## **EVENT INVESTIGATION REPORT**

AOP-015 Entry Outside of AN-Farm

Event Investigation Report Number: EIR-2015-030

Event Investigation Team Lead

7/21/2015

Date

Date

7/21/2015

PER Responsiole manager

#### PER No. WRPS-PER-2015-1413

### **Investigation Summary**

On Tuesday July 13, 2015 two Mission Support Alliance LLC (MSA) Radiological Control Technicians (RCTs) were surveying windblown tumbleweeds for removal along Buffalo Avenue and the west fence line of AN Farm. The RCTs began surveying at 0740 hours at the south end of Buffalo Ave working their way north towards 7th street. At 0815 hours they had completed surveying near the 241-AN Change Trailer and turned back south walking along Buffalo Ave to retrieve their vehicles. As they walked south (~100 feet south of 7<sup>th</sup> street) both RCTs reported smelling a heavy rotten egg/sulfur odor. Wind direction was from the northwest toward the southeast. The RCTs reported they observed no running vehicles in the immediate area, and the port-a-lets were upwind from their position. RCT 1 reported symptoms of a headache, dry nose and throat, metallic taste in their mouth. RCT2 reported symptoms of slight headache and dry mouth.

Once the RCTs arrived at their vehicle they contacted their supervisor to report the unexpected odors and inform the supervisor they were going to HPMC, the Hanford Site Medical Provider, because they believed they had been exposed to vapors carried by the wind from 241-C Tank Farm. The supervisor met the RCTs at HPMC at 0835 hours, blood and urine samples were taken and both RCTs were released without work restrictions.

Industrial Hygiene (IH) responded to the shift office after receiving the Central Shift Managers (CSM) radio call announcing entry of AOP-015 for the area west of AN Farm. IH discussed location and sampling plan with CSM and then dispatched IHTs to take samples along the west side of AN-Farm based on the description of where the affected MSA RCTs were working. IH sampling results were returned at 1600, reporting samples at or below background levels. AOP-015 was exited at that time based on sampling results.

#### Weather Information

At 0815 when the RCTs first reported the smell winds were out of the NW with an average wind speed of 10 mph.

15 - Minute Data Station #6 (200E) 7-13-2015										
	Avg Wind	Wind	Max Wind	Avg	Max	Min				
Date/Time (PST)	Speed	Direction	Speed	Temp	Temp	Temp	Pressure	Humidity	Pressure	
7/13/2015 7:30	13.3	303.1	18.2	75.0	75.6	74.6	991.578	38.97	29.281	
7/13/2015 7:45	10.9	314.3	17.5	77.1	78.4	75.2	991.320	37.38	29.274	
7/13/2015 8:00	11.8	304.2	18.6	78.2	79.5	76.7	991.777	35.25	29.287	
7/13/2015 8:15	10.0	296.6	17.5	77.7	78.8	77.0	991.719	34.77	29.285	
7/13/2015 8:30	10.0	300.1	15.6	78.7	80.0	77.6	991.356	33.84	29.275	
7/13/2015 8:45	8.6	311	13.8	79.0	79.8	78.2	991.337	33.13	29.274	
7/13/2015 9:00	8.2	302.5	15.9	79.1	80.0	78.5	991.570	32.97	29.281	
7/13/2015 9:15	5.5	303	14.8	79.6	80.4	78.7	991.116	32.22	29.268	
7/13/2015 9:30	4.8	358.8	11.0	81.2	82.7	80.0	990.771	30.67	29.257	
7/13/2015 9:45	8.9	295.8	22.8	82.5	83.8	80.5	990.648	29.17	29.254	
7/13/2015 10:00	7.5	216.4	15.9	83.0	84.0	81.8	990.751	28.56	29.257	
7/13/2015 10:15	6.8	346.6	15.9	82.6	83.2	81.2	991.065	29.22	29.266	
7/13/2015 10:30	5.4	225.2	15.0	83.2	84.5	81.4	990.882	28.91	29.261	
7/13/2015 10:45	8.6	185.6	17.3	83.7	85.1	82.8	990.586	28.75	29.252	

Tot	wer	Inf	ormat	tion	Tue J	Jul 14	00:02	:20 PST 20	015		
					Preva	ailing	Wind	Pe	eak Gust		
yr	mo	day	hr	Solar	Degrees	Speed	Direction	Degrees	Speed	Time	Stab
15	7	13	1	0.00	300.0	15.5	WNW	292.6	27.626	00:33	E
15	7	13	2	0.00	290.0	10.7	WNW	271.5	20.266	01:51	D
15	7	13	3	0.00	280.0	15.1	WNW	276.9	26.364	02:51	D
15	7	13	4	0.00	280.0	13.0	W	286.3	25.313	03:12	E
15	7	13	5	0.04	270.0	11.7	W	275.2	19.425	04:58	E
15	7	13	6	0.10	270.0	9.2	W	275.5	17.533	05:02	E
15	7	13	7	0.42	300.0	9.5	WNW	293.9	15.009	06:52	D
15	7	13	8	0.57	310.0	10.9	NW	311.6	18,794	07:25	A
15	7	13	9	0.57	310.0	12.1	NW	323.5	19.425	08:16	В
15	7	13	10	1.03	300.0	4.0	WNW	323.1	16.271	09:00	В
15	7	13	11	1.19	270.0	1.7	W	176.0	13.958	10:51	В
15	7	13	12	1.25	230.0	3.6	SW	212.8	13.748	11:31	B

### Map of Potential Fugitive Emission Sources

The following map shows a depiction of where the RCTs encountered the odor, as well as highlights potential odor emission sources in the area.



## **Event Timeline**

## 07/13/2015

0700	MSA RCTs attend Plan of Day Meeting prior to going out to their work assignment surveying windblown tumbleweeds for removal.
0740	MSA RCTs begin on the south end of Buffalo Avenue and begin working northbound toward 7 <sup>th</sup> street.
0815	MSA RCTs complete their surveying assignment and turn around and begin walking South from 7 <sup>th</sup> street (west of the AN Farm fence) to retrieve their vehicles. @ ~100 feet south of 7 <sup>th</sup> street RCTs encounter the odor, and the odor remained for an additional ~200 feet before they moved out of the affected area. RCT 1 reported symptoms of a headache, dry nose and throat, metallic taste in their mouth. RCT2 reported symptoms of slight headache and dry mouth.
0822	MSA RCTs arrived at their vehicles and informed their supervisor they would be heading to HPMC for an evaluation, believing that they had experienced symptoms consistent with tank farm vapors.
0835	MSA RCTs are met by their supervisor when they arrive at HPMC
0850	MSA RCTs are checked in at HPMC and give blood and urine samples.
0903	MSA Supervisor contacts Central Shift Office (CSO) and notifies the Central Shift Manager (CSM) that two MSA RCTs reported symptoms of an obnoxious unknown odors, headaches, and sore and dry throats, and were taken to HPMC for evaluation.
0909	Central Shift Office Logbook: "Late Entry 0909 SOEN sent for AOP- 015." [Note: Logbook does not match timestamp on SOEN]
0915	MSA RCTs are released back to work without restriction.
0919	IH and IH Managers arrive at Central Shift Office (CSO)
0929	SOEN Notification: "Entering AOP-015 for odors near AN Farm. Access is restricted to AN Farm and the west side of AN Farm. CSM"
0930	CSO briefs IH and IHTs of odors and symptoms.
0936	Finalize path forward as taking three bags samples. The first near west side of AN Farm. Second, near the water skid and control trailer between C and AN Farms. Third bag near the boundary of C farm.
1004	IHTs arrive at 241-AN

1010	IHT begins filling bag sample A by UT trailer and generators. IHT sweeps parking area W of AN-Farm and around AN-Farm buildings with direct reading instrumentation (include readings here). Wind steady and from the NW.
1018	IHTs move into drainage ditch in-between AN-Farm and C-Farm (between stairs and closed road) and begin filling bag B. Wind steady and from the NNW. IHT sweeps area in drainage ditch and around light plants on road berm with direct reading instrumentation.
1023	IHTs move towards C-Farm•
1024	IHT begins filling bag C just N of MO-522 and emergency shower. IHT performs sweep of area NE of MO-522 directly upwind of AN-Farm. Wind steady and from NW. People are present in the sweep area. Work is ongoing in C-Farm.
1028	IH2 picks up IHTs at lot NE of MO522.
1035	IH2 drops IHTs off at 272AW to begin processing samples.
1600	SOEN Notification "Sample analysis for the AOP-015 event has been completed and the results are at or below background levels. Exiting AOP-015. CSM"

#### **Immediate Actions Taken**

- 1. MSA RCTs were taken to HPMC for evaluation.
- 2. Radio communication of AOP-015 entry at AN-Farm.
- 3. SOEN Entry into AOP-015 outside of AN-Farm.
- 4. Initiated EIR-2015-030
- 5. Restricted access to affected area.
- 6. IHT responded and took sampling bags to lab for testing.

#### **Compensatory Measures**

No compensatory measures were identified as a result of the Fact Finding

#### **Discussion of Potential Causes**

Based on a review of the following, the source of the odors encountered by the two MSA RCTs was not able to be definitively determined.

- Review of information and investigative IH monitoring and sampling of the area. All samples came back at or below background.
- The terrain where the MSA RCTs experienced the odor is in a "belly" or low-ground and has been the location of a prior AOP-015 entry (EIR-2015-013). In the other AOP-015 event the location was in the same general area, but the wind direction was moving in the opposite direction and there was co-located work being conducted at the time.

- A review of work planning in the C and AN Farms shows no waste disturbing activities during the time of the event that would have resulted in an increased potential for odors.
- IH Field Surveillance identified the following potential sources for fugitive odor emission points: Drainage Culvert, Septic tank (upwind), C-Farm portable exhausters (upwind), AN-Farm Primary Exhauster (downwind), 702AZ (downwind).
- Input from affected workers described the odor as "Rotten Egg" and "Sulfur".

## Preliminary Extent of Condition Review

The AOP-015 entry was specific to the area west of the AN Farm fence. With no fugitive emission sources detectible and the potential cause being unknown the preliminary extent of conditions is bound to the area adjacent to AN Farm.

## **Discussion of Barriers That Could Have Impacted the Cause**

Impacting barriers is unknown because the cause of the odors was not able to be definitively determined.

## **Conditions Adverse to Quality**

 Odor Response Cards were not received until the day following the incident. This was largely due to the affected workers being MSA staff, with no WRPS Field Work Supervisor (FWS) or Management present to drive the process of obtaining Odor Response Cards once the RCTs arrived at HPMC. The MSA RCTs did not receive an Odor Response Card to populate until the Event Investigation Team Lead sent it to them the following day.

## **Recommendations/Proposed Corrective Actions**

1. Reaffirm expectations for contractors working near or adjacent to a tank farm to check in with the Central Shift Office and obtain a radio, per the AIA.

## Attachments (As they apply):

- 1. Photos
- 2. Odor Response Card
- 3. Personal Statements
- 4. Industrial Hygiene Area Surveillance

#### Attachment 1 Photos

Septic Area West of 241-AN-Farm





Overlay Positional Map



Attachment 2 Odor Response Cards



2. Send	• •	•	•	• •		1. Conta	
<ul> <li>Your symptoms (if any) Theadache Dizziness/Light-Headed Nausea Cough</li> <li>Fatigue/Drowsiness/Weakness Depart Server Burning Throat Difficulty Breathing Watery/Irritated</li> <li>Eyes/Trouble with Vision Tingling/Numbness/Paralysis Rash/Itching</li> <li>Watery/Irritated</li> <li>Send this card to the Central Shift Office.</li> </ul>	Describe the odor Sweet Sour Musty Earthy Ametallic Smoky Protein Conion Cleaning Solution Ammonia Bother Thick heavy Suffer Possible source 241-C2/Winds weare Coming from that direction	Was an IHT present? <u>100</u>	Name of others in or near the affected area	Location of odors (mark area on map and wind direction) Algore & Alalo Aug. Near	Date and time odor was noticed 7-13-2015/0815	1. Contact CSM, complete below bulleted information and map.	Odor Response Card



### Attachment 3 Personal Statements

Date: 7-13-2015	INITIAL EVENT INVESTIGATION PERSONAL STATEMENT	Page 1 of 2
Critique Title:	JA	
Critique Number: A	ĥ	
PART 1 INSTRUCT		
it was over. Include 1. Plant conditio 2. Any indicatior 3. List any equip 4. What you wer 5. What were you	rite down what happened in the event. Include any information from before the ev the following: ns as you know them prior to the event. s that a problem existed. ment malfunctions. e doing immediately prior to the event. ur actions in response to the indications? quacies in the procedures, practices, or training.	rent began until after
and associated the south end of 241-A, AY, AZ at At @ 0815 we find at the north end Ave to retrieve smelled a heavy north and then a stronger. Winds vehicles passing 200 feet farther Another tech su obnoxious, not metallic taste radiating back. health in 200W.	ACT and myself ) were assigned to survey tumble weeds along B trailer areas. After our POD we started the survey at approxi- Buffalo Ave working north towards 7th street along the west d AN tank farms and trailer areas. mished surveying tumble weeds along the west fence line of 2 d of Buffalo Ave and 7th street and turned back south walking our vehicles. Approximately 100 feet south of 7th street, on rotten egg / sulfur odor. The winds were light as we were su when we finished surveying tumble weeds the winds had begun t were blowing from the NW, from C-Farm towards AN Tank farm. g by or port-a-lets upwind from me that I observed. I had to to the south before I got out of the odor. urveying with me smelled the same odor. At first the smell wa quite nauseating, but after walking a distance in the odor I n my mouth, dry nose and throat, and headache in the forehea We arrived at 0835 and were checked in at 0850. Blood and ur Tylenol for the headache at 1230 pm. MA	mately 0740 at fence line of 41-AN tank farm along Buffalo buffalo Ave, I rveying to the o blow There were no walk approx. s just developed a d area met us at OCC

A-6003-098 (REV 1)

A-6003-098 (REV 1)

07/13/2015	INITIAL EVENT INVESTIGATION PERSONAL STATEMENT	Page 1 of 2
Critique Title:	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	<u></u>
Critique Numbe		
PART 1 INSTRUCTIO	ONS:	
it was over. Include t 1. Plant condition 2. Any indication 3. List any equipi 4. What you were 5. What were you	rrite down what happened in the event. Include any information from before the ev the following: ns as you know them prior to the event. is that a problem existed. ment malfunctions. e doing immediately prior to the event. ur actions in response to the indications? iquacies in the procedures, practices, or training.	rent began until after
Ave and 241-AN/A 7:40am at the so we finished surv walking along Bu heavy rotten egg finished the win southeast ( from upwind from the approximately 20 developed a slig supervisor to re exposed to vapor Area at 8:35am a 9:15am. Followi	other MSA RCT were surveying windblown tumbleweeds for remova AZ/AX/A Tank Farm west fence lines. After our POD, we starte buth end of Buffalo Ave working our way north towards 7th str reying near the 241-AN Tank Farm Change Trailer and turned ba iffalo Ave to retrieve our vehicles. It was then that we bot g odor. The winds were light as we had been surveying but by hds had increased. Wind direction was from the northwest tow an 241-C toward 241-AN). There were not running vehicles or p area when we first noticed the odor. We had to walk southwa 00 ft before we could no longer smell the odor. During that ght headache and dry mouth. When I got back to my vehicle I sport that I was going to the medical provider because I beli cs carried by the wind from 241-C Tank Farm. He met me at OC and I was checked in at 8:50am Blood and urine samples were ling exam I was released without restrictions to return to wor	d surveying at eet. At 8:15am ck south h smelled a a the time we ard the oort-a-lets rd time I called my eve I had been C in 200-West drawn at k.
AOP-015 for odor Farm". Previous	lam I received a notice on my pager that Tank Farm Operation rs near AN Farm. Access is restricted to AN Farm and the west to my exposure (that morning) there were no warnings sent by DO-East Tank Farm areas.	side of AN

Critiq	07/13/2015			ION I	PERSONAL STATEMENT	Page 2 of 2	
	ue Title:	(-					
Critiq	ue Numbe						
ART	2 INSTRUCTIO	DNS:					
heck	t box blank if it de ating the numbe	oes not apply or you are not sure of	the	meani	ced or observed leading up to the ev ing. Provide a brief description of the two hours until the end of the shift an	error precursor	by
		TASK DEMANDS			INDIVIDUAL CAPABILI	TIES	
1A	Time pressure (i	n a hurry)		3A	Unfamiliarity with task/first time		
1B	High workload (r	nemory requirements)		3B	Lack of knowledge (faulty mental m	odel)	
C	Simultaneous, m	nultiple tasks		3C	New technique not used before		Ē
D	Repetitive action	s/monotony		3D	Imprecise communication habits		
IE	Irreversible acts			3E	Lack of proficiency/inexperience		
IF	Interpretation rea	quirements		3F	Indistinct problem solving skills		
G	Unclear goals, ro	oles, or responsibilities		3G	'Unsafe' attitudes for critical task		C
н	Lack of or unclea	ar standards		3H	Illness/fatigue (general health)		
11	Confusing proce	dure/vague guidance		31	Unawareness of critical parameters	/steps	C
	WO	RK ENVIRONMENT			HUMAN NATURE		
2A	Distractions/inte	rruptions		4A	Stress (limits attention)		
2B	Changes/depart	ure from routine		4B	Habit patterns (done it before succe	essfully)	
2C	Confusing displa	ays/controls		4C	Assumptions (inaccurate mental pic	cture)	
2D	Work-around ne	eded		4D	Complacency/overconfidence		
2E	Hidden system r	esponse		4E	Mind set		
2F	Unexpected equ	ipment conditions		4F	Inaccurate risk perception		
G	Lack of alternativ	ve indication		4G	Mental shortcuts (biases)		
2H	Personality conf	licts		4H	Limited short-term memory		
21	Back shift or rec	ent shift change	E	41	Limited perspective (lack of big pict		-

A-6003-098 (REV 1)

Attachment 4

Industrial Hygiene Sampling Plan

SAFETYINSP - Complete Survey

Page 1 of 2

	SAF	ETY AN	D HEALT	H FIELD SU	RVEILI		REPORT			
Record ID: 3634				ARRA Work: Subcontractor Work:						
Date: 07/15/20	15			Subcontractor	:					
Organization: Base C	peration	<u>s</u>		Location: Other						
Project:				Location Other:	Drainage	Basin W	of 241-AN Farm			
Work Activity: Odor F Walkdown	Response	e Card Loo	cation	Performed By: HID:						
Participant(s):										
Surveillance Type				Work Planning	Sat	Unsat				
Management Reques	t			Job Hazard	d Analysis					
Routine				Applicable						
Employee Safety Con	cern Fol	low-up	<u></u>	Pre-Job Br	•					
Post Event Review				Work Docu	iment(s)					
Other:										
Industrial Safety			Industrial Hy	giene			Fire Protection			
	Sat	Unsat			Sat	Unsat		Sat	Unsat	
Applicable PPE	0	0	Asbestos		0	0	Ceiling Tiles	0	0	
Electrical	0	0	Biologica		0		Combustible Storage	0	0	
Elevating Work Platforms	0	0	Chemica Labeling	al Container	0	0	Compressed			
Excavation	0	0	Cold Str		0	0	Gas Storage	0	0	
Fall Protection	0	0	Confined	d Space 0 0 Construction			Construction			
Falling Objects	0	0	Ergonom	nics	0	0	Site Safety Control of	0	0	
First Aid	0	0	Hazard (	Communication	0	0	Hot Work	0	0	
Hand/Power			Heat Str	ess	0	0	Emergency			
Tools	0	0	Lighting		0	0	Action Plans	0	0	
Heavy Equipment	0	o	Monitorir	ng/Sampling	0	0	Exit Signs	0	0	
Hoisting and			Noise		0	0	Exits Unobstructed	0	0	
Rigging	0	0		ory Protection	0	0	Fire	<u> </u>		
Housekeeping	0	0	Ventilatio		0	0	Extinguishers	0	0	
Ladders	0	0	Vibration Other IH		0	0	Fire Hazards	0	0	
Lockout/Tagout	0	0	Other IH		0	0	Fire Lanes	0	0	
Machine Guarding	0	0					Fire Riser	0	0	
Material Storage	0	0					Cabinets	0	0	
Motor Vehicle	0	0					Heaters	0	0	
Overhead Utilities	0	0					Sprinklers Clearance	0	0	
Roof	0	0					Transient Combustible			
Scaffolding	0	0					Materials	0	0	
Showers &							Other FP	0	0	
Eyewash Stations	0	0								
Signs, Tags and Barriers	0	0								
Slip, Trip, and Fall	0	0								
Underground Utilities	0	0								
Walking Surfaces	0	0								
Other Safety	0	0								
Work Place Safety			Safety Cultu	re Questions						

SAFETYINSP - Complete Survey

Page 2 of 2



\* The electronic approval indicated above acts as the authentication of this record on the above date.

File	Upload:	
6	Septic W of 241-AN-FARM.jpg Open	
B	AN Septic Proximity.jpg Open	

http://toc.wrps.rl.gov/SAFETYINSP/index.cfm/form/report/?print=true&id=3634

7/21/2015