



Interoffice Communication

To : File

From : Dave Mahler

Date : January 14, 1983

Subject : SUPERFUND REPORTING

At 3:55 p.m. on January 13, 1983 I reported a vinyl chloride release to the air to the National Response Center (800-424-8802). Ensign King accepted the report. After the usual formalities, I told him that we had a relief valve discharge of vinyl chloride from a reactor. The vinyl chloride dissipated in the air and did not get into the water. He asked if anyone was hurt, and I said no. I said that we estimate that 200 lbs. of vinyl chloride was discharged. He asked what was done to stop the release, and I said that the plant operators noticed the release almost immediately and stopped the release. The release lasted for approximately 10 seconds.

Weather conditions at the time of the release were:

Barometric Pressure: 30.01 in Hg
Wind : South, 0 MPH
Temperature : 56° F
Conditions : Clear Skies

At 8:30 a.m. on January 14, 1983 Ray Wilkerson from EPA in Atlanta called me for an explanation of the release. I told him that a reactor had been overfilled with liquid and it overpressured through a relief valve to the atmosphere. The release appeared to have been caused by operator error, and only lasted for about 10 seconds. He asked if our plant was evacuated. I said that our plant's vinyl chloride monitoring system picked up a couple of high readings immediately after the release, but the vinyl chloride dissipated within a couple of minutes. There was one operator near the release who may have been overexposed to vinyl chloride.

David L. Mahler
Environmental Engineer

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c: JF, CRM, PEM, RAF, VEM, JCL, WLM

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