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CONTRA COSTA
 HAZARDOUS
 MATERIALS PROGRAMS

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ENTERED

COMPLAINT, INCIDENT, AND NOTIFICATION REPORT FORM

Type (Circle One): C I N

CASE NUMBER: 180812-02

Received Date: 08/12/18 Received Time: 21:11 Received By: TAJ Lead: TAJ

Incident Date: 08/12/18 Incident Time: Assigned to: Assigned Date:

COMPLAINANT / REPORTING PARTY:

Name: Con Fire Dispatch RP is from Facility Anonymous

Organization:

Primary Phone Number: (925) 933-1313 Secondary Phone Number:

Email:

Address:

City: State: Zip Code:

FACILITY / LOCATION OF INCIDENT:

Name: CUPA Facility I.D.:

Phone Number:

Address: N. Broadway/Suisun Ave. Unit:

City: Bay Point State: CA Zip Code:

Location Description: Shell ponds remediation site; PG&E property owner

INITIAL INCIDENT DESCRIPTION:

Vegetation fire on/near remediation site

INCIDENT TYPE / DESCRIPTION:

Community Warning System Level (Circle Highest Level): N/A 0 1 2 3

FACILITY	ISO / MCAR	TRANSPORTATION	MISCELLANEOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> Fire or Explosion <input type="checkbox"/> Spill or Release <input type="checkbox"/> Startup or Shutdown <input type="checkbox"/> Flaring <input type="checkbox"/> Upset	<input type="checkbox"/> Fatality (one or more) <input type="checkbox"/> > 24 hrs. Hospital, 3 or more people <input type="checkbox"/> Flammable Vapor Cloud > 5,000 lbs.	<input type="checkbox"/> Tank Truck <input type="checkbox"/> Railroad <input type="checkbox"/> On Water <input type="checkbox"/> Pipeline <input type="checkbox"/> Fuel Tank	<input type="checkbox"/> Storm Drain/Creek <input type="checkbox"/> Drug Lab <input type="checkbox"/> Disposal/Abandonment <input type="checkbox"/> Odor Complaint <input type="checkbox"/> Other:

Time Enroute to Scene: Time Arrived On Scene: Time Departed From Scene:

REFERRED TO OTHER AGENCY:



DTSC STATE FUNDING (if applicable): CLU/ERER Number:	STORMWATER STATUS (if applicable): <input type="checkbox"/> Actual Discharge <input type="checkbox"/> Potential Discharge
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AGENCIES ON SCENE OR NOTIFIED:

<u>Agency Type</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>O/N</u>	<u>Contact Person</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>	<u>Case Number</u>
Fire Department	Contra Costa County FPD	O	BC Jim Huntze	(925) 383-5037	
Law Enforcement					
Air District					
State OES					
	Con Fire Haz Mat 21	O	Capt. Steve Sawyer		

REPORT:

See attached report narrative.

Additional Required Items: Bill of Lading, Request for Invoice, and Site Safety Plan

Trisha A. Johnson 8/21/2018

Report Prepared by: _____



INCIDENT REPORT

August 12, 2018

INCIDENT NO. 180812-02

INCIDENT DATE: August 12, 2018

LOCATION: Former Shell Ponds Remediation Site
N. Broadway/Suisun Ave., Bay Point (Incident Command Post)

SUMMARY

At 21:11, CCHSHMP (County Haz Mat) received a dispatch notification from Contra Costa Fire Protection District (Con Fire) regarding a vegetation fire in Bay Point near the former Shell Ponds Remediation Site. The battalion chief did not need County Haz Mat to conduct downwind air monitoring, unless the wind shifts, but he wanted to discuss the "next steps" if the winds start blowing towards the community near the Incident Command Post. The Incident Command Post (ICP) was established at N. Broadway and Suisun Ave. in Bay Point, which was not downwind from the fire at the time. Incident Commander was Battalion Chief Jim Huntze. Responding CCHSHMP Team Members were Trisha Johnson, Maria Duazo, and John Pham.

The County Haz Mat Team members proceeded to the scene in HM1/6824 and met up with OES HM21/Con Fire Engine 87 at the ICP. The point of contact for the Con Fire Haz Mat Team was Captain Steve Sawyer. County Haz Mat and Con Fire discussed BC Huntze's concerns of sending firefighters downrange at a remediation site and not knowing what is burning and hazards associated with contaminated soil burning. Prior to County Haz Mat's arrival the vegetation fire was greater in scale. BC Huntze did not send firefighters to extinguish the fire until there was more information of what could be burning. At the time, fire crews were only monitoring the fire and appeared to be self-mitigating and dying down. In addition, there was an ongoing discussion on whether it was prudent to issue a shelter-in-place for the fire.

Property Owner and Hazards of Remediation Site

En route to the incident scene, T. Johnson contacted the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) Duty Officer to get more information on the Shell Ponds Remediation Site. At one point, County Haz Mat had knowledge that DTSC had overseen the cleanup at the site. County Haz Mat wanted to know who the current property owner is and if there is a contact who can give more information on the status of the cleanup and the hazardous constituents that were being remediated there. Unfortunately, there was no one available at DTSC to answer the questions. While there was a PG&E representative, the individual was only a field technician and did not have detailed knowledge on the remediation site owned by PG&E. The question of what hazards could be encountered at the area of the fire were left unanswered when County Haz Mat left the scene.

Shelter-in-Place versus Public Health Advisory

BC Huntze had an ongoing discussion with the Sheriff's Office Community Warning System personnel; he wanted to issue a shelter-in-place for a ½-mile radius from the fire. CWS did not want to issue a shelter-in-place until County Haz Mat was on scene to make a better determination if that was necessary.



County Haz Mat advised Capt. Steve Sawyer that issuing a public health advisory would be better than a shelter-in-place. Given the time of night the fire had happened and the fact that the community was already indoors asleep that the public health advisory was more appropriate public protective action at the time. With a shelter-in-place, sirens would need to sound every 30 minutes and may startle people more than a public health advisory. Capt. Sawyer agreed with County Haz Mat's assessment and both T. Johnson and Capt. Sawyer presented the assessment to BC Huntze. BC Huntze agreed to the public health advisory for a ½-mile radius from the fire. T. Johnson spoke with CWS on the decision, and CWS issued the public health advisory through social media only, not via TENS, which is standard protocol. County Haz Mat Director Randy Sawyer was informed of this issuance. Until County Haz Mat and Fire departed the scene, the winds did not shift, causing smoke to impact the nearby community. (However, one of the fire investigators mentioned the presence of smoke in the City Hall area of Pittsburg.)

The public health advisory would be revisited at approximately 0800 hours, and depending on whether the fire had finally been extinguished as verified by Con Fire, would County Haz Mat recommend that the public health advisory be lifted.

Public Health Advisory Lifted

Fire Crews, Con Fire Haz Mat, and County Haz Mat were released shortly after midnight on August 13, 2018 due to the fire dying down and the risk to the community appeared to have lessened. Nevertheless, the public health advisory would remain in place, per BC Huntze, until another fire crew can get a visual on the status of the fire.

There was a delay to get another battalion chief to relieve Huntze; BC Bob Atlas eventually took over and visited the fire site with PG&E representative Bob Gray later in the morning/early afternoon. Per the battalion chief and PG&E's assessment, they recommended that the public health advisory be lifted. M. Duazo, who was the liaison between Con Fire/PG&E and County Haz Mat, relayed the message to Director Randy Sawyer. In turn, Randy contacted CWS Manager Heather Tiernan and Health Services PIO Vicky Balladares that the public health advisory would be lifted. The public health advisory was lifted at 14:01 on August 13.

ATTACHMENT(S)

- A. Incident Report Form #180812-02
- B. Site Safety and Control Plan (ICS 208 HM) (provided by Con Fire Eng. 87)
- C. Invoice Request Form

REPORT PREPARED BY:



Trisha A. Johnson, Hazardous Materials Specialist II
Contra Costa Health Services Hazardous Materials Programs (CCHSHMP)