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GENERAL GUIDANCE ON RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS FOR CHEMICAL ACCIDENT PREVENTION (40 CFR PART 68)

ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

This document provides guidance to help owners and operators of facilities that manufacture, use, store or otherwise handle certain extremely hazardous chemicals to determine if they are subject to EPA's Chemical Accident Prevention regulations at 40 CFR part 68 and, if so, to comply with those regulations. The discussion in this document is intended solely as guidance. The statutory provisions and EPA regulations described in this document contain legally binding requirements. This document is not a regulation itself, nor does it change or substitute for those provisions and regulations. Thus, it does not impose legally binding requirements on EPA, States, or the regulated community. This guidance does not confer legal rights or impose legal obligations upon any member of the public.

While EPA has made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the discussion in this guidance, the obligations of the regulated community are determined by statutes, regulations, or other legally binding requirements. In the event of a conflict between the discussion in this document and any statute or regulation, this document would not be controlling.

Interested parties are free to raise questions and concerns about the substance of this guidance. This is a living document and may be revised periodically without public notice. EPA welcomes public input on this document at any time.

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WHAT IS A LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE?

HOW DOES THE EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROGRAM APPLY?

PLANNING FOR FLAMMABLE SUBSTANCES

CHAPTER 10

Qs AND As: DELEGATION

Qs AND As: AUDITS

CHAPTER 11

WHAT DOES YOUR WORST-CASE “DISTANCE TO ENDPOINT” OR RELEASE DISTANCE MEAN?

WHAT DOES IT MEAN THAT WE COULD BE EXPOSED IF WE LIVE/WORK/SHOP/GO TO SCHOOL X MILES AWAY?

IF THERE IS A WORST-CASE ACCIDENT, WILL EVERYONE WITHIN THAT DISTANCE BE HURT? WHAT ABOUT PROPERTY DAMAGE?

HOW SURE ARE YOU OF YOUR ENDPOINT DISTANCES?

WHY DO YOU NEED TO STORE SO MUCH ON SITE?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO PREVENT RELEASES?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO PREPARE FOR RELEASES?

DO YOU NEED TO USE THIS CHEMICAL?

WHY ARE YOUR DISTANCES DIFFERENT FROM THE DISTANCES IN THE EPA LOOKUP TABLES?

HOW LIKELY ARE THE WORST-CASE AND ALTERNATIVE RELEASE SCENARIOS?

IS THE WORST-CASE RELEASE YOU REPORTED REALLY THE WORST ACCIDENT YOU CAN HAVE?

WHAT ABOUT THE ACCIDENT AT THE [NAME OF SIMILAR FACILITY] THAT HAPPENED LAST MONTH?

WHAT ACTIONS HAVE YOU TAKEN TO INVOLVE THE COMMUNITY IN YOUR ACCIDENT PREVENTION AND EMERGENCY PLANNING EFFORTS?

CAN WE SEE THE DOCUMENTATION YOU KEEP ON SITE?