To: Bissonette, Eric[Bissonette.Eric@epa.gov]
From: Sam Marsh
Sent: Fri 1/17/2014 9:32:00 PM
Subject: RE: OW Management Report - Charleston, WV Chemical Spill - 1/17/14

Thanks for the info. Although I deny knowing any pregnant women.

From: Bissonette, Eric [mailto:Bissonette.Eric@epa.gov]
Sent: Friday, January 17, 2014 3:55 PM
To: Sam Marsh
Subject: Fw: OW Management Report - Charleston, WV Chemical Spill - 1/17/14

In case you know any pregnant women.

From: Tingley, Kevin
Sent: Friday, January 17, 2014 3:48:54 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: Wisniewski, Patti-Kay; Lee, Eugene; Eoc, Epahq
Subject: OW Management Report - Charleston, WV Chemical Spill - 1/17/14

OW Management Report – Charleston, WV Chemical Spill – 1/17/2014

(The main sources for this information are an OEM Spot Report issued at 1600 hr on 1/16/14 and the FEMA Daily Operations Report dated 1/17/14. New information since the latest OW Management Report is highlighted. Note that, barring dramatic developments, the next OW Management Report will be issued on Tuesday, January 21)

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

(MCHM) (4-methylcyclohexanemethanol) is a flammable solvent used in the coal preparation process and is an irritant to eyes, respiratory system, and skin. FEMA reports that up to 7,500 gallons of chemical leaked in the Elk River near the Kanawha Valley Water Treatment Plant. Based on river flow dilution, officials calculate the chemical concentration in the water to be well below the CDC declared safe level. 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.

Drinking Water Impacts:

Region 3's Water Division reported that late Wednesday (1/15/14), ATSDR/CDC provided additional advice to the Bureau for Public Health regarding the target screening level used for clearing the West Virginia American Water Company (WVAWC) distribution system. While the 1 ppm level of methylcyclohexanemethanol (BCHM) is still believed to be protective, ATSDR/CDC recommended that pregnant women be advised that they may wish to seek an alternate source of water. This precaution is featured prominently on the WVAWC website, adjacent to the 'water safety map,' and appears early in press advisories issued to announce the lifting of "Do Not Use" restrictions in successive zones within the distribution system.

WVAWC now estimates that 71,000 customers (of estimated 100,000) now can use water without restrictions. The instructions on how to flush household and building plumbing are explicit in material on WVAWC's website. However, unanticipated issues have arisen and new FAQs have been added to address common questions or previously unexplained matters. New FAQs addressing issues such as lingering odors, cloudy or discolored water, can be found at http://www.amwater.com/files/Elk%20River%20WQ%20FAQ.pdf.

The Poison Control Center has been designated as a source of information for consumers concerned about health issues. At this point, we understand that there is no clear association of health complaints with exposure. FEMA has issued ATSDR a limited mission assignment to initiate an epidemiological study.

FEMA Response:

NRCC not activated; NWC at Normal Operations

Region III RRCC at Level III; ESFs released, but remain on standby

FCO, IMAT & LNO at IOF in Charleston, WV

State requested 1.6M additional liters of water; FEMA sending 2.8M liters

•Shipments of water will continue to arrive through Jan 19

Kevin Tingley, P.E.

US Environmental Protection Agency

Water Security Division

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