Message

From: Gillespie, Andrew [Gillespie.Andrew@epa.gov]
Sent: 3/22/2019 1:24:35 PM
To: Orme-Zavaleta, Jennifer [Orme-Zavaleta.Jennifer@epa.gov]; Gray, David [gray.david@epa.gov]
CC: Forsgren, Lee [Forsgren.Lee@epa.gov]; Dunn, Alexandra [dunn.alexandra@epa.gov]; Cook, Steven [cook.steven@epa.gov]; Idsal, Anne [idsal.anne@epa.gov]; Chancellor, Erin [chancellor.erin@epa.gov]; Drinkard, Andrea [Drinkard.Andrea@epa.gov]; Grantham, Nancy [Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]; Rodrick, Christian [rodrick.christian@epa.gov]; Wadlington, Christina [Wadlington.Christina@epa.gov]; Dennis, Allison [Dennis.Allison@epa.gov]; Kramer, Jessica L. [kramer.jessical@epa.gov]; Lyons, Troy [lyons.troy@epa.gov]; Mclain, Jennifer [Mclain.Jennifer@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: ITC Response Assistance

Will be discussing this but I am taking the liberty of a quick reply all in the interest of timeliness. It is mentioned below that ITC, EPA and TCEQ are sampling for water. **Many of our usual sampling supplies and equipment contain PFAS, so it is critical to use PFAS-free materials in collecting samples – equipment, clothing, gloves, containers, etc. This is necessary to avoid cross contamination of samples intended to be analyzed for PFAS.**

My apologies if this is already well known to the sample-collectors; if it is not well known, then EPA can provide further guidance on PFAS sampling protocols.

Andrew J. R. Gillespie, Ph. D.
Associate Director, US EPA/ORD/NERL
ORD Executive Lead for PFAS R&D

Office 919 541 3655 Cell 614 330 2226

From: Orme-Zavaleta, Jennifer
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2019 6:52 PM
To: Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>
Cc: Forsgren, Lee <Forsgren.Lee@epa.gov>; Dunn, Alexandra <dunn.alexandra@epa.gov>; Cook, Steven <cook.steven@epa.gov>; Idsal, Anne <idsal.anne@epa.gov>; Chancellor, Erin <chancellor.erin@epa.gov>; Drinkard, Andrea <Drinkard.Andrea@epa.gov>; Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Rodrick, Christian <rodrick.christian@epa.gov>; Wadlington, Christina <Wadlington.Christina@epa.gov>; Dennis, Allison <Dennis.Allison@epa.gov>; Kramer, Jessica L. <kramer.jessical@epa.gov>; Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>; Gillespie, Andrew <Gillespie.Andrew@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: ITC Response Assistance

David, we're on it. Andy Gillespie will be following up

Jennifer Orme-Zavaleta, PhD
Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator for Science
Office of Research and Development
US EPA
Cell 919-699-1564
DC 202-564-6620
RTP 919-541-2283

On Mar 21, 2019, at 4:33 PM, Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov> wrote:

Good afternoon,

We need your assistance. We are continuing to make good strides in our response efforts at ITC in Deer Park, Texas. Attention is turning to the use of AFFF materials to extinguish the fire and their possible environmental impacts. While the fire is out, AFFF is being used vapor suppression. We will need some assistance with the related PFAS questions and guidance. OCIR is already hearing questions from hill and committee staff about the AFFF use. I expect more questions will be raised at upcoming hearings as well as an increase in media attention within a few days.

Here are a few of my initial thoughts -

- Region 6 is working to determine which foams have been used. So far, we have received two product sheets in response to our requests (attached). We could use help determining whether PFAS is in each of the foams that have been used.
- Suggestions on what questions need to be asked of responders or what information would be helpful to have on hand as we gather information about other foams.
- AFFF is suspected to have entered into Tucker Bayou as there have been reports of foam in the water. ITC, TCEQ and EPA are collecting water samples. Any advice from HQ on that sampling to help ensure we get the data we need using the appropriate methods.
- We could use communications support both to develop a holding statement and rapid-response to questions from the hill/press/public.
- Advice on cleanup considerations that we need ITC to conduct post emergency response. We are already being asked if the site could become a Superfund site due to AFFF use.

Thanks everyone.

David

<Thunder Storm SDS.PDF>

<SDS NMS420-Universal-Gold-13-AR-AFFF.PDF>