Message

From: Eoc, Epahq [Eoc.Epahq@epa.gov]
Sent: 8/31/2017 3:21:07 PM
To: Eoc, Epahq [Eoc.Epahq@epa.gov]
Subject: EOC Daily Management Report for August 31, 2017

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EOC Daily Emergency Management Report

Date: 8/31/2017
Time: 11:10 ET
Report Number: 168-17

Alerts & Warnings
FEMA National Watch Center: Watch/Steady State
FEMA National Response Coordination Center: Activated at Level 1
National Terrorism Advisory System (NTAS): Heightened Awareness Bulletin Issued
Continuity of Operations (COOP): COGCON Level 4
EPA HQ EOC: Activated on 8/28 at Level 1
EPA Region 6 REOC: Activated
EPA National IMAT: The National Incident Management Assistance Team (N-IMAT) arrived in Dallas, TX on August 29. On Alert for Hurricane Harvey; Region 3, 4 & 5 Backup Regional Grouping available for deployment from 8/13 – 9/9; in addition, 7 N-IMAT members are participating in Region 4's Incident Management Team (IMT) exercise in Norcross, GA on 8/29-8/31. See additional exercise details in *Exercises/Predeployments* section below.

ASPECT (OEM's Airborne Spectral Photometric Environmental Collection Technology) systems are fully operational and located in Addison, TX from August 28 - September 4, 2017. On August 30, ASPECT was deployed to assess the conditions at the Arkema chemical facility in Crosby, TX and deployed to the area again on August 31 to collect chemical information.

CMAD (OEM/Consequence Management Advisory Division) **Lab Assets**: All CMAD biological and chemical fixed laboratory assets and PHILIS vehicles and mobile chemical lab assets, are operational and ready for response activities at their respective lab and warehouse locations in Edison, NJ, Lakewood, CO and Castle Rock, CO. Colorado PHILIS mobile units are being deployed to Corpus Christi.

ERT (OSRTI/Environmental Response Team) assets available for deployment include: ERT TAGAs (Edison, Las Vegas & RTP); Mobile Command Post (Erlanger & Las Vegas); HazMat truck (Erlanger & Las Vegas); and ERT-Edison Mobile Analytical Lab. An EPA Trace Atmospheric Gas Analyzer (TAGA) vehicle is enroute

from North Carolina to assist with air monitoring in the impacted areas throughout Texas and is scheduled to arrive by September 1.

Significant National Weather

Severe Weather: There is a Slight Risk of severe thunderstorms across parts of northeastern Mississippi, northern Alabama and northwestern Georgia. There is a Marginal Risk of severe thunderstorms outside of the Slight Risk area across parts of the lower Mississippi Valley and central Gulf Coast states.

Tornado Weather: There is a 5-percent chance of tornado activity today in western Mississippi, northern Alabama, southern Tennessee, and northwestern Georgia. There is a 2-percent chance of tornado activity in portions the lower Mississippi Valley, Tennessee, and central Gulf Coast states.

Fire Weather: There is no Critical Fire Weather forecast for today. There is Elevated Fire Weather forecast for Montana. There are Isolated Dry Thunderstorms possible for Idaho, Nevada, Montana, and western Wyoming.

Significant River Flooding: Flooding occurring or imminent, or possible for parts of the Texas Gulf Coast, inland areas of southeastern Texas, and Louisiana.

Tropical Weather: As of 5:00 a.m. EDT, Tropical Depression Harvey was located about 15 miles south of Monroe, Louisiana with maximum sustained winds of 30 miles per hour (mph). Harvey is moving toward the northeast at 10 mph, and is expected to move across northwestern Mississippi by the afternoon of August 31 and the Tennessee Valley region on September 1. Flood and Flash Flood Warnings and Watches are in effect from eastern Texas through parts of the lower Mississippi Valley and into western portions of the Tennessee Valley and the lower Ohio Valley. Harvey is expected to produce additional rainfall accumulations of 3 to 5 inches from far eastern Arkansas, northern Mississippi, northeastward across western and central Tennessee, western through central Kentucky and into southern Ohio. Locally higher totals of 6 to 10 inches possible across far northern Mississippi, western Tennessee into southwest Kentucky. Catastrophic and life threatening flooding will continue in and around Houston, Texas, Belmont and Port Arthur, Texas and eastward into Southwest Louisiana.

See *Report of Incident Notifications* for details on EPA actions.

Earthquake Activity: None currently affecting US.

Report of Incident Notifications

Region 6, Arkema Chemical Facility Explosion, Crosby, Texas

Two explosions were reported at the Arkema Chemical Facility on August 31, 2017. According to local responders one of the eight refrigerated trailers on site auto-ignited and is burning. Officials had warned that the plant could explode after its coolant system for the organic peroxide tanks and backup generators failed due to damage from Tropical Storm Harvey. Flooding prevented repairs from being made. As of this morning, no injuries were reported. Arkema is a Risk Management Plan (RMP) facility. It manufactures liquid organic peroxides and two substances, sulfur dioxide (anhydrous) and 2-methylpropene are present at, or above, the minimum threshold quantity for RMP applicability. EPA has deployed an On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) to the scene. EPA emergency response personnel in Texas are in direct contact with first responders in Harris County and are providing federal assistance and resources. ASPECT has been deployed to the area. EPA is also sending additional air monitoring personnel and equipment to augment the current effort of the state and local first responders.

Region 6, Tropical Storm Harvey, Texas, Louisiana

The Region 6 Emergency Operations Center is currently activated and is working under a limited FEMA Disaster Declaration Mission Assignment (MA). In addition, EPA has received an MA to assist the State of Texas with drinking water, wastewater and hazmat recovery operations. Region 6 deployed two On-Scene

Coordinators (OSCs) on 8/25 in support of the State through this Emergency Support Function (ESF). One OSC deployed to the FEMA Regional Response Coordination Center in Denton, Texas and the second OSC to the State of Texas Operations Center in Austin, Texas. Four N-IMAT members mobilized to Corpus Christi on 8/29 to form a unified command with TCEQ, the Texas General Land Office (GLO), and the US Coast Guard.

Region 10, Mercury Explosion, Baker City, OR
On August 28, there was a large explosion that occurred in the process of fighting a brush fire which threatened several structures outside of Baker City. On August 30, it was determined that the explosion was likely caused by up to 100 pounds of elemental mercury stored in the structure from an old mining operation. The explosion resulted in the release of elemental mercury which has potentially contaminated firefighting equipment and vehicles, a standby ambulance, the local hospital and the homes of personnel involved in the firefighting effort. On August 30, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) and the regional hazardous materials team requested EPA assistance because they lack mercury detection instruments. ODEQ is monitoring the situation and may send a State On Scene Coordinator depending on the results of EPA's initial assessment. The Oregon Health Authority has also been notified.

Exercises/Predeployments
Region 4 (R4) is conducting an IMT exercise at the R4 Warehouse in Norcross, GA on 8/29-8/31. The exercise scenario simulates a hurricane hitting Vero Beach, FL, causing widespread damage within R4 territory. Due to the scale of the exercise response, R4 is requesting National IMAT deployment and participation at the Incident Command Post in Norcross, GA. N-IMAT members will conduct Key Leadership Position (KLP) training and coaching the R4 IMT during exercise play.

Regional Daily Ops Status Report
There were 32 response.epa.gov websites created and/or updated during this reporting period: 8/30/2017 – 8/31/2017.

Reported activities primarily represent NRC notifications with some State-level and other notifications to Regional Phone Duty Officers.

Reported Activities (8/30/2017 - 8/31/2017)

Region	Oil	Hazmat	Radiation	Other	Total
Region 1	1	0	0	0	**1**
Region 2	3	1	0	0	**4**
Region 3	6	0	0	2	**8**
Region 4	13	2	0	1	**16**
Region 5	4	4	0	0	**8**
Region 6	6	18	0	1	**25**
Region 7	1	1	0	0	**2**
Region 8	0	0	0	1	**1**
Region 9	3	2	0	1	**6**
Region 10	3	1	0	2	**6**
Total	**40**	**29**	**0**	**8**	77

Note: There were 9 unclassified events in the Hotline Log.

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