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In this issue we bring you information on HOTZONE, CERCLA/EPCRA reporting for farms, MARPLOT 5.1, caring for first responders, local government for responses, and Hurricane Harvey. -- Steve



Training for Responders by Responders



18th Annual HOTZONE Conference

Local, state, and federal partners put together another great conference in 2017.



The HOTZONE Conference, held each October in Houston, TX, offers training to attendees on hazmat response and planning, as well as a vendor show with over 50 companies sharing the latest technologies to the attendees.

Over 70 nationally-acclaimed speakers provided workshops on a

wide variety of topics including chemical-specific response, hazmat chemistry, PPE selection, monitoring and detection equipment, mitigation, ICS, and CAMEO.

HOTZONE also continues to host an LEPC-specific track of workshops.

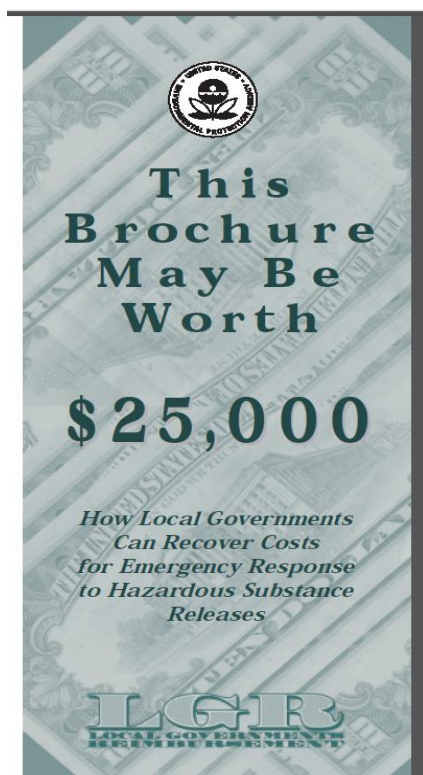
Over 670 people attended the conference, with over 365 on scholarships provided by HOTZONE, our 5 State partners, and other entities and individuals. To view information about HOTOZNE, including future conference dates, visit www.hotzone.org.

Success Stories

Local Government Reimbursement

EPA's Local Governments Reimbursement Program (LGR) enables local governments to recoup costs spent in emergency response to hazardous substances.

The program allows locals to apply to up to \$25,000 worth of reimbursement per incident, enabling local governments that do not have funds available to pay for hazmat response actions.



City of Benton, AR

Awarded \$19,418.00 for costs incurred while responding to a hazardous substance release in September, 2016.

City of Stuttgart, AR

Awarded \$880.68 for costs incurred while responding to a hazardous substance release in March, 2016.

Application for reimbursement through the LGR Program is relatively quick and simple, and is available to all local communities. For information on how to apply, visit

<https://www.epa.gov/emergency-response/local-governments-reimbursement-program>

Editor's Note: I met Marissa and her mother, Terri, at the Region 7 LEPC Conference in Kansas City this summer. Marissa is an amazing bundle of energy, which gives us hope for the next generation.



From the Shawnee, KS Community Newsletter:

While we often hear sirens on the road, our busy schedules don't always leave time to think about the men and women behind them. That's what makes Marissa Hitt, the young founder of M.O.V.E. (Motivating Others to Value and Encourage First Responders and their Families), so inspiring.

"Every time I hear a siren, I pray for the police officers, firefighters, and emergency personnel going out on calls," Marissa writes. "I also pray for the people they are going to help."

Marissa created M.O.V.E. to "appreciate and help keep...first responders healthy for their families." The organization has collected items to support first responders, such as:

- Individually wrapped healthy snack items
- Supplies for firefighter cancer prevention kits
 - ◦Unscented baby wipes
 - ◦Small bottles of Dawn® dishwashing soap
 - ◦Small scrub brushes
- Small tubs of antibacterial wipes



From Marissa and Terri:

First responders are ordinary people who do extraordinary jobs.

When they go off to work every day, they don't know whether it will be the last time they see their loved ones again.

First responders don't have the option of deciding whether they will respond to a call.

It is their job.

I feel safer knowing there are brave men and women in the world who handle emergencies and are there if I need them.

Every time I hear a siren, I pray for the

police officers, fire fighters, and emergency personnel going out.

M.O.V.E. was created to appreciate and help keep first responders



healthy for their families and our community.

My goal is to spread nationwide and provide support to first responders by providing healthy individually wrapped snacks since they often miss



meals, hand sanitizers and antibacterial wipes for police officers, and Cancer Prevention Kits

consisting of different wipes, trash bags, and a scrub brush for fire fighters.



I have been honored to get many of these kits on fire trucks for the first time, allowing fire fighters to clean up at the site and eliminating carcinogens before they get back in their trucks.

To learn more about what Marissa is accomplishing, go to www.motivateothersvalueencourage@gmail.com, on Instagram at [@move4responders](https://www.instagram.com/move4responders), or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/motivatingotherstovalueandencouragefirstresponders>

TIER II SUBMITTALS IN THE STATE OF TEXAS

Due to the ongoing response and recovery efforts from Hurricane Harvey, the TCEQ has decided to postpone the rollout of the new Tier II Online reporting system until after April of 2018.

TCEQ will continue to require Tier II reports be submitted using the most current version of the Tier2Submit software program.

Customer Numbers (CN), Regulated Entity Numbers (RN) and TXT2 numbers will still be required to submit your Tier II report.

Report submission training classes will continue to be held at the current locations and dates, but will now cover submitting reports using the Tier2Submit software instead of the new online system. Currently, the schedule for classes in Texas includes:

- Abilene -- Tuesday, November 14, 2017
- Addison -- Thursday, November 02, 2017
- Amarillo -- Monday, November 13, 2017
- Austin/San Antonio -- Tuesday, October 24, 2017 & Thursday, January 4, 2018
- Austin -- Thursday, October 26, 2017, Wednesday, November 08, 2017, Friday, December 08, 2017, Wednesday, January 10, 2018, & Tuesday, January 30, 2018
- Beaumont/Orange -- Wednesday, November 15, 2017
- Brownsville -- Tuesday, December 5, 2017
- Corpus Christi -- Wednesday, December 06, 2017
- Dallas -- Tuesday, October 31, 2017
- Denton -- Wednesday, November 01, 2017
- El Paso -- Monday, December 05, 2017
- Houston -- Monday, October 23, 2017, Tuesday, October 24, 2017
- Lubbock -- Wednesday, November 15, 2017
- Midland -- Tuesday, December 12, 2017
- Tyler -- Thursday, November 16, 2017
- Waco -- Wednesday, December 13, 2017

For more information, including registration and specific locations, visit the TCEQ Tier II Training page at <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/tier2/training.html>

TCEQ Tier II Reporting Program, 512-239-5060 or 800-452-2791
Tier2Help@tceq.texas.gov, www.texastier2.org

Dear CAMEO Community Members,

MARPLOT 5.1 is now available for download at <https://www.epa.gov/cameo/marplot-software>.

Note: If you're upgrading to MARPLOT 5.1 from a previous version, follow the instructions on the download page to ensure your data is transferred successfully to the new version.

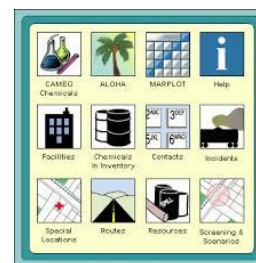


What's changed in MARPLOT 5.1?

- Added ability to move objects to a different layer (if the data fields match)
- Added geodatabase files to the list of supported import file types
- Enhanced import to provide the option to import layers into folders
- Created a new MARPLOT file type (DBZ) that allows folders from the panel to be included in the export file
- Modified the new layer function to allow cloning of an existing layer (to use its settings as a template for the new layer)
- Added ability to include links to local files on the computer in popup notes and info boxes
- Switched to SQLite as the internal database structure (rather than DBF)
- Added support for Date and Date-Time fields
- Improved time zone options in the Date and Time map extra (as well as the Date/Time data fields)
- Revised basemap options, including new ESRI basemaps and NOAA nautical charts
- Added enhanced support for U.S. National Grid coordinates in export and import
- Switched to a new offline basemap tile provider
- Enhanced search to allow object popup notes to be included as an option
- Added ability to show object popup notes and coordinates in the search results (and therefore also included them in the Copy Table function)
- Updated U.S. Boundaries layers to 2016 data
- Made improvements to the installers and the data upgrade process for existing users
- Added enhancements for program stability and improvements for program speed
- Made additional improvements to the program interface and fixed bugs

Want to know if your software is up to date?

The latest versions of the CAMEO software suite desktop programs are ALOHA 5.4.7, CAMEO Chemicals 2.7, CAMEOfm 3.3, MARPLOT 5.1, and Tier2 Submit 2016. We also have a CAMEO Chemicals app (version 2.7.01) for mobile phones and tablets, which you can get on Google Play and in the App Store.



Regards,
The CAMEO Team at EPA and NOAA

CERCLA and EPCRA Reporting Requirements for Air Releases of Hazardous Substances from Animal Waste at Farms

Attention!
Farms with continuous releases must submit their initial continuous release notification on November 15, 2017.

Overview

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA) require facilities to report releases of hazardous substances that are equal to or greater than their reportable quantities (RQ) within any 24-hour period.

Following a hazardous substance reportable release, a facility owner or operator must notify federal authorities under CERCLA and state and local authorities under EPCRA.

Reporting Exemption for Animal Waste and Resulting Litigation

On December 18, 2008, EPA published a final rule that exempted most farms from certain release reporting requirements in CERCLA and EPCRA.

Specifically, the rule exempted farms releasing

hazardous substances from animal waste to the air above threshold levels from reporting under CERCLA.

For EPCRA reporting, the rule exempted reporting of such releases if the farm had fewer animals than a large concentrated animal feeding operation (CAFO).

In short, all farms were relieved from reporting hazardous substance air releases from animal waste under CERCLA, and only large CAFOs were subject to EPCRA reporting.

A number of citizen groups challenged the validity of the final rule in the U.S. Court of Appeals.

On April 11, 2017, the Court struck down the final rule, eliminating the reporting exemptions for farms.

EPA sought additional time from the Court to delay the effective date so that EPA could develop guidance materials to help farmers understand their reporting obligations.

Unless the Court takes further action, the court's ruling takes effect on November 15, 2017.

Purpose

EPA developed this interim guidance to assist farms in complying with requirements to report air releases of hazardous

substances from animal waste under CERCLA and EPCRA.

EPA welcomes comments and suggestions from the regulated community and the public on these resources and other additional resources that should be included here.

Please email comments or suggestions by November 24, 2017, to:

cercla103.guidance@epa.gov

EPA will revise this guidance, as necessary, to reflect additional information to assist farm owners and operators to meet reporting obligations.

Frequent Questions

What are my requirements to report air releases from animal waste under CERCLA section 103?

Farm owners/operators must comply with CERCLA section 103 reporting requirements for air releases of hazardous substances from animal waste at their farms.

Farm owners/ operators must notify the NRC at 1-800-424-8802 when their facilities have air releases of hazardous substances from animal wastes that are equal to or greater than their reportable quantities (RQs) within any 24-hour period.

Alternatively, you can follow a streamlined reporting process known as “continuous release reporting.”

This requires the facility owner or operator to:

- Call the NRC and identify your reportable release as an “initial continuous release notification;”
- Submit an initial written notification to the EPA Regional Office;
- One year later submit an additional follow-up written notification to the EPA Regional Office.

For more information on continuous release reporting, see: How do I report a continuous release under CERCLA? and Resources.

What are my requirements to report under EPCRA section 304?

EPA interprets the statute to exclude farms that use substances in “routine agricultural operations” from reporting under EPCRA section 304.

EPA intends to conduct a rulemaking to clarify its interpretation of “used in routine agricultural operations” as it pertains to EPCRA reporting requirements.

When do I have to comply?

Unless the Court takes further action, the court’s ruling takes effect on November 15, 2017.

Starting on this date, farms releasing hazardous substances to air from animal wastes, equal to or greater than their RQs, within any 24-hour period, must notify the NRC.

For farms with continuous releases, this means that the initial continuous release notification needs to be made as of the effective date of the Court action (currently November 15, 2017).

What substances need to be reported?

Typical hazardous substances associated with animal wastes include ammonia and hydrogen sulfide.

Both ammonia and hydrogen sulfide have a reportable quantity of 100 lbs.

If a farm releases ammonia and/or hydrogen sulfide in amounts \geq the reportable quantity (100 lbs) within a 24-hour period, then the farm owner or operator must notify the NRC.

Do I have to report when I apply fertilizers or pesticides to crops?

No, farm owners/operators do not need to report the normal application of fertilizers (including normal application of manure as a fertilizer) or the handling, storage or application of pesticide products registered under the Federal Insecticide,

Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA).

However, under CERCLA section 103, any spills or accidents involving these substances must be immediately reported to the NRC when they meet or exceed the RQ.

Do I have to report if I am participating in the EPA’s Animal Feeding Operation Air Compliance Agreement?

At this time, farm owners/operators in compliance with their Animal Feeding Operation Air Compliance Agreement (70 FR 4958) are not expected to report air releases of hazardous substances from animal wastes under CERCLA and EPCRA.

Per their Agreement, participants must report air releases of hazardous substances equal to or exceeding the hazardous substances’ reportable quantities under CERCLA when EPA completes the National Air Emissions Monitoring Study.

How do I estimate the releases for reporting?

Some farms that raise animals will have reportable releases of ammonia and/or hydrogen sulfide (i.e. release of \geq 100 lbs in a 24-hour period) from animal wastes. These resources may assist farmers in estimating emissions.

EPA recognizes that it will be challenging for farmers to report releases

from animal wastes because there is no generally accepted methodology for estimating emission quantities at this time.

CERCLA section 103 allows “continuous releases” to be reported in ranges.

EPA understands that farmers may need to report their releases in broad ranges that reflect the high degree of uncertainty and variability of these releases.

How can I reduce emissions?

EPA and the USDA developed [a reference guide](#) that provides options for improving air quality from livestock and poultry operations.

The guide provides a compilation of conservation measures for reducing air pollutant emissions and/or reducing air quality impacts from livestock and poultry operations.

Who do I notify if I need to report?

You must immediately notify the NRC when you have a release of any CERCLA hazardous substance at or above its reportable quantity within any 24-hour period.

However, there is an exception for the normal application of fertilizers or the handling, storage or application of pesticide products as described above.

Can I request an extension?

No, CERCLA section 103 requires the facility owner or

operator to immediately notify the NRC of a reportable release of a hazardous substance.

The one exception is for farm owners/operators participating in the Agency’s Animal Feeding Operation Air Compliance Agreement, and that are in compliance with their Agreements.

Do I have to notify the NRC every time my emissions exceed the reportable quantity in a 24-hour period?

No. If your farm has releases that are continuous and stable in quantity and rate, you can follow a streamlined reporting process known as “continuous release reporting.”

EPA considers emissions from animal waste to be continuous and stable in quantity and rate, and therefore eligible for this streamlined reporting option.

You may follow these steps to report air emissions from animal wastes (e.g. ammonia and hydrogen sulfide releases):

Step 1: Notify the NRC. In order to qualify as a continuous release notification, the caller must inform the NRC representative that this is an “initial continuous release notification.” Provide the NRC representative with:

- The name and location of the farm

- The name(s) of the hazardous substance(s) released

The NRC representative will provide an identification number (CR-ERNS) for your farm.

You will have to use this number for any follow-up report or notification that is required under the continuous release reporting requirements.

Note: The NRC does not require personally identifiable information, such as an address for a private residence.

As an alternative, a generic location (such as name of city/town and state) may be sufficient.

Step 2: Submit an initial written notification to the EPA Regional Office.

Submit an initial written notification to the EPA Regional Office for the area where the release occurs, within 30 days of the call to the NRC.

Farms can use the [continuous release reporting form](#) to provide the initial written notification.

Please note that this continuous release form is intended for multiple sectors and provides directions to send information to the EPA Regional Offices and to LEPCs and SERCs.

Farms not reporting under EPCRA should not send information to the LEPCs and SERCs.

EPA is developing a streamlined continuous release reporting form for

farm facility owners and operators and plans to make this form available once it is finalized.

Step 3: A one-time first anniversary follow-up report to the EPA Regional Office.

Within 30 days of the first anniversary date of the initial written notification (i.e., the first continuous release report), the person in charge of the farm must submit a one-time anniversary report to the EPA Regional Office.

The farm owner/operator must verify and update the information initially submitted for each of the hazardous substances reported to the NRC and to the EPA Regional Office.

This follow-up report should be re-certified by the person in charge of the farm.

[EPA's guide Reporting Requirements for Continuous Releases of Hazardous Substances](#) includes forms to assist you with developing written reports.

The guide provides an overview of the information required for the initial and first anniversary follow-up reports.

Are there additional continuous release reporting requirements?

There are two additional types of continuous release reporting requirements:

- statistically significant increase (SSI) notification and
- notification of changes to previously submitted continuous release information.

You must immediately notify the NRC of any statistically significant increases (SSI) or of a change in previously submitted release information. This is most likely to be triggered by:

- an increase in the number of animals maintained on the farm (beyond the range used for the initial report) or
- a significant change (or disruption) in waste handling systems or procedures.

This is an ongoing requirement.

What is an SSI?

An SSI is an episodic release of a hazardous substance that exceeds the release quantity described in the upper bound of the normal range of the facility's continuous release report. The normal range includes all releases of a hazardous substance (from all sources at the facility) occurring over any 24-hour period under normal operating conditions during the preceding year.

Only those releases that are both continuous and stable in quantity and rate may be included in the normal range.

How often do I need to estimate emissions?

You must annually review emissions from the farm. You'll also need to estimate emissions following any significant changes in operations that may result in SSI in emissions.

A farm owner/operator filed the continuous release and one-time anniversary report to comply with CERCLA section 103 for their facility before the 2008 exemption. If the information is still valid, do they have to file again?

No, if there have been no SSI in emissions or other changes to the report filed before 2008, then the farm owner/operator need not submit another report.

For more information on this guidance, and to find the calculation estimators for the various livestock, visit the EPA site at:

<https://www.epa.gov/epcra/cercla-and-epcra-reporting-requirements-air-releases-hazardous-substances-animal-waste-farms>



AND FINALLY...

Thanks to all the local first responders and community leaders on the Texas Coast who worked tirelessly to protect the citizens in their areas during Hurricane Harvey.



Additionally, thanks to all the State and Federal employees who supported those operations under ESF-10, including emergency responses, water and waste water assessments, recovery of orphaned containers and other efforts.

In the past twenty-five years, Region 6 has experienced several large events – The Columbia Space Shuttle, Hurricanes Katrina, Ike, Rita, Gustav, Harvey, the Oklahoma City Bombing, and Deepwater Horizon.”

And each time, local, state, federal, industry, and volunteer efforts have worked together to respond and recover effectively from those events.



State EPCRA / LEPC Coordinators and SERC Contacts

Arkansas	Kenny Harmon	501-683-6700	kenny.harmon@adem.arkansas.gov
Louisiana	Gene Dunegan	225-925-6113	gene.dunegan@dps.la.gov
New Mexico	Henry Jolly	505-476-6240	henry.jolly@state.nm.us
Oklahoma	Tom Bergman Bonnie McKelvey	405-702-1013 405-521-2481	tom.bergman@deq.ok.gov bonnie.mckelvey@oem.ok.gov
Texas	Bernardine Zimmerman Bryan Becknel	800-452-2791 512-424-5237	Bernardine.zimmerman@tceq.texas.gov bryan.becknel@dps.texas.gov

Emergency Response Numbers

Arkansas Dept. of Emergency Management	800-322-4012
Louisiana State Police	877-925-6595
New Mexico State Police	505-827-9126
Oklahoma Dept. of Environmental Quality	800-522-0206
Texas Environmental Hotline	800-832-8224
National Response Center	800-424-8802
EPA Region 6	866-372-7745
CHEMTREC	800-424-9300



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