

To : File
From : Dave Mahler
Subject: SUPERFUND Reporting

At 6:00 p.m. on August 27, 1985 I called the National Response Center to report a discharge of Vinyl chloride to the atmosphere. Easign Nauce accepted the report. After the usual formalities, he asked where the discharge had occurred. I told him that the discharge had occurred at the plant, and that it had dissipated into the air. He asked if there were any bodies of water nearby. I said that there was a creek next to the plant, but the discharge dissipated into the air. I told him that the discharge occurred at 2:30 p.m. that day, and that we had lost between 1,000 and 7,000 lbs of VCM. He asked what had caused the discharge. I said that we were charging a reactor, a valve malfunctioned and Vinyl chloride discharged into the reactor cleaning system. The reactor cleaning system overpressured and ~~the~~ discharged to the sewer. He asked where the sewer went to. I said that it went to our wastewater treatment system. He asked what was done x

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Weather conditions at the time of the

discharge were:

Barometric pressure : 29.98 ~~in.~~ in. Hg.

Temperature : 97 °F

Winds : Variable, 0-4 MPH

Conditions : Partly Cloudy

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At 10:15 a.m. on August 29 I received a call from Ray Wilkerson, EPA, Atlanta. He said that he wanted to follow up on the leak we reported on ~~at~~ 8/27. He asked if we had determined the quantity of the discharge, and I said that it looked like we discharged 5,000 lbs VCM. He asked what happened, and I ~~explained the~~ ~~sequence of events to him, briefly in the same~~ ~~manner as I had explained on 8/27~~

said that we were charging a reactor and a valve malfunctioned open. I said that the valve malfunctioned in a ^{such} way ~~such~~ that the panel operator and the process controller could not have known that the valve was open. The VCM discharged into the reactor cleaning system, which is an atmospheric system that contains hot caustic. The VCM then came out of a relief valve that was set to relieve at 37 psig, and it discharged to the sewer. I added that the relief valve was not meant to discharge VCM, and that it was there to protect employees from being burned by

hot carstz. VCM is not supposed to get into the reactor cleaning system; the presence of the relief valve was coincidental to the discharge. He asked if we had notified the State, and I said that we would write them a letter. He said OK.

Dave Nahby
Environmental Engineer

C: JF, CRM, PEM, RAF, JCL, WCM

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