

Preparedness- You choose:

On your own

or

with partners

Spill hazards

- Worker evacuation, rescue, safety
- Public and neighborhood safety
- On-site and off-site property protection
- Neighborhood health concerns
- Site, downwind, downriver pollution
- Site cleanup

Hypothetical Case Study

- Hydrochloric acid spill
- Acid mist or cloud generated
- Worker evacuation, isolation done
- Fire Department arrived, took charge
- FD specialists don entry suits, evaluate, mitigate the release
- HCl monitoring done for responder safety
- Scene returned to facility for cleanup

Later, complaints received of choking odor in the neighborhood

- Where was the gap?
 - Facility preparedness focused on liquid spills to land or water
 - Facility presumed FD would do what needs doing
 - FD focused on mitigating spill source and protecting responders
 - No FD and facility pre-coordination on air release response

Public vs Private Roles

- FD and PD protect the Public's Safety
- Facility preparedness- chemical releases
 - Facilities must prepare to protect the Public's safety, health, and environment
 - Including air, water, and land releases
 - » **SO**
- Public agencies and facility share the responsibility to prepare for protecting the public's safety

115E Spill Bill excerpt

- Facility preparedness can include:
 - Employee response
 - Contractor response
 - Cooperative organization response
 - Public sector responders, “so long as arrangements are made for their deployment”

Partners who you can arrange to help with your preparedness

- Contractors
- Local FD, County Emergency Manager, local haz mat teams
- State Chemical Assessment Teams, State Haz Mat Emergency Response Team
- Neighboring facilities
 - Informal and formal cooperatives

Partnership opportunities

- Equip a local responder with special equipment they need for your hazards
- Share specialized equipment
- Share training opportunities
- Conduct drills and exercises
- Formal mutual aid or cooperatives

Contractors

- Arrangements must be documented
- Capabilities must be documented
- Timeline of response critical
- Arrangements must be up to date
- You have to pay their bills if you expect them to come to your problem

Steps to preparedness partnerships

1. Understand your current situation
 - Your site and process hazards
 - Your neighborhood and drainage area
 - Your current spill plan
 - Your capability to protect public safety, health, environment
 - Any gaps or reliance on local responders, contractors, others?

2. Meet with your local Fire Department and emergency manager

- What are their capabilities?
- What are they expecting of you?
 - Public safety
 - Health
 - Pollution
- What are the gaps?
- What are the opportunities for partnership?

3. Fill the gaps, before the incident

- equipment
- training
- Incident Command relationships
- contractors
- arrangements with other facilities

4. Maintain a preparedness cycle

Train and maintain

Drill- tabletops, functional, full scale

Critiques

Evaluate and update periodically

Minneapolis Waterworks Case Study

- 90 ton railcars of chlorine
- In densely populated area, in Fridley, Anoka County
- No major incidents
- Rely on the fire departments, but which fire department?
- No firm response protocols

After a tabletop exercise- eyes opened in fear

- Notifications to both counties and FDs
- Internal employee protection set up, sheltering in place with monitoring
- Incident Command “who is in charge?” issues worked out
- Monitoring and entry PPE and equipment inventoried and improved
- Changing to 1 ton cylinders

Waterworks, Mpls FD, Fridley FD,

- Neighborhood scouted, population protection pre-thought
- Tabletop drills
- Functional drills scheduled
 - Unified command setup for initial response
 - Entry and mitigation
 - Shelter in place
 - Incident Action Plan to protect neighborhood