



OFFICE OF RIVER PROTECTION

P.O. Box 450, MSIN H6-60
Richland, Washington 99352

OCT 22 2013

13-ECD-0082

Ms. Jane A. Hedges, Program Manager
Nuclear Waste Program
Washington State
Department of Ecology
3100 Port of Benton Blvd.
Richland, Washington 99354

Ms. Hedges:

**FIFTEEN-DAY REPORT FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONTINGENCY PLAN AT
THE 242-A EVAPORATOR**

U.S. Department of Energy, Office of River Protection is submitting the attached report pursuant to Washington Administrative Code 173-303-360(2)(k) for an event at the 242-A Evaporator on the Hanford Facility. The event occurred on October 2, 2013. Based on the sample data received on October 7, 2013, it was determined that a 15 day environmental notification was required by October 22, 2013.

An initial notification was provided via electronic mail on October 2, 2013. After the sample information became available, verbal notification was provided to the Yakima office of the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) on October 10, 2013, with a revised notification provided via electronic mail the same day. Additional electronic mail communication has also been occurring with the Ecology 242-A Evaporator permit writer regarding answers to Ecology's questions.

If you have any questions, please contact me, or your staff may contact Lori A. Huffman, Director, Environmental Compliance Division, (509) 376-0104.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin W. Smith".

Kevin W. Smith
Manager

ECD:MEB

Attachment

cc: See page 2

Ms. Jane A. Hedges
13-ECD-0082

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OCT 22 2013

cc w/attach:

J. J. Lyon, Ecology
C. L. Whalen, Ecology
K. Wold, Ecology
W. C. Clark, WRPS
J. T. Hamilton, WRPS
S. E. Killoy, WRPS
J. A. McDonald, WRPS
A. G. Miskho, WRPS
J. A. Voogd, WRPS
R. E. Wilkinson, WRPS
Administrative Record (T-2-6)
Environmental Portal, LMSI
WRPS Correspondence

Attachment
13-ECD-0082
(2 Pages)

Fifteen-Day Report for the Implementation
of the Contingency Plan at the Hanford Facility

FIFTEEN-DAY REPORT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE CONTINGENCY PLAN AT THE HANFORD FACILITY

The following fifteen-day report meets the reporting requirements of Washington State Department of Ecology Dangerous Waste Regulations Washington Administrative Code 173-303-360(2)(k).

(i) Name, address, and telephone number of the owner or operator;

Owner/Operator

U.S. Department of Energy
Office of River Protection
P.O. Box 450
Richland, Washington 99352
(509) 372-2315

(ii) Name, address, and telephone number of the facility;

242-A Evaporator
Hanford Facility
EPA/State ID # WA7890008967
P.O. Box 450
Richland, Washington 99352
(509) 372-2315

(iii) Date, time, and type of incident (e.g., fire, explosion);

The event occurred on October 2, 2013, approximately 10:34am. The type of incident was a spill of corrosive material, although the material type was unknown at the time of the event. The corrosive nature of the material was determined on October 7, 2013, and the contingency plan was implemented. The spill was contained in the 242-A Evaporator Condenser Room such that no release to the environment occurred.

(iv) Name and quantity of material(s) involved;

Approximately one gallon of a solution at pH 6-7 was initially reported. The current estimate is 3 to 5 gallons of what is now believed to be a caustic liquid containing approximately 8 Molar sodium hydroxide.

(v) The extent of injuries, if any;

Two pipefitters were splashed with the liquid, and a nuclear chemical operator was dripped on. Safety showers were activated, and new clothing provided; then the employees who reported symptoms were transported to Kadlec hospital and evaluated. The symptoms reported from this event included burning of the skin, headache, nausea, and dizziness.

(vi) An assessment of actual or potential hazards to human health or the environment, where this is applicable;

An initial post event evaluation indicates chemical exposure to employees inside of the 242-A Evaporator Condenser Room. Further evaluation of the health hazard to work within the Condenser Room is pending. The spill of the caustic liquid was fully contained within the 242-A Evaporator Condenser Room and there was no release to the environment.

The six employees who reported symptoms from the event have been evaluated at Kadlec and HPMC Occupational Medical Services. The six employees have been cleared to return to work.

(vii) Estimated quantity and disposition of recovered material that resulted from the incident;

The estimated quantity of recovered material cannot be determined until access to the room is restored.

(viii) Cause of incident;

The cause of the incident was removal of valves from a section of the Decon Solution Mixer (non-radiological) piping located on the fifth floor of the Condenser Room in the 242-A Evaporator to install a blind flange.

(ix) Description of corrective action taken to prevent reoccurrence of the incident.

U.S. Department of Energy, Office of River Protection's contractor, Washington River Protection Solutions LLC has initiated actions for the recovery from this event. Corrective action taken to prevent reoccurrence of the incident will be determined. A follow-on report will be provided once the event investigation and causal analysis is complete.