



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

WMD-ERRB

Subject: Situation Report #2
 Graniteville, SC
 Norfolk-Southern Derailment

Date/Time: January 6, 2005/4:00 pm

SITUATION REPORT #1

A collision of two freight trains in Graniteville, SC just before 3:00 am today has resulted in a release of chlorine gas to the atmosphere. This release has led to more than 100 injured, according to news reports. News reports also indicate that incident-related fatalities may have occurred. Hazmat cars involved in the derailment include 3 chlorine cars (gas) and 1 sodium hydroxide (liquid). Several entries have been made by South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) personnel and cleanup contractors retained by Norfolk Southern Railroad. Current information is that at least one chlorine tanker carrying 131 tons of material was breached and immediately released 70% of its contents. A chlorine specialist team is being brought in to access the two remaining chlorine cars and provide tactical advise regarding response operations involving the tankers. No information is currently available on the condition of the other tanker. Local, State and railroad officials are on-scene. EPA Region 4 OSCs Kevin Misenheimer, David Dorian, and Glenn Adams are also on scene. Region 4 OSC Dean Ullock and U.S. Coast Guard Gulf Strike Team Level A Team personnel are being dispatched to the incident. Schools and businesses are closed. A shelter-in-place order for a two (2) mile radius has been issued by local emergency management officials.

Resource Mobilization (as of 4:00 pm On 1/6/05)

OSCs: 3 on-scene and 1 en route (1 from the Mobile, Alabama outpost)
GST: 8 en route (from Mobile, Alabama)
START: Tetra Tech 2 on-scene, 4 en route; Weston Solutions 2 on-scene

Activities

OSC Misenheimer is currently working within a Unified Command structure with the Aiken County Sheriff's Department, the local Fire Department, South Carolina DHEC, and Norfolk Southern Railroad. EPA is conducting air monitoring in affected areas prior to a door-to-door assessment of area residents by police and local officials. EPA is also setting up an around-the-clock air monitoring program along a 200 yard perimeter around the derailment site for protection of response workers as well as the general public.