To: christopher.weis@nih.gov[christopher.weis@nih.gov]
From: Wright, Dave
Sent: Mon 1/13/2014 12:44:46 PM
Subject: FW: HOTSITE REPORT: Update - Freedom Industries, Charleston, WV

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From: Wright, Dave
Sent: Sunday, January 12, 2014 5:49 PM
To: El-Zein, Jason; Webster, James; Irizarry, Gilberto; Lee, Eugene; Ormes, David T CIV
Subject: Fw: HOTSITE REPORT: Update - Freedom Industries, Charleston, WV

Dave Wright, Director
Office of Preparedness and Response

Sent via Blackberry - please excuse typos.

From: Burns, Francis
Sent: Sunday, January 12, 2014 5:08:11 PM
To: R3 HOTSITES
Subject: HOTSITE REPORT: Update - Freedom Industries, Charleston, WV

Vicky Binetti of Region 3's Water Division had a long conversation with the director of the drinking water program for the WV Department of Health and Human Resources (WVDHHR). He provided the following information.

· WVDHHR has been extremely busy getting lab support established for both WV American and the State. DuPont has been especially helpful in preparing labs and getting analysts trained. Labs now include: State lab (DHHR and possibly DEP); DuPont; WV American (Huntington); two National Guard Civil Support Teams (Canton, OH and DC). WV American in process of getting two contractor labs on board (Matrix and Test America), who have either multiple GC units or several laboratories. All of this should create lots of capacity. National Guard transporting samples to its facilities in DC and OH.

· The labs will enable the State to process the huge number of samples involved in the distribution system testing.

· The latest sample results indicate that the treated water has been consistently less than 1 ppm MCHM over 24 hours, so the water company may now be ready to move to distribution system (DS) sampling. Recent intake (raw river water) samples were very low or non-detect. The recent rain may have helped by diluting the chemical, but the rain may have washed more chemical through the soil into river. Nevertheless, optimism is that contaminant is declining in river.

· Have begun DS sampling in the zone nearest the plant; preliminary indications good (all of 20 samples < /=1ppm).

· There is no specific flushing plan for the system yet. The plan will depend on sampling results.

· Key will be flushing in individual homes/buildings; now developing procedures for residents to follow.

· The water company will not flush entire system or resume unrestricted use all at once, because draw on system would be too severe (esp. in combination with broken lines owing to cold weather).

· There is no specific timeline for lifting restrictions, sampling results will dictate. Even if results show concentrations < 1 ppm MCHM, there may be residual odor at 0.1 ppm. Customers would be reluctant to use water, even if level is protective of health.

· Will likely relieve restrictions by zone, as results and flushing allow.

· May not remove restrictions in stages of stringency (e.g., "Do Not Use" to "Do Not Drink" to no restriction) as previously contemplated, as may cause too much confusion for customers, particularly if done by zones. This is not yet decided.

· Working on getting drinking water data into organized electronic format, which will be shared with ATSDR (Larry Cseh) and EPA (Vicky Binetti).

· Will also share other drinking water information and any articulated plans, as developed, with EPA water program.

· EPA will send contact information for EPA OSCs Matlock and Linden to WVDHHR.

· EPA again offered EPA support.

On another note, Vicky contacted Nick Santillo (American Water corporate) who informed me that American Water was about to withdraw its request to WARN for aid (mobile laboratory capability), because the Guard was air-transporting samples to its facilities, which would give them both sufficient capacity and quick turnaround.

OSCs Matlock and Linden reported that the saturated absorbent boom and pads removed from the river was sitting on a tarp along the shoreline, but some water/product mixture was running off. This has now been rectified and there is a roll-off container to store the boom and pads before disposal.

This afternoon the facility reported that a contractor was inside tank #396, cleaning the tank. The manway from a second tank was removed and the removal of the sludge/product mixture has begun. Then the vapors in the tank will be cleared using an air recirculator before entry is made to clean the tank. The facility will continue cleaning of tanks through the night and will have contractors inspecting the boom placed along the river.

EPA's contractor took FID readings using the TVA 1000 this afternoon. The reading outside the property was 0 to 0.5 ppm and along the fenceline the reading was 0.5 to 2.0 ppm. The reading near the edge of the tank farm was 2.0 ppm. At about 10 feet from the pit within the tank farm area the reading was 1.0 to 3.0 ppm.