Message

From: Weekley, Erin [weekley.erin@epa.gov]
Sent: 2/16/2021 4:57:16 PM
To: Green, Jamie [Green.Jamie@epa.gov]
Subject: FW: AltEn...Fwd: Response request

FYI

From: Weekley, Erin
Sent: Sunday, February 14, 2021 11:58 AM
To: Cozad, David <Cozad.David@epa.gov>
Cc: Bruno, Jodi <Bruno.Jodi@epa.gov>; Bednar, Candace <Bednar.Candace@epa.gov>; Lubbe, Wendy <Lubbe.Wendy@epa.gov>; Breedlove, Dan <Breedlove.Dan@epa.gov>; Hayes, Scott <Hayes.Scott@epa.gov>; Humphrey, Leslie <Humphrey.Leslie@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: AltEn...Fwd: Response request

Ex. 5 AC / Ex. 7(A)

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 14, 2021, at 11:20 AM, Cozad, David <Cozad.David@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi all,

First of two emails I will be sending you about this weekend's activities at AltEn. This one is a wrap up of the OSC's actions and his next steps. He has done a great job getting a handle on things there and coordinating response actions. The next email that I will forward will be a summary from him of what happened

Ex. 5 AC / Ex. 7(A)

Ex. 5 AC / Ex. 7(A)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Hayes, Scott" <Hayes.Scott@epa.gov>
Date: February 14, 2021 at 9:54:44 AM CST
To: Jim Macy <jim.macy@nebraska.gov>, kirk.morrow@nebraska.gov, "steve.goans" <steve.goans@nebraska.gov>
Cc: "Chu, Ed" <Chu.Ed@epa.gov>, "Peterson, Mary" <Peterson.Mary@epa.gov>, "Cozad, David" <Cozad.David@epa.gov>, "Hayes, Scott" <Hayes.Scott@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: AltEn...Fwd: Response request

Ed and Jim,

Doug reported this morning that they found the extent of off-site migration and it is NOT near the Platte River. He will get us an accurate point later. More importantly, it is not migrating any further at this point.

Doug is meeting with AltEn and checking on SPCC jurisdiction, but that would only cover their oil storage regardless, not this waste material.

Doug will ask AltEn to develop a contingency plan for the second waste tank should it fail. He will ask them to identify how they will get heavy equipment on the scene and points at which they will attempt to stop migration.

Doug will also coordinate with Kirk regarding monitoring the situation over the next few days before he returns to KC later today.

Scott D. Hayes, Deputy Director
Superfund & Emergency Management Division
US EPA Region 7
Lenexa, Kansas 66219
913-551-7670
Sent from my iPhone - please excuse typos

On Feb 14, 2021, at 7:35 AM, Hayes, Scott <Hayes.Scott@epa.gov> wrote:

Jim, Kirk, and Steve;

Sharing the information I received from our OSC on the scene. Kirk may have all this as I believe he was out there yesterday as well.

Scott D. Hayes • Deputy Director • Superfund & Emergency Management Division • US EPA Region 7 • Lenexa, Kansas • 913-551-7670

From: O'Connor, Daniel <oconnor.daniel@epa.gov>
Sent: Saturday, February 13, 2021 10:34 PM
To: Hayes, Scott <Hayes.Scott@epa.gov>
Cc: Ferguson, Doug <Ferguson.Doug@epa.gov>; Juett, Lynn <Juett.Lynn@epa.gov>; Ruiz, Adam <Ruiz.Adam@epa.gov>; Buchholz, Ken <Buchholz.Kenneth@epa.gov>; Curry, Tim <Curry.Timothy@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: AltEn...Fwd: Response request

Scott, below is an overall summary of the AltEn response and description of the planned work for tomorrow. Doug put together the attachment, which includes photos and figures depicting the release location, impacted drainage ditch, and sampling locations.

Doug arrived at the AltEn facility at approximately 1500 hours on Saturday, February 13. Upon arrival, Doug met with Kirk Morrow of NDEE and they proceeded to the facility to begin an evaluation and assessment of the source of the release. The release originated at a 4 million gallon aboveground storage tank. The tank ruptured during the cold weather, releasing a majority of its contents. The tank's contents, a mixture of liquid stillage and manure, flowed past the facility boundaries and into an agricultural drainage ditch. AltEn focused their initial response on the facility property, where they constructed berms and used a vacuum truck to siphon liquids. The siphoned material was added to facility lagoons. In addition, a second 4 million gallon tank has been insulated against the cold to prevent a similar, second release. AltEn also attempted to create dams in the agricultural drainage ditch to impede or slow the spill from traveling further; however, at this point, the spill continues to advance. Doug spoke with the General Manager for the PRP group on Saturday evening and recommended the response effort shift to the drainage ditch and attempting to stop any further spill advancement. Doug and START collected liquid and sediment/sludge samples from points near the impacted tank and along the drainage ditch. Doug is planning to return to the facility on Sunday, February 14, along with START, to collect additional samples and further evaluate the extent to which the spill has advanced.

Thanks,

Danny O'Connor
Acting Chief, Response, Removal, and Emergency Preparedness Section
Superfund and Emergency Management Division
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Phone: 913-551-7868

<Alten Facility Release Assessment.pdf>