

January 21, 1997

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-IV-97-006

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by Region IV staff in Arlington, Texas on this date.

Facility

Entergy Operations, Inc.
Waterford 3
Killona, Louisiana
Dockets: 50-382

Licensee Emergency Classification

Notification of Unusual Event
X Alert
Site Area Emergency
General Emergency
Not Applicable

Subject: TOXIC CHEMICAL SPILL ON THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER (10 MILES UPSTREAM OF WATERFORD)

On January 18, 1997, a tanker carrying gasoline ran aground approximately 10 miles north of the site at 1:45 a.m. (CST). The tanker spilled a portion of its cargo into the Mississippi River. The licensee was notified of the spill at 3:48 a.m. (CST) and, as a conservative measure, an Alert was declared at 4:20 a.m. (CST). As a precautionary measure, the control room air intake was isolated and onsite personnel were sheltered. No detectable airborne chemical concentrations were identified onsite. The licensee determined that the spill did not impact balance-of-plant or safety-related equipment.

The Coast Guard initially estimated that 250,000 gallons of gasoline was released; however, the quantity was later reduced to 100,000 gallons. Followup communications with the licensee indicated that the actual release was only 4,400 gallons of gasoline.

The state of Louisiana has been informed.

Region IV received notification of this occurrence by telephone from the Operations Officer at approximately 5:15 a.m. (CST) on January 18, 1997. Region IV has informed the Executive Director for Operations Regional Coordinator, the Project Manager, and the Public Affairs Officer.

This information herein has been discussed with the licensee and is current as of 1 p.m. (CST) January 21, 1997.

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