To: Stanislaus, Mathy[Stanislaus.Mathy@epa.gov]; Breen, Barry[Breen.Barry@epa.gov]
Cc: Bergman, Shawna[Bergman.Shawna@epa.gov]; Brooks, Becky[Brooks.Becky@epa.gov]; Fine, Ellyn[Fine.Ellyn@epa.gov]
From: Cohen, Nancy
Sent: Mon 2/24/2014 1:58:39 PM
Subject: FW: Statements/Responses Issued by HQ and Region to Media on NC Coal Ash and W. Va. Spills -- 2/21/14
HAGAR_EWRI_PROCEEDINGS_308.pdf
095Haxton.pdf
Statements~Responses on NC and W. Va. Spills -- 2~21~14.docx

FYI

-----Original Message-----
From: Jones, Enesta
Sent: Sunday, February 23, 2014 4:05 PM
To: Behringer, Caroline; Johnson, Alisha; Belknap, Andra; Hull, George; Smith, Roxanne; Cohen, David; Smith, Bonnie; White, Terri-A; Lincoln, Larry; Pinkney, James; Harris-Young, Dawn; Marraccini, Davina; Cohen, Nancy; Deitz, Randy; Thomas, Latosha; Irizarry, Gilberto; Tingley, Kevin; Ames, Jeremy; Mathis, Tashima; Jones, Enesta
Subject: Statements/Responses Issued by HQ and Region to Media on NC Coal Ash and W. Va. Spills -- 2/21/14

NC Spill

By HQ
- To Dina Cappiello of AP

Q: Who sets the closure requirements now under current rules?
RESPONSE: The states.

Q: Who will set the requirements when the rule is finalized?
RESPONSE: EPA.
Note: That is what we proposed in the 2010 proposed rule.

By Region 4
- To Tony Smith of WFMY News 2

Q: Is EPA monitoring the ash ponds at other Duke plants to test their integrity?
RESPONSE: No. When EPA completed its assessments of the integrity of coal ash impoundments across the country, EPA publicly stated that follow up associated with the assessed facilities would occur by the states that regulate these facilities. Please contact the state in which each facility is located to get information on their monitoring activities.

W. Va. Spill

By HQ
- Alexandra Berzon of WSJ

Q: In WV we would like to know what is the EPA*s involvement in terms of understanding why there still appears to be an odor from MCHM in some places in Charleston and some lingering health effects being reported.
RESPONSE: EPA received a draft summary document from West Virginia American Water Company (WVAWC) on February 18, 2014, which describes the approach, and the science behind the approach, WVAWC took in concluding that their flushing method would be effective in removing MCHM from the water distribution system. EPA is conducting an internal review of the document. (see additional

information below about MCHM odor at the tank site)

Q: What work is the EPA still doing in West Virginia and what do they understand at this point about the situation?
RESPONSE: An EPA On-Scene Coordinator has been on the ground in Charleston at the Freedom Industries tank farm, where the spill occurred since day-two of the response. The site is stabilized and work continues to control the source of the contamination at the site. EPA has observed the emptying of the leaked tank and its two companion tanks. The remaining 14 tanks are being systematically emptied. The collection trenches, sumps and collection piping are collecting the water and remaining chemical that was under the leaked tank. EPA*s OSC has reported that the snow and rain have generated considerable amounts of water through the facility, both surface and subsurface water. EPA, WV Department of Environmental Protection and Freedom Industries have sampled the water collected from several points on the site, which are being analyzed. The collection mechanisms have been effective in containing the water that continues to seep from the site. The facility has hired a contractor to develop a long term remediation plan to find and remove any residual contamination.

EPA*s OSC anticipates reports of odor complaints when tanks are moved, during excavation, and also as the weather warms up. The odor is present on site, however, in colder temperatures the odor diminishes at the perimeter of the facility, according to EPA*s OSC. WVDEP has requested EPA to do air monitoring around the site during the removal of three specific tanks that did not contain MCHM and PHH. EPA*s air monitoring analytical method is under development.

Q: Do you know who came up with the flushing instructions to residents * was the EPA involved in that and what research was that based on?
RESPONSE: The State and West Virginia American Water Company (WVAWC) developed a flushing protocol for homeowners to flush their household plumbing.

Q: I also would like to know more broadly what do we know about what happens when a chemical gets into water pipes and what testing/work is being done on this or has been done? I believe this would be part of the EPA*s water security work.
RESPONSE: EPA has publically available documents about the various issues in cleaning a water distribution system. These will not speak to the specificcharacteristics of any chemical or why some chemicals are harder to clean than
others. http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/watersecurity/emerplan/index.cfm#pp8

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