Message

From: Eoc, Epahq [Eoc.Epahq@epa.gov]
Sent: 3/18/2019 3:07:23 PM
To: Eoc, Epahq [Eoc.Epahq@epa.gov]
Subject: EOC Spot Report Update # 2: Region 6, Fire at International Terminal Corporation, Deer Park, TX (NRC# 1240304 and 1240312)

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EOC Spot Report Update # 2: Region 6, Fire at International Terminal Corporation, Deer Park, TX (NRC# 1240304 and 1240312)

US Environmental Protection Agency
Report as of March 17, 2019 10:00 EDT

Overview: On March 17, the Region 6 phone duty officer was notified by the NRC (1240304) about the fire at International Terminal Corporation (ITC) in Deer Park, Houston TX. The fire reportedly started around 10:30 am. According to the NRC report one of the tanks containing naptha has caught on fire, the total capacity of the tank is 80,000 barrels. ITC DEER PARK has issued an evacuation order of 5 miles radius and has engaged in firefighting shore side. City of Deer Park, TX has also issued a shelter in place order. There have been no injuries reported.

State, Local, and other Federal Agency Action: Coast Guard Station Houston and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) are on scene. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) plume modeling indicated that it would not affect the Houston Ship Channel. An Incident Command Post has been stood up, and Sector Houston Galveston representatives are en route to assist. USCG also mobilized and is providing support.

EPA Actions: EPA and START mobilized on March 17 and entered Unified Command with TCEQ, Harris County Pollution Control Services Department (HCPCS), and ITC. EPA START and ITC continued air monitoring throughout the night in the vicinity and downwind. Particulates were detected just southwest of the facility, but no readings above action levels. No readings of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) or other constituents were detected.

At 1545 local Region 6 activated ASPECT to provide airborne sensing. The ASPECT aircraft measured no significant detections in the vicinity and downwind of the incident. TAGA was also activated on March 17 and is currently en route to the site.

As of 0500 hours on March 18, 9 tanks containing gasoline blends, toluene, naphtha, xylenes, pyrolysis gasoline, and blended oils were involved in the fire.

As of 0600 hours, the shelter in place for the City of Deer Park was lifted. Highway 225 was reopened. Parts of Independence Parkway near the facility continues to be closed. Schools in the area were closed today due to the earlier shelter in place.

Media Interest: High

https://abc7.com/itc-deer-park-plant-fire-spreads-to-6-more-tanks-/5202297/

https://www.abcactionnews.com/news/national/firefighters-battle-massive-fire-at-itc-petrochemical-plant-in-deer-park-texas

http://www.fox4news.com/news/texas/shelter-in-place-called-for-in-deer-park-fire-at-itc-facility

The HQ EOC will continue to monitor and provide updates as needed

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