To: Webster, James[Webster.James@epa.gov]
From: Wright, Dave
Sent: Fri 1/10/2014 11:28:37 PM
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: Friday, January 10, 2014 5:28:40 PM
To: R3 HOTSITES
Subject: HOTSITE REPORT: Update - Freedom Industries, Charleston, WV

OSCs Matlock and Linden are stationed in Charleston, WV and reported on the spill of 4-methylcyclohexane methanol from Freedom Industries into the Elk River. The WV Department of Environmental Resources (WVDEP) is the lead for the incident and has worked with the owner of the facility to establish a more aggressive strategy to control the source of the contamination. The facility has placed boom in the river to collect the material before it moves downstream. Working to interrupt subsurface water flow into the river, the facility has deepened on-site trenches to capture the leachate that is presently in the soil downgradient from the leaking tank. Even with these measures, some leachate continues to enter the river.

Today the facility received a threat that prompted the local/state police and FBI to secure access to the facility. After investigating the threat, the police later this afternoon ramped down their presence.

WVDEP has requested EPA assistance in developing addition air and water monitoring strategies. EPA is working with its contractor to develop the appropriate sampling for the chemical so the sampling can start as soon as possible. The on-site OSCs will also be working with the FEMA IMAT team who are scheduled to arrive today. In addition, EPA Region 3 personnel will be staffing the FEMA response center in Philadelphia through the weekend on a 24 hours basis.

WVDEP reported that the water company, WV American Water Corporation, is collecting samples. DuPont developed a drinking water sample and analytical method for this chemical, which was shared with the WV Department of Health and Human Resources so both labs can run samples simultaneously. The DuPont has a facility ten miles downstream from the leak and has detected the chemical in their water system.

EPA Region 3 convened a meeting of the Regional Incident Coordination Team this morning. The team discussed questions raised by FEMA concerning EPA's authorities and discussed the status of the water treatment plants. The water treatment plants are attempting to eliminate the chemical through systematic flushing. As of early today, the flushing process had not yet begun and there is not an estimate of when the water will be safe.