To: Smith, Bonnie[smith.bonnie@epa.gov]
Cc: Ferrell, Mark[Ferrell.Mark@epa.gov]
From: White, Terri-A
Sent: Tue 2/18/2014 7:35:09 PM
Subject: RE: final responses to Rockefeller questions - OK to forward to HQ OPA?

Yes as an FYI for now.

From: Smith, Bonnie
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2014 2:11 PM
To: White, Terri-A
Cc: Ferrell, Mark
Subject: final responses to Rockefeller questions - OK to forward to HQ OPA?

Terri,

Is it OK to send these response to questions on to Enesta, Caroline and George? Q2 could be used in responses, an updated desk statement or an information update? The rest, I would think would just be background.

It has been reviewed by R3 experts and offers some more detail on the clean-up.

-Bonnie

From: White, Terri-A
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2014 1:21 PM
To: Ferrell, Mark; Smith, Bonnie
Subject: Re: final responses to Rockefeller questions

Thanks.

From: Ferrell, Mark
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2014 12:32:24 PM
To: Smith, Bonnie; White, Terri-A
Subject: final responses to Rockefeller questions

These just cleared by HQ:

Q1. Have you received the summary from American Water regarding residuals in piping? Has EPA done an independent work on this?

EPA received a draft summary document today (February 18, 2014) and will conduct an internal review.

Q2. Could you please provide a brief update on clean-up efforts?

EPA's On-Scene Coordinator has heard that WVDEP and the Attorney General Office, along with the Chemical Safety Board, have indicated that they would allow Freedom Industries to begin demolition plans to remove tanks 393 and 394, which are located at the far northern end of the facility. We understand that the facility is scheduled to meet with the Charleston Sanitation Board on Wednesday, February 19, 2014, to discuss disposal of the stored water via POTW.

The site is stabilized and work continues to control the source of the contamination at the site. This work was started with the emptying of the leaked tank and its two companion tanks. The remaining 14 tanks are being systematically emptied. The collection trenches, sumps and collection piping are collecting the water and remaining chemical that was under the leaked tank.

The snow and rain have generated considerable amounts of water through the facility, both surface and subsurface water. The facility has also placed boom in the river adjacent to the facility to contain water and possible chemical from traveling downstream. The collection of water will continue until the tanks and underlying concrete pad can be removed and the subsurface excavated. This area is being preserved for now to preserve the evidence for the investigation by CSB and the FBI. EPA, WVDEP and the facility have sampled the water collected from several points on the site, which are being analyzed. The collection mechanisms have been effective in containing the water that continues to seep from the site. The facility has hired a contractor to develop a long term remediation plan to find and remove any residual contamination.

Q3. Has sampling for PPH below 2 PPM been completed? What levels is the chemical being tested at?

EPA is not currently testing water samples for PPH. Results reported for PPH and DiPPH on the

WV Homeland Security site show all the intake and treated water samples are non-detect –

their lab's detection limit is 10 ppb:

http://www.dhsem.wv.gov/Documents/Master%20PPH%20LOG_PUBLIC%2012%20FEB%2014%201

Q4. Any more information on why formaldehyde could have been more common the toilet tanks or Mr. Simonton's testing methods?

EPA is aware that formaldehyde was detected at very low concentrations in three toilet tanks in a single restaurant, so there is not much basis for comparison with other locations. Formaldehyde is found in many commercial products. The concentrations reported by Dr. Simonton (32 and 33 parts per billion) are much lower than EPA's life-time health advisory for formaldehyde in drinking water, which is 1,000 parts per billion (or one part per million).

Mark Ferrell

EPA Region 3

Office of State and Congressional Relations

West Virginia Liaison

Charleston, W.Va.

(304) 542-0231