To: Bissonette, Eric[Bissonette.Eric@epa.gov]
From: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy
Sent: Fri 1/10/2014 11:30:01 PM
Subject: RE: OW Management Report - Charleston, WV Chemical Spill - 1/10/14

Thanks Eric. I won't share with anyone. I appreciate the info.

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

From: Bissonette, Eric [mailto:Bissonette.Eric@epa.gov]
Sent: Friday, January 10, 2014 4:47 PM
To: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy
Subject: Fw: OW Management Report - Charleston, WV Chemical Spill - 1/10/14

Hey Sam. Attached is a recent EOC update for senior office of water leaders. The local water system nor the state of WV has yet to say "you may not use toilets". Pls don't forward this with any epa contact info. Call if you wanna discuss.

Eric. 202 510 4130

State, Local and other Federal Agency Actions: West Virginia water authorities have issued a "Do Not Use Water Notice" for 10 counties (Kanawha, Boone, Putnam, Lincoln, Logan, Clay, Roane, Jackson Cabell and Wayne) and the President's Emergency Declaration covers eight counties (Kanawha, Boone, Putnam, Lincoln, Logan, Clay, Roane, and Jackson). A shelter-in-place was not launched for the area at this time, but residents are urged to stay inside. WVAW customers are told not to use tap water for drinking, cooking, washing, or bathing. Water can be used for toilets and fire emergencies. Boiling water will not get rid of the chemical. This is believed to impact 100,000 customers (300,000 people).

From: Tingley, Kevin
Sent: Friday, January 10, 2014 4:39:13 PM
To: Best-Wong, Benita; Bissonette, Eric; Clark, Becki; Evans, David; Frace, Sheila; Grevatt, Peter; Lape, Jeff; Lopez-Carbo, Maria; Newberry, Debbie; Pickard, Brian; Sawyers, Andrew; Shapiro, Mike; Southerland, Elizabeth; Stoner, Nancy; Tidwell-Shelton, Patricia; Tingley, Kevin; Travers, David; Workman, Rosemary
Cc: Allgeier, Steve; Lee, Eugene
Subject: OW Management Report - Charleston, WV Chemical Spill - 1/10/14

OW Management Report – Charleston, WV Chemical Spill – 1/10/2014

(The main sources for most of this information are an OEM Spot Report issued at 11 AM on 1/10/14 and an interagency coordination call set up by the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) on 1/10/14)

Situation:

On January 10, the President approved an Emergency Declaration for the State of West Virginia after a chemical leaked through a secondary containment area at a Freedom Industries chemical plant and into the Elk River in Charleston, WV (pop. 51,018) (NRC#1070627.). The chemical (4-methycyclohexane methanol) is a flammable solvent used in the coal preparation process and is an irritant to eyes, respiratory system, and skin. The West Virginia Office of Environmental Health Services (OEHS) estimates no more than 5,000 gallons of chemical leaked in the Elk River. Based on river flow dilution, officials calculate the chemical concentration in the water to be well below the CDC declared safe level. A statement from West Virginia American Water said the company is monitoring the water. The spill occurred near the Kanawha Valley Water Treatment Plant. The Kanawha Valley Water Treatment Plant detected the chemical even after the increased carbon treatment effort was put in place. Freedom Industries is working to clean up the spill at the facility and in the river.

The Elk River is an area that has been designated a "Critical Habitat" for the Diamond Darter which is a freshwater fish listed as an endangered species. Located about 30 miles to the southeast of Charleston are the Gauley River National Recreation Area and the New River Gorge National River. As of this morning, there have been no reported impacts to these areas at this time.

State and Federal Activities:

The West Virginia Emergency Operations Center is fully activated and the state has activated their Health Operations Center. The FEMA Region III Regional Response Coordination Center (RRCC) is activated and the FEMA Region III Liaison Officer and Incident Management Assistance Team have been deployed. One EPA OSC located at the scene, another is en route. A mission assignment has been issued to staff the ESF-10 desk Regional Response Coordination Center (RRCC) in Philadelphia; a R3 representative is staffing that desk.

The only EPA Mission Assignment so far has been to do quantitative air monitoring.

EPA has also been asked by the state to provide information on health effects of the contaminant.

FEMA is sending 75 truckloads of bottled water to the scene. It is anticipated that more will be needed.

Water Impacts:

An estimated 100,000 customers (300,000 individuals) are without drinking water. The Impacted utility is operated by American Water, a privately-owned, privately operated utility. Consecutive systems to the American Water network may be publicly owned and operated. The distinction is important because federal agencies can only legally provide response support to a privately owned utility when the actions are lifesaving or life sustaining in nature.

American Water is a WV WARN (Mutual Aid Network) member, and WV WARN (as well as NCR WARN (National Capital Region WARN)) are aware of the situation.

American Water is bringing a crew of contractors to the site of the spill and will soon begin conducting response activities.

Anticipated Activity:

It is deemed likely at this stage that the combination of American Water resources, State resources, and Mutual Aid networks will suffice to manage the response (which will consist mainly of spill containment, cleanup, system flushing, and monitoring). It is possible that USACE, in its role as lead agency for ESF #3 (Public Works and Engineering) may be tasked to provide technical assistance to the water sector, at which time it is likely to turn to EPA to support the mission.

USACE is scheduling a coordination call for tomorrow (1/11/14).

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Kevin Tingley, P.E.

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