Message

From: Gray, David [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=881C62B1E54142388C1DE2F8E3799C33-GRAY, DAVID]
Sent: 3/18/2019 10:10:43 PM
To: Ringel, Aaron [ringel.aaron@epa.gov]
CC: Chancellor, Erin [chancellor.erin@epa.gov]; Lyons, Troy [lyons.troy@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Houston Area Fire

It will go out shortly. You will be copied.

From: Ringel, Aaron
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2019 5:10 PM
To: Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>
Cc: Chancellor, Erin <chancellor.erin@epa.gov>; Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Houston Area Fire

Works.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 18, 2019, at 5:55 PM, Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov> wrote:

How about this?

International Terminals Corporation (ITC) Fire Update
Deer Park, Texas
March 18, 2019

EPA Update

At approximately 10:20 am local time on March 17, 2019, Intercontinental Terminals Corporation (ITC) discovered a tank on fire and reported the incident to the National Response Center (NRC #1240304). EPA Region 6 Phone Duty Officer (PDO) activated the Response Duty Officer (RDO) and EPA START contractors to respond.

EPA mobilized and entered Unified Command with TCEQ, Harris County Pollution Control Services, and ITC. USCG also mobilized and is providing support.

Predominant winds were from the east northeast from La Porte, Texas towards Hobby Airfield. EPA 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 VOCs or other constituents were detected.

EPA conducted aerial air monitoring with the use of the ASPECT aircraft and measured no significant detections in the vicinity and downwind of the incident.

The TAGA has been requested and will depart RTP, North Carolina, this morning (3/18/19). It is expected to be on scene on Wednesday (3/20/19).

TCEQ Update

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality is currently assisting emergency first responders with the multi-tank fire at Intercontinental Terminals in Deer Park.

TCEQ is ensuring that the responsible party is taking all appropriate actions to address this incident. TCEQ is providing supplemental air monitoring in addition to monitoring being conducted by a number of other entities, including ITC's contractor.

Overnight on Sunday and on Monday, TCEQ environmental investigators conducted hand-held air monitoring on scene. On Monday, TCEQ deployed two additional air monitoring stations that are being strategically located. Additionally, TCEQ's ambient air monitoring network continues to collect data from stationary monitors in the area.

TCEQ also worked to arrange EPA's ASPECT airplane to provide air monitoring flights over the area.

As of 11:30 a.m. Monday, the smoke plume was reaching higher elevations; therefore, TCEQ has not detected any immediate health concerns at ground level.

At present, this is still an active emergency response event, and TCEQ's role at this time is to provide assistance and coordinate with local governmental agencies, EPA, Coast Guard, and Harris County HazMat for response actions needed to address any discharges from the site.

After the fire is out, and the site is safe to access, TCEQ's role will be to coordinate any clean up warranted through the responsible party, which typically contracts with an environmental company that specializes in these types of clean ups. TCEQ will monitor the progress of the cleanup and ensure that any impacted areas are handled appropriately. TCEQ will also evaluate the emissions event associated with this incident and will conduct an investigation to determine compliance with applicable state and federal environmental regulations.

TCEQ will provide updates concerning this incident via this webpage (https://www.tceq.texas.gov/response/itc-terminal-fire-update), including a map with real-time data from TCEQ's stationary ambient monitoring sites.

From: Ringel, Aaron
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2019 4:49 PM
To: Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>
Cc: Chancellor, Erin <chancellor.erin@epa.gov>; Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Houston Area Fire

Good by me.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 18, 2019, at 5:37 PM, Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov> wrote:

> Any objection to us sending them TCEQ's press release. It was kind of joint.
>
> ---
>
> **From:** Chancellor, Erin
> **Sent:** Monday, March 18, 2019 4:21 PM
> **To:** Ringel, Aaron <ringel.aaron@epa.gov>; Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>
> **Cc:** Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>
> **Subject:** RE: Houston Area Fire
>
> FYI wrapping up a meeting (David in here, too), stay tuned.
>
> **Erin E. Chancellor**
> Chief of Staff | Office of the Regional Administrator
> U.S. EPA Region 6
> 214.665.2112 (o) | 214.601.1292 (c)
> chancellor.erin@epa.gov

From: Ringel, Aaron
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2019 3:59 PM
To: Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>; Chancellor, Erin <chancellor.erin@epa.gov>
Cc: Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Houston Area Fire

David,

Pat with Rep. Garcia's office has asked we shoot an update out to the Congressional offices in the region. If you haven't already, could you put something together to send out from the region?

-Aaron

From: Gray, David
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2019 3:11 PM
To: Ringel, Aaron <ringel.aaron@epa.gov>; Chancellor, Erin <chancellor.erin@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Houston Area Fire

International Terminals Corporation (ITC) Fire Update
Deer Park, Texas
March 18, 2019

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- EPA conducted aerial air monitoring with the use of the ASPECT aircraft and measured no significant detections in the vicinity and downwind of the incident.

- As of 0500 hours on 03/18, 9 tanks containing gasoline blends, toluene, naphtha, xylenes, pyrolysis gasoline, and blended oils were involved in the fire. The shelter in place for the City of Deer Park is still in effect. Highway 225 continues to be closed in both directions in the vicinity of the facility.

- Emergency responders continue to use foam to control the fire and prevent the fire from spreading to the remaining tanks within the contained area. We are checking on the type of foam being deployed. The RP said it did not contain PFAS.

- At 5:30 am on 3/18/19, the City of Deer Park lifted the shelter-in-place order. http://www.ci.deer-park.tx.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=979

- Deer Park and La Porte ISDs canceled class for today (3/18/19) https://www.lpisd.org/

- The TAGA has been requested and will depart RTP, North Carolina, this morning (3/18/19). It is expected to be on scene on Wednesday (3/20/19).

From: Ringel, Aaron
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2019 2:10 PM
To: Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>; Chancellor, Erin <chancellor.erin@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Houston Area Fire

Davide/Erin,

Do you have any info on this you can share before I give him a ring?

-Aaron

From: Bond, Patrick <Patrick.Bond2@mail.house.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2019 3:08 PM
To: Ringel, Aaron <ringel.aaron@epa.gov>
Subject: Houston Area Fire

Aaron –
I'm not sure we've met but I'm Rep. Sylvia Garcia's LD and wanted to connect regarding the fire at Intercontinental Terminals Co in Deerpark, TX. Let me know when we might be able to do a call. I'm in the district but on my cell at 202-227-7644.
Thanks,
Pat