Release Reporting of a Hazardous Substance

The State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) finalized a set of eight (8) release reporting rules (3750-25-01; 3750-25-05; 3750-25-10; 3750-25-12; 3750-25-13; 3750-25-15; 3750-25-20; and 3750-25-25), effective June 30th, 1993. The purpose of this section is to make you aware of your reporting obligations in case of a discharge or release.

All verbal notifications made under these rules are to be reported to the Ohio EPA's Emergency Response Section, Local Emergency Planning District(s) which may be affected, and the jurisdictional fire department(s).

An owner or operator is required to report a release or discharge under 3750.06 of the Ohio Revised Code anytime there is a release or spill of a regulated chemical which exceeds its assigned Reportable Quantity (RQ) and leaves the facility property line. The regulated substances subject to the release reporting requirements are reference below:

Materials Subject to Release Reporting

• Extremely Hazardous Substances 40 CFR; Part 355; Appendix A and B,

• CERCLA Hazardous Substances 40 CFR Part 302; Table 302.4, and

• Oil (definition includes without limitation to, gasoline, petroleum, fuel oil, sludge, oil refuse, and oil mixed with wastes other than dredged spoil).

a) The Reportable Quantity (RQ) for the discharge of oil including crude oil into or upon navigable waters is an amount which causes a visible film or sheen upon the surface of the water;

b) The RQ for the release of oil into the environment, excluding navigable waters, is an amount of 25 gallons or more; and

c) The RQ for the release of crude oil from an oil and gas extraction storage facility into the environment, excluding navigable waters, is 210 gallons.

Verbal Notification Requirement

The verbal notification to the fire department, LEPC, and Ohio EPA shall be made within 30 minutes of knowledge of the release, unless notification within that timeframe is impractical due to uncertain circumstances. In addition, calls to The National Response Center (NRC) shall be made for those reportable quantity releases involving CERCLA hazardous substances or oil to navigable waters as soon as possible. The National Response Center (NRC) 24-hour number is 1-800-424-8802.

The release notification for 24-hour reporting of spills in the State of Ohio is:

In Ohio call:

1-800-282-9378

If the 1-800 number does not work, call:

614-224-0946

In addition, facility must call:

• LEPC emergency coordinator
• Jurisdictional fire department

Be prepared to relay as much of the information listed below as is known or can be estimated at the time of reporting. Please remember this is an initial report and estimates can be corrected in your follow-up emergency notice report.

• Name and phone number of the person to contact for further information;

• Location and source(s) of the release or discharge;

• Chemical name or identity of any substance(s) involved in the release or discharge;

• Is the substance an extremely hazardous substance;

• Estimate of the quantity (gallons or pounds) discharged into the environment;

• Time and duration of the release or discharge;

• The environmental medium or media into which the substance was released or discharged;

• Potential health effects associated with the release or discharge of the substance; and

• Report precautions taken, including evacuation, remediation, or other proposed response actions.

This information is required under ORC Section 3750.06(C) and Rule 3750- 25-25(A)(1) of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC).

Written Follow-up Requirements

After the release or discharge, **written follow-up emergency notice must be submitted within 30 days to the Ohio EPA Emergency Response Section and the local planning committee of the planning district(s) in which the release or discharge occurred**, unless the release was from a vessel, then the report is sent only to the SERC. This follow-up emergency notice is your company's opportunity to explain in its own words the circumstances and actions relating to the release of pollutants to the environment. Your written emergency notice should follow the question sequence as indicated below. If any of the questions are not applicable to your incident, indicate N/A (not applicable) for that item.

1. Who

(a) Complete facility name, address and telephone number of the facility from which the release occurred. Complete name of owner and/or operator.

2. When

(a) Actual time, date, and duration of the discharge or release.

(b) Actual time and date of discovery of the release or discharge.

(c) Actions taken to respond to and contain the release or discharge.

(d) Indicate the spill number assigned by Ohio EPA. (If you do not know this number, call a duty officer during business-hours and ask. The telephone number is 614-644-3194). If the National Response Center was notified, please provide their assigned case number.

3. Location

(a) Location of facility from which the release or discharge occurred.

(b) Location of release: county, township, and city.

(c) Longitude and latitude of the release, if known.

(d) Distance and direction from nearest intersection or milepost if it was a transportation related release or discharge.

4. Product Release

(a) Common and/or technical name(s) of the material(s) released or discharged and CAS Numbers(s).

(b) What was the quantity and duration of the discharge? Indicate volume(s) in gallons or pounds.

5. Environmental Impact

(a) Name of the environmental medium or media affected (i.e. navigable waters, land, and/or air). If navigable waters, please identify.

(b) What was the length of area of the navigable waterway affected?

(c) What was the ground surface area (square feet or yards) and depth of soil contamination?

(d) To the extent information is available, identify damage to wildlife and/or vegetation.

(e) To the extent information is available, identify impact to human health and safety (i.e. evacuations, exposure, etc..)

(f) Where appropriate, identify medical advice provided for exposed individuals and or local medical personnel.

6. Monitoring and Detection

(a) If the release or discharge was monitored, indicate the method of detection and concentrations detected.

(b) If the release was air-borne, how was the wind direction and speed determined?

(c) Was the public warned, and if so, how?

7. Mitigation, Containment Action

(a) How much product or waste was recovered or neutralized?

(b) How was the material recovered or neutralized?

(c) Were any other actions taken to reduce the impact of the discharge (containment, adsorbents, on-site treatment, etc.)?

8. Prevention Measures

Please provide plans to prevent recurrence of the discharge or release which may occur at this specific source. This may include: employee training, replacement of equipment, construction, or security measures such as lighting, fencing or locks.

9. Health Risks

List known or anticipated acute and chronic health risks of exposure associated with the substances which were released.

10. Permit Numbers

(a) Indicate any air, water, or other permit numbers which may be pertinent to this incident (voluntary information).

(b) If this is a NPDES/air permit, please enclose a copy of your current effluent/emission limitations.

11. Chronology

Provide a chronological review of the incident. Include a chronology of communications with state and local government.

12. Documentation

Provide any reports or other documents which pertain to the incident (e.g. accident reports, manifest, bills of lading, laboratory analyses).

13. Causes

Describe any extenuating circumstances which caused the discharge.

14. Economic Impact

(This information is voluntary)

(a) Estimate the dollar value, if any, of the spilled product.

(b) What was the equipment damage cost (estimate)?

(c) What was the cost of spill cleanup (estimate)?

(d) What are the estimated costs of spill prevention to eliminate possible reoccurrence of this event?

This information is required pursuant to ORC Section 3750.06(D) and OAC Rule 3750-25-25(A)(2).

The written emergency notice must be submitted within 30 days of the release or discharge to:

(a) Ohio EPA, DERR—ER
Lazarus Government Center
50 West Town Street, Suite 700
P.O. Box 1049
Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049
ATTN: ER Records Mgmt.
SERC Report

(b) County LEPC
Emergency Coordinator
(see pages 20 to 28)

The statute provides that if significant additional information regarding the mandatory or voluntary information submitted becomes known during the period between submission of the written report and one (1) year after the release or discharge, the owner or operator shall submit to the LEPC and the Ohio EPA an updated written notice within three (3) days after learning of the additional information.

If this is the second oil spill release at this location within a 12 month period, or a release of over 1,000 gallons which has reached water, then you must submit a copy of your Spill Prevention Control and Counter-measure Plan (SPCC) to the U.S. EPA Regional Administrator and to Ohio EPA within 60 days from the time of the discharge as required by 40 CFR 112.4. Your SPCC plan may be submitted with your response to the 30-day written follow-up report. You may obtain SPCC information from U.S. EPA, by contacting their Hotline Center at 800-424-9346.

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