

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Decatur Gas Well Explosion - Removal Polrep
Initial and Final Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region VI

Subject: POLREP #1
First and Final
Decatur Gas Well Explosion

Decatur, TX
Latitude: 33.2025460 Longitude: -97.6718620

To:
From: Karen McCormick, OSC
Date: 3/19/2010
Reporting Period: 3/19/2010

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	Contract Number:
D.O. Number:	Action Memo Date:
Response Authority: OPA	Response Type: Emergency
Response Lead: EPA	Incident Category: Removal Assessment
NPL Status: Non NPL	Operable Unit:
Mobilization Date: 3/19/2010	Start Date: 3/19/2010
Demob Date: 3/19/2010	Completion Date:
CERCLIS ID:	RCRIS ID:
ERNS No.:	State Notification:
FPN#: E10620	Reimbursable Account #:

1.1.1 Incident Category

Emergency Response to Tank Battery Explosion and Fire at Devon Energy Natural Gas Well site.

1.1.2 Site Description

Site is located off of Hvalek Road, souht and west of Decatur, Wise County, Texas. Site is a Tank Battery owned by Devon Energy that was being installed. On 19 March 2010 a contracted construction crew was welding on piping adjacent to the tank battery when Tank 1 exploded due to unknown causes and caused a fire in the adjacent 4 tanks. Decatur Fire Department responded. Two injuries were reported, both burns requiring medical treatment.

1.1.2.1 Location

The site is located off of Hvalek Road, approximately 2 miles southwest of Decatur, Wise County, Texas.

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

Natural Gas Condesate was reported to have been involved in the explosion, though that could not be determined. Additionally, air impacts from burning product were investigated.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

EPA OSC Mark Hayes and START-3 were mobilized to the site to perform an investigation of the potential spill and air release at 1255 hours on 19 March 2010. Upon arrival at the site at 1430 hours, the fire had been extinguished and recovery activities had been initiated by Devon Energy contractors. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) responded to investigate the incident. A vacuum truck from Shale Tank Trucks arrived on-site to collect any fire water runoff from the well pad and adjacent soils. No impacts off-site by natural gas production products was observed. Air monitoring performed by START-3 did not indicate detecable levels of Carbon Monoxide, Hydrogen Sulfide, Radiation, Volitile Organic Compounds, or

Methane.

2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

<i>Waste Stream</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Manifest #</i>	<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Disposal</i>

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

Devon Energy will continue to investigate the explosion and fire. They will work with the Texas Railroad Commission to generate and implement remediation plan.

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

No further EPA field activities are planned at this time.

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

2.2.2 Issues

2.3 Logistics Section

No information available at this time.

2.4 Finance Section

No information available at this time.

2.5 Other Command Staff

No information available at this time.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

Wise County Fire Marshal, Decatur Fire Department.

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

US EPA Region 6, OSHA, Chemical Safety Board, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Texas Railroad Commission.

4. Personnel On Site

No information available at this time.

5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

6. Additional sources of information

No information available at this time.

7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.