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EPA Region 8 Emergency Preparedness Newsletter

Volume XII No. 4 Fourth Quarter 2022 Newsletter

Welcome to the EPA Region 8 Preparedness Newsletter.
Feel free to page through the entire newsletter or click on the links to the stories you want to read first.

OSC Response- Wolff Street Chemicals Response Action		PFAS	
NASTTPO Updates		Updates to TRI	
New CSB Safety Video		EPA Updates	
CISA Updates		Training Opportunities	
FEMA Resources		Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Documents	

[Next Page](#)

OSC Response— Wolff Street Chemicals

EPA's On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs) routinely respond to common hazardous material incidents such as commercial truck accidents, illegal chemical dumps, and abandoned commercial and residential properties with asbestos or other hazardous materials. However, OSCs are also well-prepared to respond to the occasional non-routine incidents such as the Wolff Street Chemical response in Fall 2022.



On September 21, 2022, City of Denver officials contacted EPA about a residential property with various unknown chemical containers, small radiological sources, and other unknown chemical hazards. City officials requested EPA assistance with assessment and disposal of chemicals found in a residential duplex in the Highlands area of North Denver on Wolff Street. Earlier that day, a bomb threat had been reported for the same location. The Denver Police Department Bomb Squad responded to the report and cleared the

location. While no bomb was found, there were potentially explosive materials discovered and that, along with the other building contents, prompted the City's call to EPA.

This location was not completely unknown to the authorities. The Denver Department of Public Health and Environment (DDPHE) and federal authorities had previous contacts with the property owner. Some weeks prior to this initiating event, the property owner had moved to an assisted living facility. It appears that the property owner herself made the call to the Bomb Squad, as she understood that the materials left at the property could pose a serious threat. That morning DDPHE immediately condemned and deemed the property un-inhabitable, an imminent hazard to the public or environmental health and unsafe for human habitation or presence. DDPHE evicted the remaining occupant and evacuated the pets into an animal shelter.

Region 8 OSC Todd DeGarmo deployed to the residence where he met with DDPHE officials for a briefing and walk-through of property. DeGarmo immediately recognized that this was a potentially dangerous situation and determined that the residence needed to be addressed as an emergency response. The DDPHE turned over control of the property to the EPA which installed new locks to prevent unauthorized entry and to protect the public. EPA's contractor, the Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team (START) mobilized to the Site, and, along with the EPA team, conducted extensive monitoring inside the home using a variety of instruments to assess the situation. The property was a duplex and given the potential hazards, the EPA Team also assessed the adjacent home. Luckily, the interior of the neighboring home did not show elevated levels of hazardous substances.



OSC Response-Wolff Street Chemicals

On September 22nd, EPA's Emergency and Rapid Response Services (ERRS) contractors mobilized to the site. Suited in Tyvek and respirators, the EPA team began the laborious process to analyze, identify, segregate, and overpack the hazardous substances and radionuclides into DOT-approved containers. For chemicals, EPA and its contractors performed standard hazard classification on the assorted unknown chemical containers. This information was used to determine safe handling of the chemicals for offsite transportation and disposal. The hazard classification included, but was not limited to, tests for reactivity, water solubility, pH, flammability, oxidizer,



peroxide, sulfide, cyanide, and halogenation. For radioactive nuclides, EPA used a SAM 950 to determine radiation intensity and type of radionuclide. A radionuclide and hazard classification database was developed which incorporated the hazard classification testing data on unknown chemicals with the chemical container inventory database.

Over the next six days, the EPA team methodically and safely cleared each room of the residence. Chemicals were staged in a secured work area outside at the back of the property. Radioactive nuclides were removed to the back of the house and kept a maximum distance from work areas and neighbors.

EPA continued to monitor the air for hazardous substances inside and outside the home to ensure work areas remained safe throughout the process.

As part of a related inquiry, the FBI requested an inventory of the radioactive nuclides and other chemicals found on the property. EPA identified a total of 59 radioactive sources that were re-analyzed, re-packaged and transported for disposal by Curie Environmental Services to US Ecology in Idaho. EPA determined that containers of ammonium perchlorate, diethyl ether, and crystallized dimethyl sulfoxide stored in the refrigerator were not safe to handle. EPA requested assistance from the Denver Police Department Bomb Squad for transportation and disposal of these chemicals at their facility.

In total, EPA completed 176 hazardous classifications of widely varying substances including elemental metals, various liquids, acids, bases, variety of unlabeled powders, and glass ampoules of gas in addition to an assortment of non-hazardous rocks, ores cleaning compounds and household goods. All remaining hazardous items are scheduled by the contractor for transportation and disposal.

OSC DeGarmo had high praise for the professionalism and responsiveness of the DDPHE and the Denver Bomb Squad. He went on to say, "I very much appreciated the hard work and dedication of our START and ERRS contractors, which we always rely upon".



NASTTPO Announcements

CAMEO® USE Survey

[The National Association of SARA Title III Program Officials \(NASTTPO\)](#) is conducting a survey to understand the current use and relevance of the [Computer-Aided Management of Emergency Operations \(CAMEO\) software suite](#). NASTTPO is requesting that CAMEO suite users and non-users, that are a part of the chemical planning and response community, take their short survey. This includes people who are emergency planners or responders, work at a fire department, work in private industry or the regulated community, are private consultants or contractors, or are a member of a Local or Tribal Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC or TEPC) or a State or Tribal Emergency Response Commission (SERC or TERC). The survey will be used to guide the future of the software and develop training materials. Please consider forwarding the survey within your communities. The survey is available directly [here](#) and at www.nasttpo.com.

Annual Conference Announcement

NASTTPO also recently announced that the 2023 Annual Conference is confirmed for April 17-20 in Salt Lake City, UT at the Radisson Downtown. Registration and agenda information will be coming to the www.nasttpo.com soon shortly. Be sure to mark your calendars!

New CSB Report and Safety Video

CSB Releases Final Report on 2019 PES Fire and Explosion in Philadelphia

CSB released its [final investigative report](#) into a massive fire and explosions at the Philadelphia Energy Solutions (PES) Refinery in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania that occurred in June 2019. The incident occurred when a corroded pipe elbow ruptured, releasing process fluid into the refinery's hydrofluoric acid (HF) alkylation unit. During the incident, over 5,000 pounds of highly toxic HF were released, a 38,000-pound vessel fragment launched off-site and landed on the other side of the Schuylkill River, and an estimated property damage loss of \$750 million resulted.

CSB also released a new safety video: [Wake Up Call: Refinery Disaster in Philadelphia](#)

CISA Updates

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) released an updated [Infrastructure Resilience Planning Framework \(IRPF\)](#) today to better help state, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) planners manage risk to critical infrastructure systems and enhance their resilience. First released in 2021, today's update to the IRPF adds important new resources and tools to better support partners as they face an evolving threat environment.

What is the IRPF 1.1?

The IRPF is a framework that enables users to identify critical infrastructure, assess related risks, and develop and implement resilience solutions. The framework helps them understand interconnected infrastructure systems and can be incorporated into many types of plans such as economic development, capital improvement plans, hazard mitigation, and emergency response/recovery. The IRPF's audience is state, local, tribal, and territorial governments, regional planning commissions, infrastructure owners and operators, and large manufacturing clusters.

The main changes featured in the 1.1 updated include:

- o Creation of a new tool for identifying critical infrastructure, the Datasets for Critical Infrastructure Identification guide.
- o Added guidance on the challenges of getting a diverse set of opinions when planning.
- o New information regarding the Drought planning guide.
- o Additional clarity on PPD-21.
- o More information regarding existing ISD assessment program.
- o Increased references to other existing tools and CISA programs.

The IRPF 1.1 will be posted to cisa.gov/idr-program.

Questions, Comments, and Follow-ups

If you have questions, comments, or would like to receive a presentation, feel free to email CISA at idr@cisa.dhs.gov. You can also contact David Willey (David.Willey@cisa.dhs.gov) or Sandra Pinel (sandra.pinel@cisa.dhs.gov). CISA is also available to present at your respective monthly meeting. Please feel free to contact CISA if a regional stakeholder is interested in further information or technical assistance.

Happy Holidays

FEMA Resource Releases

FEMA National Continuous Improvement Guidance

FEMA published the National Continuous Improvement Guidance, which provides an approach to conduct consistent and rigorous continuous improvement activities before, during and after real-world incidents. The guidance is intended for the whole community, including state, local, tribal and territorial partners; nongovernmental organizations; the private sector; and other organizations with emergency management functions.

To download the guidance, please visit <https://preptoolkit.fema.gov/web/cip-citap/ncig>.

Throughout the fall, FEMA hosted a series of 60-minute webinar sessions to launch the National Continuous Improvement Guidance. The webinars provided an overview of the guidance and discussed revisions based on feedback from the national engagement period held earlier this year.

FEMA Emergency Operations Center How-to Quick Reference Guide

FEMA published the updated [EOC How-to Quick Reference Guide](#). This document will contribute to developing an EOC that can successfully meet the jurisdiction's needs and will cover topics such as hazard vulnerability assessments, physical site selection, mitigation, considerations, EOC capabilities and requirements, information management systems, and training and exercises.

FEMA Public Assistance Hazard Mitigation

FEMA provides support to state, local, Tribal and territorial (SLTT) governments to respond to and recover from major disasters through the Public Assistance (PA) Program. PA applicants may apply for hazard mitigation funding to increase the resilience of disaster-damaged facilities. The purpose of PA Mitigation funding under Section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act is to provide assistance for cost-effective hazard mitigation measures that reduce the potential for future damage to a facility from a disaster event. PA Mitigation is in addition to any code and standard upgrade requirements.

To be eligible for funding, mitigation measures must be cost-effective using a benefit-cost analysis. FEMA developed a list of hazard mitigation measures pre-determined to be cost-effective up to 100 percent of repair costs as a streamlining tool. That list is contained in Appendix J of the Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide ([PAPPG V4](#)).



FEMA

FEMA Resource Releases, continued

In support of the agency's 2022-2026 Strategic Plan goals to instill equity and foster climate resilience, FEMA is seeking input to add additional measures to the list of cost-effective hazard mitigation measures in Appendix J. This effort aims to increase use of PA hazard mitigation funding and promote greater resiliency by making a larger selection of hazard mitigation measures more readily available to SLTTs, without the need for them to further demonstrate cost-effectiveness.

The public comment period is open from November 21 through December 21, 2022. Comments should be submitted via the online form at [FEMA Seeks Public Feedback on Cost-Effective Hazard Mitigation Measures | FEMA.gov](#)

PFAS Resources

Summary: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing to add per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) subject to reporting under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) and the Pollution Prevention Act (PPA) pursuant to the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (NDAA) to the list of Lower Thresholds for Chemicals of Special Concern (chemicals of special concern). These PFAS already have a lower reporting threshold of 100 pounds. The addition of these PFAS to the list of chemicals of special concern will cause such PFAS to be subject to the same reporting requirements as other chemicals of special concern (i.e., it would eliminate the use of the de minimis exemption and the option to use Form A and would limit the use of range reporting for PFAS). Removing the availability of these burden-reduction reporting options will result in a more complete picture of the releases and waste management quantities for these PFAS. In addition, EPA is proposing to remove the availability of the de minimis exemption for purposes of the Supplier Notification Requirements for all chemicals on the list of chemicals of special concern. This change will help ensure that purchasers of mixtures and trade name products containing such chemicals are informed of their presence in mixtures and products they purchase.

You can read the [proposed notice](#) published December 5, 2022 in the Federal Register for more information.

Be sure to continuously consult [EPA's PFAS](#) webpage for updates on EPA's progress and key actions.

Updates to TRI Program

2021 Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) Data Available

The complete 2021 TRI dataset is now available in TRI Toxics Tracker and the other online TRI tools. The dataset will be the basis for the 2021 TRI National Analysis, planned for publication in early 2023. [Find TRI facilities near you.](#)

Additional Chemicals Added to TRI list

In November, EPA finalized a rule adding 12 chemicals to Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) reporting requirements. Available data show these chemicals have moderately high to high human health toxicity and/or are highly toxic to aquatic organisms. EPA has classified one of the chemicals as a persistent, bioaccumulative, and toxic (PBT) chemical and designated it as a chemical of special concern with a 100-pound reporting threshold: 1,3,4,6,7,8-Hexahydro-4,6,6,7,8,8-hexamethylcyclopenta[g]-2-benzopyran, or HHCB.

The chemicals now subject to TRI reporting requirements are:

- **Dibutyltin dichloride; 683–18–1;**
- **1,3-Dichloro-2-propanol; 96–23–1;**
- **Formamide; 75–12–7;**
- **1,3,4,6,7,8-Hexahydro-4,6,6,7,8,8-hexamethylcyclopenta[g]-2-benzopyran; 1222–05–5;**
- **N-Hydroxyethylethylenediamine; 111–41–1;**
- **Nitrilotriacetic acid trisodium salt; 5064–31–3;**
- **p-(1,1,3,3-Tetramethylbutyl)phenol; 140–66–9;**
- **1,2,3-Trichlorobenzene; 87–61–6;**
- **Triglycidyl isocyanurate; 2451–62–9;**
- **Tris(2-chloroethyl) phosphate; 115–96–8;**
- **Tris(1,3-dichloro-2-propyl) phosphate; 13674–87–8;**
- **Tris(dimethylphenol) phosphate; 25155–23–1.**

You can read the final rule [here](#).

Updated NAICS Codes for TRI Reporting

EPA has finalized updates to the list of North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes subject to reporting under the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) to reflect the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) 2022 NAICS code revision. OMB updates the NAICS codes every five years. EPA is implementing the 2022 codes for TRI Reporting Year 2022 (i.e., facilities reporting to TRI are required to use 2022 NAICS codes on reports that are due to the Agency by July 1, 2023). The actual data required by a TRI form does not change as a result of this rulemaking, nor does the rule affect the universe of TRI reporting facilities that are required to submit reports to the Agency under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA). Learn more [here](#).

Methane Reduction Proposal

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Issues Supplemental Proposal to Reduce Methane and Other Harmful Pollution from Oil and Natural Gas Operations

EPA is proposing to update, strengthen and expand its November 2021 proposal that would secure major climate and health benefits for all Americans by reducing emissions of methane and other harmful air pollution from both new and existing oil and gas operations. The Agency has issued a supplemental proposal that would achieve more comprehensive emissions reductions from oil and natural gas facilities by improving standards in the 2021 proposal and adding proposed requirements for sources not previously covered. Please visit [EPA's website](#) for more information.

Tier II Submit updates available

Tier2 Submit 2022 and CAMEO Data Manager 4.2.0 Software Updates Released

The official versions of [Tier2 Submit 2022](#) and [CAMEO Data Manager 4.2.0](#) are now available on the EPA website.

- See the download pages for a list of changes in each software update.
- A Tier2 Submit tutorial is also available on the download page.
- For questions, review the help topics in the programs or contact the RMP Reporting Center via email (RMPRC@epacdx.net) or phone (703-227-7650) on weekdays from 8 AM to 4:30 PM Eastern Time.

EPA Regional Training Resources

As we enter the new year, this is the perfect opportunity to look at your priorities and needs for the upcoming year. Are you aware of what resources we have that may be helpful for you?

Industry-EPA Region 8 has previously partnered with South Dakota and Utah to hold industry based chemical workshops. Are you located in another state within Region 8 and may be interested in having a workshop in your area? We can cover anything from reporting requirements (federal and state) and even what to expect if you are being inspected. Let us or your SERC know!

LEPCs– Are you looking to reengage after Covid? Reach out to your SERC or reach out to our office. We can provide resources anywhere from LEPC 101 to assisting with Emergency Response Plan development, validation and exercise development and execution.

Contact Bre Bockstahler at bockstahler.breann@epa.gov if you are interested in more information.

EPA Covid Resources

EPA is updating its coronavirus website to include new resources for state, local, and tribal agencies and intergovernmental associations. These resources will help EPA and its partners continue to provide the environmental protection the nation depends on without interruption during the coronavirus public health emergency.

[EPA's Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Resources for State, Local, and Tribal Agencies and Associations](#) contains important information on grants, enforcement and compliance programs, water infrastructure, and a host of other issues important to effective environmental program delivery. The webpage will be updated regularly with new information.

EPA is also continuing to update resources on its website and add to the [list of surface disinfectant products](#) that are effective against SARS-CoV-2. To contact EPA about a coronavirus (COVID-19) issue, you may do so here: <https://www.epa.gov/coronavirus/forms/contact-us-about-coronavirus-covid-19>.

Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Documents

EPCRA Requirements: <http://www.epa.gov/epcra>

NRT Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning Guidance: [https://www.nrt.org/Main/Resources.aspx?ResourceType=Hazards%20\(Oil,%20Chemical,%20Radiological,%20etc\)&ResourceSection=2](https://www.nrt.org/Main/Resources.aspx?ResourceType=Hazards%20(Oil,%20Chemical,%20Radiological,%20etc)&ResourceSection=2)

Actions to Improve Chemical Facility Safety and Security – A Shared Commitment: <https://www.osha.gov/chemicalexecutiveorder/index.html>

EPCRA On-Line Training: <https://www.epa.gov/epcra/epcra-non-section-313-online-training-states-tribes-lepcs-local-planners-and-responders>

EPCRA Fact Sheets: <https://www.epa.gov/epcra/epcra-fact-sheets>

EPCRA Regional Contacts: <https://www.epa.gov/epcra/epcra-regional-contacts>

EPCRA, RMP & Oil Information Center: <https://www.epa.gov/epcra/forms/contact-us-about-emergency-planning-and-community-right-know-act-epcra>

TIER2 Submit: <https://www.epa.gov/epcra/tier2-submit-software>

LEPC/TEPC Handbook: <https://www.epa.gov/epcra/national-lepc-tepc-handbook#full>

EPA Region 8 Preparedness Program

We will increase EPA Region 8 preparedness through:

- Planning, training, and developing outreach relations with federal agencies, states, tribes, local organizations, and the regulated community.
- Assisting in the development of EPA Region 8 preparedness planning and response capabilities through the RSC, IMT, RRT, OPA, and RMP.
- Working with facilities to reduce accidents and spills through education, inspections, and enforcement.

To contact a member of our Region 8 EPA Preparedness Unit team, review our programs or view our organization chart, click this [link](#).



Region 8 SERC Contact Information

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RMP Region 8 Reading Room: (303) 312-6345

RMP Reporting Center: The Reporting Center can answer questions about software or installation problems. The RMP Reporting Center is available from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday - Friday: (703) 227-7650 or email RMPRC@epacdx.net.

RMP: <https://www.epa.gov/rmp> **EPCRA:** <https://www.epa.gov/epcra>

Emergency Response: <https://www.epa.gov/emergency-response>

[Lists of Lists](#) (Updated April 2022)

Questions? Call the Superfund, TRI, EPCRA, RMP, and Oil Information Center at (800) 424-9346 (Monday-Thursdays).

To report an oil or chemical spill, call the National Response Center at (800) 424-8802.



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This newsletter provides information on the EPA Risk Management Program, EPCRA, SPCC/FRP (Facility Response Plan) and other issues relating to Accidental Release Prevention Requirements. The information should be used as a reference tool, not as a definitive source of compliance information. Compliance regulations are published in 40 CFR Part 68 for CAA section 112(r) Risk Management Program, 40 CFR Part 355/370 for

[Return to Top](#)