

**United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region VI
POLLUTION REPORT**

Date: Monday, August 20, 2007

From: Karen McCormick

Subject: Final POLREP

Double B Ammonia Release
109 E. Morgan Street, Meridian, TX
Latitude: 31.9231000
Longitude: -97.6572000

POLREP No.:	1	Site #:	NRC 846222
Reporting Period:		D.O. #:	
Start Date:	8/20/2007	Response Authority:	CERCLA
Mob Date:	8/20/2007	Response Type:	Emergency
Demob Date:	8/20/2007	NPL Status:	
Completion Date:	8/20/2007	Incident Category:	Removal Assessment
CERCLIS ID #:		Contract #	
RCRIS ID #:			

Site Description

At approximately 1:20pm on Monday August 20, 2007 EPA phone duty officer Leos was notified by the State Emergency Operations Center of a release of Anhydrous Ammonia from a Double B Foods Inc, in Meridian, Texas. The release occurred at approximately 8:30 am this morning. There is one injury reported. Bosque County Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC), Bosque County Sheriff's Office (SO), Meridian Fire Department (FD), Clifton FD and Texas Commission of Environmental Quality (TCEQ) responded. EPA OSC McCormick has been dispatched to the scene to coordinate with the responsible party and local government.

Current Activities

At approximately 830 am Monday August 20, 2007 a release of Anhydrous Ammonia occurred from a Double B Foods Inc, in Meridian, Texas. Double B Foods is kolache-producing company in the heart of Meridian's town square.

Bosque County Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC), Bosque County Sheriff's Office (SO), Meridian Fire Department (FD), Clifton FD and TCEQ responded. Double B Officials failed to notify local, state and federal officials of the release.

A Bosque County Sheriff's deputy suffered respiratory distress while trying to evacuate the area and was taken to Goodall-Witcher Hospital in Clifton. Several other residences reported exposure suffering from minor headaches. Workers at the Bosque County Courthouse in Meridian, as well as neighboring businesses and homes, were evacuated or "shelter-in-place" twice in less than an hour as a food plant released the anhydrous ammonia.

The release came from a safety release valve on a refrigeration unit at the Double B Foods company that "popped off" and released. Officials allowed people back downtown when approximately 30 minutes after the first release a second much larger cloud of ammonia was released.

Upon arriving, OSC McCormick met with Dewey Ratliff, Emergency Manager Coordinator of Bosque County, Jeffery Keese, Mayor and Emergency Manager Coordinator for the city of Meridian, and Aledjandro Araujo, General Manager of Double B Foods. Double B Food Officials is continuing to investigate the accident however estimate 1400 pds of ammonia were released.

Planned Removal Actions

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and the Environmental Protection Agency will continue investigate the incident.

Next Steps

Double B Officials were requested by OSC McCormick to:

- investigate the accident and report their finding to the agency;
- look at their emergency response procedures and meet with the local official on those notification procedures
- EPA will continue to look at regulatory compliance for Risk Management Plan under the Clean Air Act
- Local Officials, TCEQ, EPA and Double B Foods will get together for a Emergency Response Review with the next 30 days to discuss notification and response procedures.

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
Intramural Costs				
Total Site Costs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%

* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

response.epa.gov/doublebammonia

POLREP #1 Last Updated 8/22/2007