the SERC, and the local fire department? If a facility receives a modified SDS in the new format, but the hazard classification has not changed, does the facility need to submit the modified SDS to the LEPC, the SERC, and the local fire department?

On March 26, 2012, OSHA modified its Hazard Communication Standard (HCS) to conform to the United Nations' (UN) Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS). As part of these modifications, chemical manufacturers and importers are required to re-evaluate chemicals according to the new criteria adopted from GHS in order to ensure that pure chemicals and mixtures are classified appropriately.

The new criteria must be provided to downstream customers and users in revised MSDSs, now referred to as safety data sheets (SDSs). The modifications also established a new format for SDSs, containing 16 specific sections to ensure consistency in presentation of information. Chemical manufacturers and importers are required to distribute modified SDSs to their downstream users of their chemicals. **The effective date for completion of these requirements is June 1, 2015.**

OSHA regulations require an SDS to be revised within three months after a chemical manufacturer or employer becomes aware of **significant new information** concerning the hazards of a chemical. The EPCRA regulations require that such revised SDS be submitted to the agencies that have the original MSDS. If the hazard classification changes (based on the OSHA HCS revisions to incorporate the GHS criteria), facilities that originally submitted an MSDS must subsequently submit a revised SDS to the LEPC, the SERC, and the local fire department.

It is important to note that the requirement to resubmit an SDS upon discovery of significant new information is only for facilities that submitted MSDSs (SDSs) instead of a list of chemicals (EPCRA Section 311(d)(2) and §370.31(a)). In addition, the facility must also submit the SDS for any hazardous chemical **if requested** by your LEPC as stated in 40 CFR 370.32(b) and 370.33(c).

Note: If a facility receives a modified SDS , but the hazard classification has **not** changed, the facility should check with the appropriate state. States were always given the flexibility to implement EPCRA as needed to meet the goals of EPCRA in their communities. Additional information on the changes to the OSHA HCS, including a link to the March 26, 2012, final rule, is available on OSHA's hazard communication safety and health topics page at the following URL:
www.osha.gov/dsg/hazcom/index2.html or
https://www.osha.gov/dsg/hazcom/HCSFactsheet.html

Return to top

Upcoming Training

Crude by Rail Emergency Response

The Transportation Technology Center/Security and Emergency Response Training Center (TTCI/SERTC) in Pueblo, Colorado may still have seats available in their Crude by Rail Emergency Response (CBR) classes in April. Classes will also be held in May and June.

This course, along with others provided by SERTC and other National Domestic Preparedness Consortium (NDPC) members, are free for state, local, and tribal emergency responders, including transportation, meals, and lodging. If you have interest, please go to http://sertc.org/ and click on "Courses." Follow the application steps when you go to "Apply for FEMA Funding." The completed application can then be sent to Lynn Bailey at lynn.bailey@state.co.us for approval and forwarding to SERTC.

If you have interest in other courses offered by the NDPC, visit https://www.ndpc.us and follow the links provided under "Training Partners".

Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) Training

EPA Region 8 is providing (free of charge) two live, on-site Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) Training workshops, one in Denver on April 15 and one in Omaha on May 12th. In addition five live TRI Training webinars are also available. These trainings consist of Basic Concepts, aimed at individuals unfamiliar with the TRI program and those needing a refresher on the basic requirements, and Advanced Concepts, for individuals familiar with the TRI program and who already know that their facility must report to TRI. Register at www.eparegion8.tri-training.com/

Training and Exercises 2015 – EPA Region 8

In 2014, EPA Region 8 conducted and participated in 58 different exercises. These exercises included developing, planning, executing, evaluating, and participating in four full-scale exercises, 12 workshops, 15 training events and several other types of exercises. These exercises met our internal priorities as well as many other federal, state, tribal, and local priorities.

Our Training and Exercises (T&E) Program is designed to meet our current regional priorities and improve our response capabilities, knowledge and experience. Our Program looks to not only assist our in house responders, Incident Management Teams, and Response Support Corps, but to assist other federal, state, tribal, and local response communities.

Annually, we develop a Region 8 Training and Exercise Plan (TEP) discussing our latest priorities and methodologies to address our regional T&E gaps. An annual schedule listing our regional trainings and exercises is also developed for each, showing the type of T&E, location, time, sponsor, participants and regional priorities addressed (see the 2015 Exercise List here).

EPA region 8 is always looking to assist and participate in exercises with regard to various chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear events as well as oil, petroleum and other hazardous materials incidents.

Please contact Luke Chavez (email: Chavez.luke@epa.gov, phone: 320-312-6512) – Exercise Coordinator if you have any questions regarding EPA Region 8's Training and Exercise Program or have an exercise in which we may assist you.

Return to top

Region 8 Preparedness Unit Mission Statement

We will increase EPA Region 8 preparedness through:

- Planning, training, and developing outreach relations with federal agencies, states, tribes, local organizations, and the regulated community.
- Assisting in the development of EPA Region 8 preparedness planning and response capabilities through the RSC, IMT, RRT, OPA, and RMP.
- Working with facilities to reduce accidents and spills through education, inspections, and enforcement.

Region 8 SERC Contact Information

Colorado
Mr. Greg Stasinos, CEPC Co-Chair
Phone: 303-692-3023
Email: greg.stasinos@state.co.us

Mr. Dave Hard, CEPC Co-Chair
Phone: 720-852-6611
Email: dave.hard@state.co.us

Montana
Ms. Bonnie Lovelace Co-Chair
Phone: 406-444-1760
Email: blovelace2@mt.gov

Montana Continued
Mr. Brad Livingston Co-Chair
Phone: 406-324-4777
Email: blivingston@mt.gov

North Dakota
Mr. Greg M. Wilz, Chairman
Phone: 701-328-8100
Email: nddes@nd.gov

South Dakota
Mr. Bob McGrath, SERC Chair
Phone: 800-433-2288
Email: Trish.Kindt@state.sd.us

Utah
Mr. Neil Taylor
Phone: 801-536-4102
Email: nbtaylor@utah.gov

Mr. Patrick Reid
Email:preid@utah.gov
Phone: 801-538-3016

Wyoming
Mr. Don Huber, SERC Chair
Phone: 307-777-4900
Kim Lee: kim.lee@wyo.gov

RMP Hotline: 303 312 6345

RMP Reporting Center: The Reporting Center can answer questions about software or installation problems. The RMP Reporting Center is available from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, for questions on the Risk Management Plan program: (703) 227-7650 or RMPRC@epacdx.net

Chemical Emergency Preparedness & Prevention Office (CEPPO) http://www.epa.gov/oem

Compliance and Enforcement: http://www2.epa.gov/enforcement

Recently Updated — Lists of Lists

The Superfund, TRI, EPCRA, RMP, and Oil **Information Center** (800) 424-9346 or (703) 412-9810 (TDD 800-553-7672) Mon-Thurs 10:00 am to 3:00 pm ET or link to our Infocenter.

To report an oil or chemical spill, call the National Response Center at (800) 424-8802.

U.S. EPA Region 8
1595 Wynkoop Street (8EPR-ER)
Denver, CO 80202-1129
800-227-8917

This newsletter provides information on the EPA Risk Management Program, EPCRA, SPCC/FRP (Facility Response Plan) and other issues relating to Accidental Release Prevention Requirements. The information should be used as a reference tool, not as a definitive source of compliance information. Compliance regulations are published in 40 CFR Part 68 for CAA section 112(r) Risk Management Program, 40 CFR Part 355/370 for EPCRA, and 40 CFR Part 112.2 for SPCC/FRP.

Return to top