



Interoffice Communication

To : OSHA File
From : A. H. Sather
Date : June 9, 1982
Subject : EMERGENCY VCM RELEASE REPORT

On June 7, 1982 an emergency VCM release was experienced in the old reactor module during preparations for compliance testing of D-700 reactor. I called the OSHA area office in Jackson, MS. at about 2:00 p.m. on June 8, 1982 to report the release and the overexposures of nine Conoco employees. I read the following prepared statement to John Hall of the Industrial Hygiene Section of the OSHA office.

"In accordance with the vinyl chloride standard 1910.1017 (n)(2), we are calling to report a brief release of vinyl chloride to the atmosphere on June 7, 1982.

The release occurred at 12:55 p.m. and lasted about 2 minutes the release exposed several of our plant employees to levels they could smell. All employees cleared the contaminated area.

At the time of the release, D-700 reactor was at atmospheric pressure dumping finished product to downstream processing equipment and the inlet valve to the reactor evacuation jet was open. The valve that connects the D-700 reactor recovery line to the common reactor recovery line in the unit indicated closed in the control room and all safety interlocks were satisfied. The lead operator opened the recovery valve on D-600 to vent it in accordance with the operating procedure to the closed recovery system. The release occurred as a direct result of a mechanical failure of D-700 reactor recovery header valve actuator. This failure caused the valve to be partially open when it indicated closed in the control room."

John asked several questions after I read the statement. He first asked me to reidentify the name and location of the company. He then asked what we did to correct the problem. I told him we fixed the valve. He asked how many people were exposed. I told him nine. He asked if we were providing medical follow-up. I told him we were making it available to everyone who was exposed. I asked if there would be anything else required. He said that his supervisor was out of the office but he didn't think any follow up reporting would be required.

He requested my name and telephone number in case more information was needed. I also gave him Teresa Pounders' phone number as an alternate if I could not be reached as my extension.

A. H. Sather

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c: JF, CRM, PEM, RAF, JUV