TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

West Fertilizer Company dba Adair Grain, Inc. Incident
Situation Report #7
April 20 - 21, 2013

Subject: April 17, 2013 Explosion at West Fertilizer Company dba Adair Grain, Inc.

Location: 1471 Jerry Mashek Drive, West (McLennan County), TX 76691

This report covers activities conducted during the seventh operational period, beginning April 20, 2013 at 01900 hours through April 21, 2013, 0700 hours.

1. Mr. Kelly Crunk and Robert Reed (San Antonio) staffed this operational period. TCEQ contractors OMI and SWS Environmental, and EPA and their START contractors also manned this operational period.
2. The main focus for this operational period was to continue air monitoring at the site perimeter, and begin transferring anhydrous ammonia from damaged storage tank to a transport truck.
3. TCEQ will continue night time coverage to staff as long as contractors (CTEH) are conducting air monitoring during the same period.
4. Repatriation for local residences was allowed for residents up to Walnut Street. ATF has one more residential section (north of Walnut) to clear for their investigation which should be completed by late tomorrow.
5. Specific chemicals being monitored by CTEH included volatile organic compounds, ammonia, carbon monoxide, chlorine, nitrogen dioxide, and lower explosive limit of methane.
6. A final safety planning meeting was held at 18:30 hours for the off-loading event during which the site safety plan was reviewed and all participants familiarized. With the plan. All participants then prepared for their roles and responsibilities for the actual transfer.
7. Transfer of the anhydrous ammonia began at 2047 hours and completed by 2144 hours. The ammonia was transferred into a transport truck owned by Equalization Inc. out of Waco, Tx.
8. At 2209 hours the transport truck was escorted by TxDPS Troopers to the Equalization Inc. facility in Waco. Equalization Inc. is taking possession of the product for resale.

9. No concerns noted during the continuous air monitoring by TCEQ contractors nor by EPA START contractors conducting monitoring in the immediate vicinity and the surrounding neighborhoods. Wind direction through the night varied slightly from SE to SSE with wind speeds less than 6 miles per hour.
10. It will take several hours to sparge the remaining ammonia vapors in the storage tank through a water bath in order to remove the vapors from the tank.
11. It is estimated that Union Pacific will start repair work on the tracks near the facility at 07:00 hours April 21, 2013.
12. EPA prepared a Quality Assurance Sampling Plan for soil sampling in the publically accessible areas immediately surrounding the site to assess the concentrations of potential site related contaminants and coordinated with TCEQ, ATF and local officials. EPA will take one to two background samples at the West Elementary School and is planning on obtaining two samples in the Jerry Maschek Drive road drainage ditch immediately adjacent to the site before 8A April 23.
13. TCEQ staff along with OMI contract staff surveyed the site with a thermal imaging camera. This survey located four hot spots, one of which is under a vertical liquid fertilizer storage tank which is leaning at an approximate 45 degree angle against a horizontal anhydrous ammonia storage tank. The vertical tank is approximately 1/3 full and has an estimated 1,260 gallons of product. The DDC was notified and a request issued for a fire watch crew to respond.
14. Fire watch crew arrived on site at 0045 hours April 21. Sparging operations had to be temporarily halted until fire suppression activities were concluded. Sparging operations recommenced at 0245 hours.