To: Adm13McCarthy, Gina[Adm13McCarthy.Gina@epa.gov]
From: Garvin, Shawn
Sent: Thur 2/6/2014 12:30:07 PM
Subject: Re: WV Chemical Spill - Update

Thx. All in a day's work.

From: Adm13McCarthy, Gina
Sent: Thursday, February 06, 2014 7:28:04 AM
To: Garvin, Shawn
Subject: Re: WV Chemical Spill - Update

Thanks for doing this Shawn. We owe you one - one more I mean.

From: Garvin, Shawn
Sent: Wednesday, February 05, 2014 11:55:48 PM
To: Adm13McCarthy, Gina; Deputy Administrator; Keyes-Fleming, Gwendolyn; Stanislaus, Mathy; Feldt, Lisa; Ganesan, Arvin; Reynolds, Thomas; Johnson, Alisha; Stoner, Nancy; Vaught, Laura; Distefano, Nichole; Hull, George; Stanton, Larry; Breen, Barry; Giles-AA, Cynthia; Hedman, Susan; Meiburg, Stan; Fritz, Matthew; Garbow, Avi; Jones, Jim
Cc: Early, William; Hodgkiss, Kathy; Capacasa, Jon; Ryan, Daniel
Subject: WV Chemical Spill - Update

Here is the update from today:

Today I had a meeting with Governor Tomblin, his cabinet, staff and representatives of the CDC. The meeting went extremely well. We discussed the role of the federal government and the support we have provided to the state in response to the chemical spill. We were later joined by members of the state legislature and local officials. Following the meeting I participated in a press conference that was covered by local and national press. The federal representatives addressed most of the questions (despite the fact that we had agreed that it would be good to have a strong state voice at the press conference). In the end, I think the federal participation was helpful in communicating the situation on the ground. The Governor and his cabinet were extremely appreciative of the federal support. We will see how it plays in the press.

Below is the most recent update on the ground:

The following updates are for the 24-hour operational period (12:00 pm on February 4, 2014 to 12:00 pm on February 5, 2014):

OSC Matlock reported that the facility focused most of their effort today on managing both offsite water flowing onto the Site and water migrating through the Site. A large amount of water is being pumped from the site due to rainfall combined with ice/snow melt caused by warmer weather. The water continued to be pumped into onsite tanks for temporary storage. The facility noted that the tank (Tank 400) they had been pumping water into was full and consequently they will begin pumping into Tank 401.

With the rising water level in the Elk River, attention was focused on maintaining the booms along the

affected shoreline. Additionally, preparations were made to minimize the amount of rainfall which could enter the interceptor trench. Plastic sheeting was placed over the surface of the impacted slope and over the trench, allowing fresh rainwater to bypass the trench system and flow directly into the Elk River. A vacuum hose was connected directly to the pipe discharging into the interceptor trench which reduced the volume of water entering the interceptor trench. These changes were made to reduce the chance of the excess water overwhelming the interceptor trench system.

Due to efforts focusing on managing and controlling the excess water onsite, sampling of the onsite monitoring wells which had been scheduled for yesterday has been pushed back until Thursday February 6, 2014. However, a surface water sample from the upgradient sump (outside of containment area) was collected by CEC yesterday. Analytical data from this sample indicated that MCHM was present at a concentration of 290 ppb.

The facility is developing a plan to keep offsite water from flowing into the facility and re-route it to discharge directly into the Elk River. They are proposing to try and identify the source of the offsite water, provide analytical data showing that it is clean, and then re-route it to the Elk River. This would greatly reduce the amount of water currently being pumped and contained.

The facility noted that they will submit, via e-mail, an inventory of the onsite tanks. The facility has also indicated that they have begun shipping product (MCHM/PPH blend) to customers from the Poca facility.

I appreciate all the support from OCIR and OEAEE in preparing for today. Let me know if you have aby questions.

Thank you - Shawn