To: Sandoval, Joni[Sandoval.Joni@epa.gov]; Melissa Payan[Payan.Melissa@epa.gov]
From: Cristiano, Gina
Sent: Thur 8/21/2014 2:52:06 PM
Subject: FW: Region VIII FYSA – ND – Industrial Fire, Williston ND

Hi Joni, Hi Melissa,

Per our chat over lunch the other day, I'm sending along this email chain. If I already forwarded this, sorry for the duplication. If not, this is likely what you'll have to deal with more than anything else while I'm out. Steve Thaxton and others in the region are on this "situational awareness team", which, as best I can tell, means they are watching every incident whether FEMA is responding or not. It is because of this team Steve and I had conversations about him wanting more visibility on our NCP actions.

Anyway, this note from their GIS folks came during the ND warehouse fire. My approach to this has been to try to maintain happy, good relationships while keeping them out of our business…to give them some information but not anything that would bite us in the butt (ie nothing that, if it circulated to HQ or McGrath ahead of what we told them, it wouldn't be too big a deal). I've been working with Mary Beth Vasco (our current FEMA rep) to instead push all this into/through the RRT…hopefully she and I can resolve that before I leave. One other point – David is supportive/on board with what I've been doing/saying thus far. I've talked (whined) to him a lot about this…mostly so that he's aware and to ensure I'm not hanging it out too far in my dealings with FEMA. SO, I would keep him apprised of anything on this front.

-G

From: Cristiano, Gina
Sent: Wednesday, July 23, 2014 3:23 PM
To: 'Rozelle, Jesse'
Cc: Thaxton, Steven; R8 FEMA SA Team; Roth, Deborah; Ostrander, David; Kerry Guy; Laura Williams (williams.laura@epa.gov); Atencio, Kathie
Subject: RE: Region VIII FYSA – ND – Industrial Fire, Williston ND

Hi Jesse, et al,

Sorry I didn't respond to you sooner…

So, I'm not sure who is a good POC with the CST? The contact you named in your second email might be a good one but I am not certain? Of course, you are welcome to contact whomever you'd like. But, please keep in mind that the Unified Command (UC) group on the ground is the entity that should determine what it needs and will request assistance to fill those needs. Work such as you've suggested, though appreciated, should really go through/come from those UC channels. Thus, I do request FEMA use caution on distribution of any modelling or other information. Without being on the ground and without the very latest site conditions, etc, any information shared by FEMA (that could be based on "old" or incorrect data) could result in mixed messages either with responders or those at HQ levels, etc., which could result in faulty situational awareness that is either hazardous or difficult to correct once it's "out there."

Regarding this incident overall – here are a couple of highlights that might be of interest:

As noted previously, we dispatched an OSC and our technical assistance contractors to this incident. Yesterday, while in route to the scene, EPA personnel had numerous conversations with ND Dept of Health staff and other responders on scene. We discussed the monitoring being conducted and air monitoring and chemical experts from our Environmental Response Team did some chemical analysis (based on chemical inventory on site). Based on the chemicals on site and conditions, we provided some guidance on contaminants of concern and other response actions/considerations. Also worth noting – the fire dept. determined to let the warehouse burn (there are explanations for this but I can't speak to all the details here). This related to their measures related to the nearby population – they are the ones with the authority to order evacuations and/or shelter in place – but because there is a ½ mile buffer between this industrial area and residential sites, it is my understanding that residential populations weren't immediately threatened.

Upon arrival in Williston, we immediately set up several air monitors around the perimeter (prior to our arrival I believe there was only one. Though I'm told this was not the CST's monitor so I don't know what equipment and monitoring they performed?). Again, based on site specific conditions, there was concern for soot and PM2.5 (particulate matter of size 2.5 micron and smaller) blowing into town as the fire cooled overnight. I'm told the levels observed were not of concern and declined "precipitously" all night. There are some impacts to the Little Muddy River, adjacent to the facility, but most contamination is being contained on the property or in a nearby ditch, which will be remediated as part of the overall cleanup.

At this time, I'm not aware of any need for assistance from other federal agencies but if that changes we will activate the Regional Response Team (RRT). Please contact me with any

questions. Regards, Gina

Gina A. Cristiano

Emergency Response & Planning Coordinator

EPA Region 8 - Denver

303-312-6688 (o)

303-349-0661 (c)

From: Rozelle, Jesse [mailto:Jesse.Rozelle@fema.dhs.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, July 22, 2014 2:55 PM
To: Cristiano, Gina
Cc: Thaxton, Steven; R8 FEMA SA Team; Roth, Deborah
Subject: RE: Region VIII FYSA – ND – Industrial Fire, Williston ND

Hi Gina,

Thank you for the information below. I saw in the ND DES incident report that the CST is currently monitoring air quality as well as conducting plume modeling. Do you know who we could talk to in order to gain access to their plume modeling data? Will the resulted plume be shared in a report? We could rapidly estimate the population in the plume area in our GIS group here if we had access to the data.

Regards,

Jesse Rozelle
Risk Analyst/GIS Coordinator

FEMA Region VIII
Mitigation Division
DFC. Bldg. 710A
Denver, CO. 80225

Office: (303)235-4786

Cell: (303)968-6712
jesse.rozelle@fema.dhs.gov

From: Thaxton, Steven
Sent: Tuesday, July 22, 2014 12:06 PM
To: R8 FEMA SA Team
Subject: FW: Region VIII FYSA – ND – Industrial Fire, Williston ND

EPA actions on Williston spill.

Thanks,

Steve

Steven Thaxton
FEMA Region VIII Mission Assignments
Phone: (303) 235-4804 BB: (303) 815-8878
Email: steven.thaxton@fema.dhs.gov

From: Cristiano, Gina [mailto:Cristiano.Gina@epa.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, July 22, 2014 11:56 AM
To: Thaxton, Steven
Cc: John Leighow; Gina Weber; Sandoval, Joni; Payan, Melissa; Ostrander, David
Subject: RE: Region VIII FYSA – ND – Industrial Fire, Williston ND

Hi Steve,

Thanks for reaching out. I don't know if we've ever discussed this but, just for your general info - we receive spill notifications from the National Response Center for any discharge/release greater than the Reportable Quantity as defined by various environmental statutes (as well as

citizen complaints, anonymous reports, most state reports, etc). That said, we received notification of this incident. We have been talking/coordinating with state and local agencies, CST and the responsible party. We have dispatched an OSC to the scene; he is accompanied by our technical assistance contractors. I don't know his departure time or when he will arrive…it's possible he's there already. The RP has also has an environmental contractor that is on site working to keep contaminated water and sediments contained at the property.

At this time, I'm not aware of any need for assistance from other federal agencies but if that changes we will activate the Regional Response Team (RRT). OSC Peronard will be coordinating with affected jurisdictions at the scene so state, locals and others will be involved with whatever unified command is in place/appropriate.

Thanks, Gina

Gina A. Cristiano

Emergency Response & Planning Coordinator

EPA Region 8 - Denver

303-312-6688 (o)

303-349-0661 (c)

From: Thaxton, Steven [mailto:Steven.Thaxton@fema.dhs.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, July 22, 2014 10:40 AM
To: Cristiano, Gina
Cc: John Leighow; Gina Weber
Subject: FW: Region VIII FYSA – ND – Industrial Fire, Williston ND

FYSA

Steven Thaxton
FEMA Region VIII Mission Assignments
Phone: (303) 235-4804 BB: (303) 815-8878
Email: steven.thaxton@fema.dhs.gov

From: FEMA-MOC-DENVER
Sent: Tuesday, July 22, 2014 10:28 AM
To: Alan Colon (alan.b.colon@usdoj.gov); DCE R VIII Operations (usarmy.jbsa.arnorth.mbx.dco-region-viii-ops1@mail.mil); DCE-Esquivel, Robert; DCE-Evans, Leroy; DCE-Freeman, Jessie D. SFC; DCE-Leinbach, Christopher; DCE-Theriault, Linda; DCO-COL Burwell, David W.; DCO-LTC Chew, George; FEMA-MOC-DENVER; FEMA-R8-RRCC-DIRECTOR; Knight, Richard A LCDR; R8 All Hands; Robert S SSG DCE-Lyons (robert.s.lyons.mil@mail.mil); Russell, Tony; Sally Johnson; Sterling, Stephen; Uptgraft, James W II MAJ USARMY 101 ABN DIV 3 BCT (US); Warren C SGT DCE-Williams (warren.c.williams.mil@mail.mil); Winterowd, Norm
Subject: Region VIII FYSA – ND – Industrial Fire, Williston ND

Region VIII FYSA – ND – Industrial Fire, Williston ND

A massive fire at an oil company warehouse has shut down Highway 1804 in Williston early Tuesday morning. Due to the intense flames, personnel are allowing the blaze to burn while making sure it does not spread. Williston officials are allowing the fire to burn because fighting it with water could cause runoff into spill canals that flow into the Little Muddy River.

A regional hazardous response team and North Dakota National Guard officials are monitoring air quality around the site of a massive fire still burning at an industrial area in Williston.

A Williams County Emergency Management official said the fire at Red River Supply broke out about midnight local time. Explosions could be seen and heard at the scene. Police attributed them to barrels but didn't immediately say what was in them. Red River Supply serves as a loading facility for BNSF, and handles dry goods, crude oil and dry pipe and casing.

The site is just east of Williston's downtown. No one is being allowed within a half-mile of the site. Businesses within that zone are closed until further notice. State Highway 1804 in the area remains closed and traffic is being rerouted to highways 2 and 85.

Crews are still trying to determine the cause of the blaze. There are no reports of injuries.

Source of Information:

NOC Media

http://www.wday.com/content/update-500-foot-flames-reported-fire-williston-oilfield-supply-company

Operations Watch Officer

Denver MERS Operations Center (MOC) &

FEMA Alternate Operations Center – West (FAOC-West)

Fema-moc-denver@fema.dhs.gov

800 311-7021