Ohio River MCHM Spill, Kanawha County, West Virginia/Ashland, Boyd County, Kentucky Desk Statement

EPA Region 4 continues to work closely with other Federal agencies, the Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection, and the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission (ORSANCO) in response to the Methycyclohexane Methanol spill (MCHM) into the Ohio River. The spill occurred originally in Charleston, WV on January 9, 2014, and the residual effects have impacted multiple drinking water utilities along the Ohio River in Kentucky. At this time, EPA's role is to coordinate the actions of response agencies and drinking water utilities, and to maintain situational awareness concerning this incident. As those efforts are already underway, EPA is also examining state and federal response authorities associated with the incident to determine next steps and the environmental laws and regulations applicable to the Freedom Industries facility. This review will help inform EPA's activities going forward.