Message

Sent: 12/11/2019 4:17:16 PM
To: Shewmake, Kenneth [shewmake.kenneth@epa.gov]
CC: Smalley, Bryant [smalley.bryant@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Good morning - Port Neches NPL Site
Attachments: south4groupfire_polrep_1.pdf; TPC NRC 1264990 Report.pdf

Thank you, Sir.

I'll send my POLREPs to you for your situational awareness as they are finalized. Attaching the initial POLREP and NRC report for this incident to this email.

There was overtopping of outfall 201 for a short period 11/27/19 to 11/29/19, I believe. This was due to the power outage at the Joint WWTP (JWWTP) facility. Generation power was utilized to get this JWWTP back online.

As a result of the overtopping, product from the facility was released into the canal, but was not observed past the bridge at 1.89 miles. No visible impact was observed the 1.3 miles from the bridge to the confluence with the river. Containment booms were deployed along with a large number of absorbent booms throughout the canal. The banks have been flushed with water to rinse any impact off for recovery. No high pressure washing nor additives utilized for the bank washing effort. Some small size vegetation was cut, but no significant removal of trees, brush, or any erosion controls were conducted; only light washing and trimming. SCAT teams have assessed the impacted portions of the canal daily, as weather permits. It is expected that the active recovery operations will be reduced to maintenance as early as tomorrow, 121219. Maintenance just includes replacing absorbent booms daily, then weekly, or as appropriate and could last a month or so.

There are other intakes at the 201 outfall that discharge to the canal; the sources have not been identified. Because they add to the quality of the canal, any product that has entered the canal so far since 112719 is being recovered and properly profiled and disposed of or recycled.

Thanks again for the information, Kenneth. Any questions, please do not hesitate. For additional information, please visit the EPA website www.response.epa.gov/south4groupfire.

I'm not aware of any actions you need to take, beyond just awareness. If no new Site conditions arise this week, I expect this emergency response may be over this week with the facility continuing consequence management with state oversight. I'll forward a final

Adam

From: Shewmake, Kenneth <shewmake.kenneth@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 11, 2019 9:34 AM
To: Adams, Adam <Adams.Adam@epa.gov>
Cc: Smalley, Bryant <smalley.bryant@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Good morning - Port Neches NPL Site

I am RPM of the Star lake Canal Site. I will attach a map of the site. I think it is next door to the fire and the canal is part of the site. It is a large site (about 500 acres) and it consist of two industrial canals and the attached wetlands. We are in the RD phase of work.

The site has a number of COPCs due to unregulated discharge into the canals from 1940s to 1970s. A lot of widespread and low level contamination. The human health risk is in the 10-5 range and is not driving the clean-up. The site is being

cleaned up due to ecological risk. Let me know if you need more information or if you have anything you want me to share with the PRP group.

I would like to know about the impact to the site. We have a large PRP group with lots of big companies and lots of lawyers. They will probably get involved eventually. Do we need to do anything? Do I need to tell the PRP group anything? Do we need to coordinate on sampling or removing debris? Please let me know if I need to do something.

Kenneth Shewmake
Remedial Project Manager
US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6
Superfund and Emergency Management Division (SEDRA)

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From: Adams, Adam <Adams.Adam@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 11, 2019 8:50 AM
To: Shewmake, Kenneth <shewmake.kenneth@epa.gov>
Cc: Smalley, Bryant <smalley.bryant@epa.gov>
Subject: Good morning - Port Neches NPL Site

Good morning Kenneth,
I was told you were the RPM for the NPL site in Port Neches, TX.

We've been here on an emergency response since 112719 at a neighboring facility.
Is there any specific information we need or you need regarding the two Sites?

Our operation does include recovery operations along the canal that flows into the Neches River.

Thanks
Adam

Adam Adams, FOSC
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