

CONDEA Vista Company
Highway 25
Aberdeen, Mississippi 39730-0091
(601) 369-8111



April 7, 1998

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED
P 280 055 425

Mr. Mohammad Yassin, PE
Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
Office of Pollution Control
P. O. Box 10385
Jackson, MS 39289-0385

Dear Mr. Yassin:

As required by 40 CFR, Section 61.65 (a), this letter provides the details of a release of vinyl chloride monomer (VCM) from CONDEA Vista Company's Aberdeen, Mississippi PVC plant.

At approximately 3:50 p.m. on April 6, 1998, an operator disconnected a railcar from the vinyl chloride unloading system. The unloading valve on the railcar was not completely closed resulting in a release of vinyl chloride to the atmosphere. The release was approximately 800 pounds.

The release was detected by a gas detection system that immediately set off the deluge system in the unloading area. After the initial attempts by the operators failed to stop the release, an in-plant response team was able to secure the valve and stop the release. During the release and response activities, the area downwind of the release was monitored for vinyl chloride and no indications of significant quantities of vinyl chloride were detected beyond plant boundaries.

The National Response Center was notified of the release. Although there were no off-site impacts due to the release, the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency was notified as a courtesy. A number of plant employees were identified as having the possibility of exposure to vinyl chloride and were offered follow up medical surveillance as required by the OSHA Vinyl Chloride Standard.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kenneth G. Akins".

Kenneth G. Akins
Environmental Manager