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EPA Region 8 Emergency Preparedness Newsletter

Volume XII No. 2 Second Quarter 2022 Newsletter

Welcome to the EPA Region 8 Preparedness Newsletter.
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OSC Response– San Haven Asbestos Site

Federal On Scene Coordinators (OSCs) may face any number of hazards during their work on a field action. Physical, chemical, and even biological hazards are typical and expected. Occasionally, however, an OSC might encounter unexpected hazards, maybe even those of a supernatural origin. Such is the case with the San Haven Sanitarium site.

The San Haven Sanitarium was originally built in 1909 near Dunseith, ND at the foot of the Turtle Mountains for the treatment and care for individuals who had contracted tuberculosis. The medical complex quickly grew to include several buildings sitting on a 14-acre site. The main building was an imposing four-story structure.

Tuberculosis was first identified as a contagious pathogen in the late 1800s, and at the time, tuberculosis was killing about one out of every seven people living in the United States and Europe, according to the Center for Disease Prevention and Control. Starting in 1875, the U.S. started building sanitariums across the country to move those suffering from tuberculosis out of their homes to prevent the spread of the disease to their families.

San Haven's buildings were solely used for tuberculosis patients up until the 1950s. With the advent of antibiotics, the need for such facilities quickly declined. The buildings had been repurposed several times over the years, serving as housing for the developmentally disabled, the State Hospital, and even a sewing factory. The complex was eventually closed in 1987 and by 1989 the facility was abandoned by the state officials. The land and buildings were purchased in 1992 by the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa people.

It has been reported that during the decades of operation, over a thousand people may have died and been buried on and around the grounds, and due in part to the foreboding structure of the main building, it has long been rumored as a haunted site and has drawn tourists specifically for this reason. Trespassers regularly entered the San Haven property to explore or scavenge building materials, or to hunt for ghosts. There are websites which describe the reported haunting at the location. Structural beams in the buildings have been removed by scavengers, causing floors to collapse, and affecting the structural integrity of the upper levels. A teenager died from a fall down an elevator shaft while exploring the main hospital in 2001 and others have been injured while accessing the Site. The Tribe has attempted to block access roads, but these efforts have been largely ineffective due to the large size of the property and its easy access from a major highway.

The Tribe requested assistance from EPA Region 8's Response Section and Tribal officials wrote an e-mail to EPA Region 8 on December 2, 2020, requesting an EPA cleanup at the property, specifically Building #9, the most damaged building in the complex. The request stated that the Tribe's limited resources are not sufficient to address the environmental exposures posed by Building #9.

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OSC Response-San Haven Asbestos Site

EPA had conducted a removal action in 2001 at seven of the buildings in the San Haven complex, including Building #9, for abatement of friable asbestos. The removal action removed deteriorated friable asbestos-containing materials (ACM), addressing the threat that existed at the time. The OSC's initial/final pollution report noted that the 2001 removal action was an interim removal action and that "Asbestos materials may remain on-site that are not in a deteriorated/time-critical removal mode at this time." Building #9 is the most severely damaged structure in the complex and is partially collapsed. All remaining buildings at the complex are in a state of severe disrepair due to vandalism, scavengers who have removed building materials, and weathering.

The EPA Region 8 Brownfields Program conducted a Phase II Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) at the former medical complex in 2020 and determined that friable ACMs were present in Building #9 and several other buildings in the complex. This ESA also found numerous building materials in Building #9 containing ACM including asphalt roofing material and sealants, window glazing and exterior plaster, floor tiles and/or mastic throughout, underlayment on the 4th floor, black cove base throughout, vermiculite insulation in the attic, and air cell pipe insulation debris. Samples of building materials showed concentrations of chrysotile asbestos ranging from three percent to 75 percent. The vermiculite insulation may have been obtained from the former Robinson Insulation vermiculite exfoliation plant in nearby Minot, North Dakota (addressed in an EPA removal action in 2002) and would therefore contain tremolite-actinolite asbestos.

EPA On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) J. Ackerman determined that Building #9 posed a direct threat to public health and welfare because friable ACMs are present in the heavily vandalized, partially collapsed building and are being released into the environment due to missing walls and windows. Asbestos fibers pose an inhalation threat to persons accessing the Site. Weather events including wind, rain and snow as well as damage caused by scavengers or vandalism will continue to degrade the Site. There is potential for human exposure to Site-related asbestos in the surrounding San Haven area from releases of asbestos into the environment and to anyone who accesses the building or immediate surroundings. Human exposure to these airborne asbestos fibers via inhalation has been proven to cause asbestosis, cancer, mesothelioma, and other respiratory diseases.

EPA mobilized to the Site with the ERRS contractor on September 23, 2021. Over the course of two weeks, the partially collapsed structure was demolished and all debris disposed. Soils were scraped around the former footprint of the building and perimeter where ACM may have been present from Building #9. All cleanup work on ACM and potentially contaminated soils was conducted using adequately wet methods to prevent the migration of asbestos fibers. Approximately 1,865 cubic yards of debris and potentially contaminated soils were disposed as ACM at a landfill permitted to accept friable asbestos (Sawyer Landfill).

During her work on the project, thankfully OSC Ackerman reported no encounters of a paranormal nature. She did say she looks forward to working with the Tribe in additional cleanup at the complex, with or without the assistance of the Ghostbusters!

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CERCLA List Update

CERCLA List of Hazardous Substances Update

The CERCLA List of hazardous substances has been updated to add the Clean Air Act (CAA) HAP 1-Bromopropane, remove five vacated Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) K-code wastes, and various other technical edits.

These changes can be viewed in the updated Consolidated List of Lists.

New CSB Safety Video

CSB Releases New Safety Video Incompatible Chemicals: Explosion at AB Specialty Silicones

The U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) released a new safety video on its investigation into a massive explosion and fire that occurred in May of 2019 at the AB Specialty Silicones facility in Waukegan, IL. The incident killed four workers, destroyed the facility, and caused extensive damage to nearby businesses.

At AB Specialty Silicones, two incompatible chemicals were mixed during production of an emulsion product. The chemicals reacted and produced flammable hydrogen gas that ignited, causing the fatal explosion.

The CSB's core mission activities include conducting incident investigations; formulating preventive or mitigative recommendations based on investigation findings and advocating for their implementation; issuing reports containing the findings, conclusions, and recommendations arising from incident investigations; and conducting studies on chemical hazards. Access the CSB's Investigation Information Page here.

CAMEO Release

CAMEO Chemicals 2.8.0 software update released.

Available as a website, mobile website, desktop program, and an app for iOS and Android mobile devices.

For more details, see the CAMEO Chemicals 2.8.0 page on the NOAA website.

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State Field Changes for Tier2 Submit

The Computer-Aided Management of Emergency Operations (CAMEO) Suite development team is soliciting for any requested Tier2 Submit "State Field" changes for the reporting year 2022. State field requests will also be incorporated into CAMEO Data Manager. If your state or territory will be using Tier2 Submit in any capacity, please have the EPCRA Tier II Program Manager or their representative e-mail the NOAA CAMEO Program Manager (Brianne.Connolly@noaa.gov) to request updates no later than July 1, 2022.

There is often a beta version of Tier2 Submit available each fall, where states and territories that use Tier2 Submit can ensure the new version works well for their filers. Last year's beta testers will be invited again as testers automatically, as will any EPCRA Tier II Program Manager who requests "State Field" changes for report year 2022. Additionally, you can email Brianne.Connolly@noaa.gov if you'd like to be added to the beta tester list.

CISA Updates

CISA ChemLock

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) has launched a new chemical security program, ChemLock. ChemLock is a completely voluntary program that provides facilities with services and tools to help them improve their chemical security posture.

Based on expertise acquired from more than a decade of helping high-risk CFATS facilities enhance their chemical security, the ChemLock program is open to all facilities with dangerous chemicals, regardless of sector. Facilities covered by CFATS can also participate in the ChemLock program. ChemLock's current offerings include:

- On-site chemical security assessments and assistance
- ChemLock fact sheets, best practices, and guidance documents
- Chemical security exercises and drills
- Chemical security training courses
- Other CISA security services, including an introduction to the Cyber Security Evaluation Tool (CSET) and active shooter preparedness training.

Facilities interested in receiving any of these ChemLock services can register through cisa.gov/chemlock, and a representative from CISA will be in touch with you.

Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS) Operational Updates

To date, CISA has received over 104,000 Top-Screen submissions from over 44,000 unique facilities. Of these, CFATS covers 3,266 facilities.

Additionally, the program has completed 4,537 Authorization Inspections, 9,093 Compliance Inspections, and 9,925 Compliance Assistance Visits.

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CWA Hazardous Substance Planning Regulations

EPA Proposes Clean Water Act Hazardous Substance Worst Case Discharge Planning Regulations - Comment Period Extended

On March 10, 2022, EPA Administrator Michael Regan signed a proposed rule to require certain facilities to develop facility response plans for a worst case discharge of Clean Water Act (CWA) hazardous substances, or threat of such a discharge.

EPA has extended the public comment on the proposed rule until July 26, 2022. Comments can be submitted at www.regulations.gov (Docket No.: EPA-HQ-OLEM-2021-0585).

TRI Updates

Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) Webpage Update

A new webpage explains how EPA tracks green chemistry and engineering practices through the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI), and how facilities and others can access the data: www.epa.gov/toxics-release-inventory-tri-program/tri-green-chemistry-and-green-engineering-reporting

Recorded TRI Training Sessions

In preparation for the July 1 TRI reporting deadline for the submission of 2021 toxic chemical management data, EPA hosted the following two webinars:

Using TRI-MEweb to Submit TRI Data, May 12: A live walkthrough of creating, validating, certifying, and submitting a Form R chemical reporting form using the TRI-MEweb software.

*TRI Resources for Facilities, May 17***:** An overview of available TRI resources to assist facilities in submitting high-quality TRI data to EPA. Participants learned how to easily access reporting resources from the TRI website, including the TRI Threshold Screening Tool, regulatory guidance available through the "GuideME" app, details on who to contact for reporting questions.

Both webinar recordings will be available via YouTube soon. In the meantime, please email Swenson.Sarah@epa.gov for a copy.

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CO Abandoned Mining Collaboration Group

An Innovative Partnership to Address Impacts from Colorado Legacy Mining:
The Colorado Abandoned Mine Collaboration Group

The Site Assessment Team within Region 8's Superfund and Emergency Management Division has been leading the Colorado Abandoned Mine Collaboration Group which provides a forum for Federal, State, and local governments, non-profit organizations, and landowners to share expertise and pool resources (financial, staffing, expertise, technologies, etc.). This forum has resulted in the assessment and clean-up of abandoned mines that are adversely impacting Colorado lands and waters. Established in 2007, the group has successfully competed assessments and cleanup actions in 40 watersheds in Colorado.

The stakeholders who participate in any given project vary depending on location and interest. For a project, all stakeholders participate as equals and actively contribute. Federal and State agencies involved in this collaboration include: US Forest Service, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the US Geological Survey, the National Park Service, the US Bureau of Land Management, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, the Colorado Department of Natural Resources, the Colorado Geologic Survey, Colorado Department of Wildlife, and the US Environmental Protection Agency. Local participants include county and city government agencies, Trout Unlimited, and local watershed groups.

Historically, mining in Colorado has played a pivotal role in the establishment of the state and its economic development. Unfortunately, legacy mining has left denuded landscapes and contaminated rivers and streams across the state. Although estimates vary, thousands of abandoned mines are located throughout the state. Many of these abandoned mines are releasing metals and acidity to the surface water which is impacting aquatic life and riparian areas in over 1,500 miles of streams and rivers in Colorado. These sites were mined and abandoned prior to enactment of environmental regulations. Thus, there is limited regulatory authority and funding to address the environmental impacts from historic mining.

Differing and complex regulatory authorities and issues such as mixed federal and private ownership of mining impacted lands has fragmented regulatory responsibilities, impeding the ability of a single State or Federal Agency to implement comprehensive environmental assessments and clean-ups. Furthermore, environmental liability concerns have prevented volunteers from taking action to manage contaminate releases from historic mines.

Pennsylvania Mine (before)

By pooling resources and working together, this group has cooperatively identified and prioritized abandoned mine sites observed to exhibit high potential to impact human and ecological health. The contribution of technical and scientific skills combined with expertise in addressing governmental regulations and requirements has resulted in active assessment and cleanups of watersheds impacted by historic mining across the state of Colorado. This collaboration has resulted in a model which encourages involvement of multiple local stakeholders with regulatory agencies.

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CO Abandoned Mining Collaboration Group, contd.

EPA Region 8 Site Assessment has led the Colorado Mixed Ownership (MO) group to coordinate/spearhead collaboration with partners to identify sites needing additional/assessment and coordinates with respective partners. EPA provides this project management support in addition to providing analytical services, data compilation and reporting, and clean-up action technical support, which frees funding for other entities to use toward clean ups.

This group has effectively, efficiently, collaboratively, and cooperatively completed assessments of watersheds impacted by historic mining, prioritized cleanup actions, encouraged, and supported Good Samaritan mine reclamation projects, provided opportunities for stream restoration, completed cleanup actions, engaged multiple stakeholder involvement, and encouraged the use of sound science and engineering principles. This group is currently reaching out to other states including Montana, South Dakota, and Idaho, as well as EPA Region 10 to share information about how this group was established, it's foundation, partnerships, collaboration efforts, elements of success, and components of Good Samaritan project development.

Pennsylvania Mine (after)

If you are interested in learning more about this collaboration group, please contact Jean Wyatt at wyatt.jean@epa.gov or (303) 808-2045.

BNSF Resources

BNSF Hazmat offers both in-person classes (minimum class size of 20 responders) and web-based training for individuals and groups. We hope your department will utilize one of these options in the future. Learn more about the training and how to register here.

BNSF also provides hazardous materials traffic flow reports to fire departments and emergency managers. These reports provide a listing of the hazardous materials that BNSF transported through a City or County over the last 12 months. You can request a hazardous materials traffic flow report here.

Another tool for emergency responders and managers is the AskRail app. This app provides responders at no cost with immediate access to accurate, timely data about what type of hazardous materials a railcar is carrying so they can make an informed decision about how to respond to a rail emergency. Get more information about the AskRail app here.

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Training Opportunities

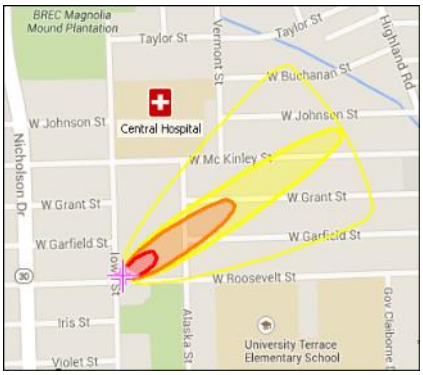
2022 Schedule for the *CAMEO for Facility Hazard Analysis Class*

There will be one additional session in 2022:

Session 3: Oct. 19 - Nov. 16 (Webinars on Wednesdays)

Zoom sessions/webinars begin at: 8 am PDT/9 am MDT/10 am CDT/11 am EDT

The *CAMEO for Facility Hazard Analysis Class* is a mix of self-paced online classroom lessons and scheduled live webinars. The class operates on an online class platform (Ruzuku) and consists of weekly hands-on lessons and activities, "how to" videos and Q & A Zoom sessions with two experienced instructors. This class is a month long and starts with a one-hour, introductory webinar on the first day of class to introduce the instructors and to explain the class logistics**.** Students will receive new lessons in the online class platform each week and will have a week to complete them, on their schedule, before attending a webinar to reinforce the lesson, ask questions and share their screens with their class colleagues. Each lesson includes a video tutorial and activities to complete before the webinar.



If you would like to register for one of the Class Sessions in 2022, please fill out the registration form.

If you have questions about the class or need more information, please contact Carol Way.

Overview of SPCC and EPCRA Webinar for Tribal Partners

This EPA-hosted session will provide a basic overview of the prevention and preparedness programs for oil spills under SPCC and chemical emergencies under EPCRA. The objective is to provide attendees with a general awareness of the SPCC and EPCRA programs and their associated regulatory requirements. The session will also include a question and answer segment where participants will be able to interact with the SPCC and EPCRA national program managers.

Participants should only register for *one* of the offerings below, as all sessions will cover the same material.

June 30, 2022, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM EDT, Register here
September 22, 2022, 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM EDT, Register here

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EPA Covid Resources

EPA is updating its coronavirus website to include new resources for state, local, and tribal agencies and intergovernmental associations. These resources will help EPA and its partners continue to provide the environmental protection the nation depends on without interruption during the coronavirus public health emergency.

EPA's Coronavirus (COVID-19) Resources for State, Local, and Tribal Agencies and Associations contain important information on grants, enforcement and compliance programs, water infrastructure, and a host of other issues important to effective environmental program delivery. The webpage will be updated regularly with new information.

EPA is also continuing to update resources on its website and add to the list of surface disinfectant products that are effective against SARS-CoV-2. To contact EPA about any coronavirus (COVID-19) issue, you may do so here: https://www.epa.gov/coronavirus/forms/contact-us-about-coronavirus-covid-19.

Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Documents

EPCRA Requirements: http://www.epa.gov/epcra

NRT Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning Guidance: https://www.nrt.org/Main/Resources.aspx?ResourceType=Hazards%20(Oil,%20Chemical,%20Radiological,%20etc)&ResourceSection=2

Actions to Improve Chemical Facility Safety and Security – A Shared Commitment: https://www.osha.gov/chemicalexecutiveorder/index.html

EPCRA On-Line Training: https://www.epa.gov/epcra/epcra-non-section-313-online-training-states-tribes-lepcs-local-planners-and-responders

EPCRA Fact Sheets: https://www.epa.gov/epcra/epcra-fact-sheets

EPCRA Regional Contacts: https://www.epa.gov/epcra/epcra-regional-contacts

EPCRA, RMP & Oil Information Center: https://www.epa.gov/epcra/forms/contact-us-about-emergency-planning-and-community-right-know-act-epcra

TIER2 Submit: https://www.epa.gov/epcra/tier2-submit-software

LEPC/TEPC Handbook: https://www.epa.gov/epcra/national-lepc-tepc-handbook#full

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EPA Region 8 Preparedness Program

We will increase EPA Region 8 preparedness through:

- Planning, training, and developing outreach relations with federal agencies, states, tribes, local organizations, and the regulated community.

- Assisting in the development of EPA Region 8 preparedness planning and response capabilities through the RSC, IMT, RRT, OPA, and RMP.

- Working with facilities to reduce accidents and spills through education, inspections, and enforcement.

To contact a member of our Region 8 EPA Preparedness Unit team, review our programs or view our organization chart, click this link.

Region 8 SERC Contact Information

Colorado
Ms. Amanda Hettinger, Co-Chair
Phone: 303-692-2000
amanda.hettinger@state.co.us

Mr. Mike Willis, Co-Chair
Phone: 720-852-6694
mike.willis@state.co.us

Montana
Ms. Delila Bruno, Co-Chair
Phone: 406-324-4777
dbruno@mt.gov

Mr. John Rasmann, Co-Chair
Phone: 406-444-5328
jrasmann2@mt.gov

Utah
Ms. Kim Shelley , Co-Chair
Phone: 801-536-4404
kshelley@utah.gov

Mr. Jess Anderson Co-Chair
Phone: 801-965-4062
jessanderson@utah.gov

North Dakota
Mr. Darin Hanson, Chair
Phone: 701-328-8100
nddes@nd.gov

South Dakota
Mr. Dustin Willett, Chair
Phone: 800-433-2288
Contact: Kelsey.Newling@state.sd.us

Wyoming
Mr. Dale Heggem, Chair
Phone: 307-777-7321
dale.heggem@wyo.gov

RMP Region 8 Reading Room: (303) 312-6345

RMP Reporting Center: The Reporting Center can answer questions about software or installation problems. The RMP Reporting Center is available from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday - Friday:(703) 227-7650 or email RMPRC@epacdx.net.

RMP: https://www.epa.gov/rmp **EPCRA:** https://www.epa.gov/epcra

Emergency Response: https://www.epa.gov/emergency-response

Lists of Lists (Updated April 2022)

Questions? Call the Superfund, TRI, EPCRA, RMP, and Oil Information Center at (800) 424-9346 (Monday-Thursday).

To report an oil or chemical spill, call the National Response Center at (800) 424-8802.

U.S. EPA Region 8
1595 Wynkoop Street (8SEM-EM)
Denver, CO 80202-1129
800-227-8917

This newsletter provides information on the EPA Risk Management Program, EPCRA, SPCC/FRP (Facility Response Plan) and other issues relating to Accidental Release Prevention Requirements. The information should be used as a reference tool, not as a definitive source of compliance information. Compliance regulations are published in 40 CFR Part 68 for CAA section 112(r) Risk Management Program, 40 CFR Part 355/370 for

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