**To:** Webster, James[Webster.James@epa.gov]; El-Zein, Jason[el-zein.jason@epa.gov]
**From:** Wright, Dave
**Sent:** Thur 1/16/2014 12:33:56 PM
**Subject:** FW: HOTSITE REPORT: Update - Freedom Industries, Charleston, WV
MCHM at Huntington.docx

**David P. Wright, Director**

**Office of Preparedness and Response**

**Mid - Atlantic Region**

**United States Environmental Protection Agency (3HS30)**

**1650 Arch Street**

**Philadelphia, PA 19103**

Office: 215-814-3207

Cell: 609-865-7957

**From:** Burns, Francis
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 15, 2014 3:34 PM
**To:** R3 HOTSITES
**Subject:** HOTSITE REPORT: Update - Freedom Industries, Charleston, WV

Vicky Binetti of Region 3's Water Division reported that the West Virginia American Water Company has lifted the drinking water use restrictions in more pressure zones this morning, advising customers that they can use water for all purposes after flushing their plumbing systems. WVAWC reports that more than 51,000 customers (more than 50% of their approximately 100,000 customers, and more than half of the 300,000 persons served by the system) can now use their water for all purposes.

The Region has received some reports from ORSANCO's ODS (organics detection system)

sampling in the Elk and Ohio rivers. The attached chart shows MCHM concentrations at Huntington, WV, at Ohio River mile 304 (note that these concentrations are reported as parts per billion, or ppb). ORSANCO reports that the leading edge of the plume was detected at 9:00 pm on January 14th at Meldahl Locks and Dam, at Ohio river mile 436.

OSCs Matlock and Ventura report that a representative from US Fish & Wildlife arrived today to collect information for a possible Natural Resource Damage Assessment. His primary concern is mussels and, based to the half-life of the chemical and the toxicology report, he was not overly concerned at this point.

The morning meeting was conducted with the following staff: EPA, WVDEP, CSB, USCG, OSHA, USF&W, the facility, the facility's contractor, Attorney General representative, and USCG. WVDEP was concerned about the water collecting in the secondary containment of the tank farm. The facility directed their contractor to pump this water into vacuum trucks. In addition, water for the interceptor trench continues to be pumped directly into vacuum trucks.

WVDEP, USCG, and EPA approved the facility's proposal to install a French Drain along the base of the slope. The drain will run along the base of the slope to the lowest point beneath the liner. The pipe will have two or three lines, which will lead directly to vacuum trucks. Excavated dirt resulting from the drain installation will be stored in a lined roll-off located on site and will undergo testing for disposal. In addition, silt fence will be installed along the base of the slope to prevent erosion of soils into the river.

The facility tested the water emerging from the storm drain area and preliminary results detected fluorine in the water. The water company believes that the area has a broken pipe that they are currently preparing to repair. The repair should diminish the flow of water emerging at the storm drain area.

The facility also deployed boom in accordance with USCG's strategy, that WVDEP and EPA approved. WVDEP requested that additional horizontal booms (absorbent) be placed inside the hard boom, which the facility agreed to complete. USCG removed the three mile safety zone restriction in the river. Commercial traffic will receive a broadcast alerting traffic of the boom at the facility.

The facility's contractor will punch test holes into the area surrounding the tanks to investigate the presence of product. If the product is detected in certain areas, sumps will be dug to vacuum the product out and transfer it into tanker trucks. The agencies decided that the empty MCHM tanks will not be cut up or removed from the site until the product is removed. EPA's contractor is producing a map depicting the deployed boom, interceptor trench, liner, culvert area, and hydro-punch locations.