


**LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
INCIDENT REPORT**

Incident ID: 97746

Incident Description

Incident Type: Release/Spill, Facility Air Release
Incident Date: 7/10/2007 12:15:00
Parish: St. Charles
Municipality: Norco
Location: 15536 River Rd
Lat/Lon:
Basin/Segment:
Substance(s):
Media Impacted: Air
Incident Desc: s07-2348Flaring incident ... instruments upset in unit & tripped compressor ... SO2 & NOX... cj

Incident Status

Lead Investigator: Tammy Toups 
Incident Region: Southeast
Incident Status: Closed
Followup Status:
As Of:

Incident Reporter 1

Received By: Carla James
Received Date: 7/10/2007 13:06:00
Dispatch #: s07-2348
Reported By: Ed Robinson
Phone: 504-915-9325 (Work phone number)
Reporter Title:
Organization: Shell Chemical
Address: P O Box 10

Municipality: Norco
State: LA
Zip Code: 70079
Comments:

Incident Source 1

Source Name: Shell Chemical LP - Norco Chemical Plant - East Site
Address: 15536 River Rd

Municipality: Norco
State: LA
Phone: 5044657609 (Work phone number)
Parish: St. Charles
AI #: 26336
Related Permits:

Comments: On July 10, 2007, Shell Chemical called in a release of sulfur dioxide from the OL-5 Elevated Flare. The release was caused by an upset at Motiva's DHT unit. No reportable quantities were exceeded during this incident.

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
INCIDENT REPORT

Incident ID: 97746

Incident Source 2

Source Name: Motiva Enterprises LLC - Norco Refinery
Address: 15536 River Rd
(portion of)
Municipality: Norco
State: LA
Phone: 5044657609 (Work phone number)
Parish: St. Charles
AI #: 1406
Related Permits:

Comments:

7/12

INCIDENT # 07-03822
HOTLINE
877-925-6595 / 225-925-6595

SOURCE: STATE POLICE HAZMAT

507-2348
T97746

** (INITIAL REPORT) DATE AND TIME

HOTLINE NOTIFIED: 07/10/07 13:00
INCIDENT OCCURRED: 07/10/07 12:15

** (INITIAL REPORT) INCIDENT LOCATION

PARISH: St Charles
ADDRESS: 15536 River Road
CITY: Norco

** (INITIAL REPORT) CALLER INFORMATION

CALLER'S NAME: Ed Robinson
CALLER'S ADDRESS OR EMPLOYER: Shell Chemical
CALLER'S PHONE NUMBER: 504-915-9325

** (INITIAL REPORT) RESPONSIBLE PARTY

NAME: Shell Chemical
MAILING ADDRESS: PO Box 10
CITY, STATE, ZIP: Norco, LA 70079

** (INITIAL REPORT) DETAILS

Flxing incident... Instruments upset in the unit and tripped a compressor, causing them to flare... Unknown what caused the instrument problem... They are troubleshooting right now... With the current wind direction, the output going into the swamp rather than the community... *DWT*

** (INITIAL REPORT) CHEMICAL INFORMATION

CHEMICAL 1: Sulfur Dioxide
QTY: Unk
RELEASED STATE: Gas CLASS: Poison Gas ID: 1079
EHS: Yes

CHEMICAL 2: Nitrogen Oxides
QTY: Unk
RELEASED STATE: Gas CLASS: ID: 1955
EHS: No

** (INITIAL REPORT) RELEASE INFORMATION

INCIDENT CLASSIFICATION: Unusual Event
DID MATERIAL GO OFFSITE? Yes
RELEASED TO: Flare
ANY OFF-SITE PROTECTIVE ACTION?
No

RELEASE EFFECTS:
FIRE: No
INJURIES: No :

*BLRO/Break
tammy*

07-10-07 13:06 IN

FATALITIES: No :

** (INITIAL REPORT) WEATHER

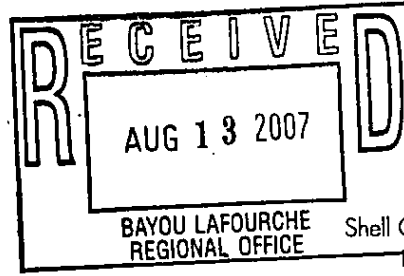
WIND OUT OF: SSE 5 mph TEMP: 83 F PRECIPITATION: Rain

** (INITIAL REPORT) FIXED SITE

Process Unit



Shell Chemicals



CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED
Department of Public Safety and Corrections
Office of State Police
TESS – Right-to-Know Unit
P.O. Box 66614
Baton Rouge, LA 70896

Shell Chemical LP
Norco Plant
P.O. Box 10
Norco, LA 70079-0010
Tel +1 (504) 465 7220
Fax +1 (504) 465 6360
Internet <http://www.shell.com/chemicals>

July 17, 2007

*507-2348
T97744
Patrick Breault
SERO/BERO
St Charles*

**SUBJECT: PRELIMINARY RELEASE REPORT: July 10, 2007
STATE POLICE CASE # 07-03822
NRC CASE #841621
SHELL CHEMICAL LP - NORCO CHEMICAL PLANT - EAST SITE
AI# 26336**

Dear Sir/Madam:

In accordance with the authorities listed below, Shell Chemical LP – East Site is providing a preliminary written report to our verbal notification on July 10, 2007 at 1302 hours of a release of sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide from flaring at the OL-5 Flare (EPN # 6-84) due to a compressor trip at Motiva's DHT unit.

Authorities

LAC 33:V.10111
LAC 33:I.3925.A
Title V Permit 2520-V2, General Condition XI and General Condition R
40 CFR 355.40(b)(3)

Data gathering to perform calculations and incident investigation is ongoing. A final written follow-up report will be issued after calculations and an investigation have been completed.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please call Ms. Adrian Ford at (504) 465-6001 or Gerard M. Friloux at (504) 465-7443.

Yours sincerely,
Shell Chemical LP

R. D. Isham

for Debra P. Demuro
Manager HSSE/A

AGF/mse

RECEIVED

JUL 23 2007

DEQ
Single Point of Contact

cc: CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Ms. Peggy Hatch, Administrator
Office of Environmental Compliance-Enforcement
Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
P. O. Box 4312
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4312

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
ATTENTION: SURVEILLANCE DIVISION-S.P.O.C.
"UNAUTHORIZATION DISCHARGE NOTIFICATION REPORT"
P. O. Box 4312
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4312

Mr. Tab Troxler
St. Charles Parish Emergency Planning Committee
P. O. Box 302
Hahnville, LA 70057

Mr. Phil Frazier, Environmental Scientist
Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
201 Evans Road, Bldg. 4, Suite 420
New Orleans, LA 70123-5248



Shell Chemicals

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Department of Public Safety and Corrections
Office of State Police
TESS - Right-to-Know Unit
P.O. Box 66614
Baton Rouge, LA 70896

Shell Chemical LP

Norco Plant

P.O. Box 10

Norco, LA 70079-0010

Tel +1 (504) 465 7220

Fax +1 (504) 465 6360

Internet <http://www.shell.com/chemicals>

November 28, 2007

**SUBJECT: RELEASE REPORT: July 10, 2007
STATE POLICE CASE # 07-03822
NRC CASE #841621
SHELL CHEMICAL LP - NORCO CHEMICAL PLANT - EAST SITE
At# 26336**

*507-2348
797746
Tammy
Bebo*

Dear Sir/Madam:

In accordance with the authorities listed below, Shell Chemical LP - East Site is providing a written follow-up report to our verbal notification on July 10, 2007 at 1302 hours of a release of sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide from flaring at the OL-5 Flare (EPN # 6-84) due to a compressor trip at Motiva's DHT unit.

Authorities

LAC 33:V.10111

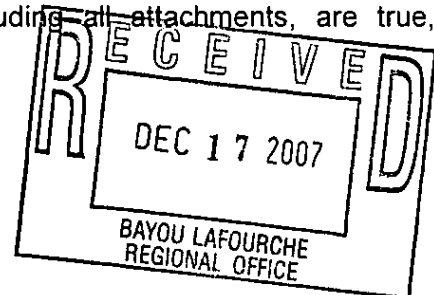
LAC 33:I.3925.A

Title V Permit 2520-V2, General Condition XI and General Condition R

40 CFR 355.40(b)(3)

Final calculations confirm that the permit limit for sulfur dioxide was exceeded. The details of the release are contained in the attached report.

I certify, under provisions in Louisiana and United States law which provide criminal penalties for false statements, that based on information and belief formed after reasonable inquiry, the statements and information contained in this report, including all attachments, are true, accurate, and complete.



RECEIVED

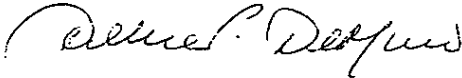
DEC - 3 2007

DEQ

Single Point of Contact

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please call Timothy Aymond at (504) 465-6298 or Mr. G. M. Friloux at (504) 465-7443.

Yours sincerely,
Shell Chemical LP



Debra P. Demuro
Manager HSSE/A

TMA/mse

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Ms. Peggy Hatch, Administrator
Office of Environmental Compliance-Enforcement
Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
P. O. Box 4312
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4312

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~~Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality~~
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P. O. Box 302
Hahnville, LA 70057

Mr. Phil Frazier, Environmental Scientist
Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
201 Evans Road, Bldg. 4, Suite 420
New Orleans, LA 70123-5248

**SHELL CHEMICAL LP
RELEASE NOTIFICATION FORM**

I.

Company Name Shell Chemical LP - Norco Chemical Plant - East Site
 Physical Location 15536 River Road, St. Charles Parish
 Street or P. O. Box P.O. Box 10
 City, State, Zip Norco, Louisiana 70079
 Telephone (504) 465-7220 (Debra P. Demuro)

II. Date and Time of Verbal Notifications:

Initial Verbal Contact					
Agency	Agency Contact	Date	Time	Shell Caller	Case Number
EOC	George	7/10/2007	1300	EA Robinson	N/A
State Police and DEQ	Tara	7/10/2007	1302	EA Robinson	07-03822
NRC	Kevin Williams	7/10/2007	1305	EA Robinson	841621

Follow-up Verbal Contact					
Agency	Agency Contact	Date	Time	Shell Caller	Case Number
EOC	Jim	7/11/2007	1240	BK Allen	N/A
State Police and DEQ	Charlie	7/11/2007	1242	BK Allen	07-03822

III. Release Start/End Time:

Date/Time Start	Date/Time End	If Not Ended, Anticipated End Time	Weather Conditions At Start Time	Smoking
7/10/2007 @ 1215	7/11/2007 @ 0130	N/A	Showers and 83 degrees with winds out of the ESE at 5 mph	No Smoking

IV. Release Event Description and Cause:

On July 10, 2007 instrument problems at Motiva's DHT Process Unit caused a vent gas compressor to trip, which resulted in flaring at the Shell Chemical OL-5 elevated flare. This release did not result in an emergency condition. There were no fatalities, injuries or road closures.

V.a Materials Released Above an RQ:

Name	CAS Number	US DOT Hazard Class	EHS ?	Physical State (solid, liquid, gas)	RQ Standard	RQ(s)	Amount Released
1,3 Butadiene	106-99-0	Flammable	Yes	Gas	CERCLA/ LADEQ	10 lbs	0 lbs
Benzene	71-43-2	Flammable	Yes	Gas	CERCLA/ LADEQ	10 lbs	0 lbs
Total VOC's	N/A	N/A	No	Gas	LADEQ	5000 lbs	0 lbs
Sulfur Dioxide	7446-09-5	N/A	Yes	Gas	CERCLA/SARA LADEQ	500 lbs	73.89 lbs

V.b Permitted Source Emissions (if applicable):

Emission Point Identification (EPN)	Pollutant	Permit Limit Avg (lb/hr)	Permit Limit Max (lb/hr)	Event Duration	Total Quantity Released by Event (lbs)	**Amount Released Above Permitted Quantity (lbs)
6-84 (OL-5 Elevated Flare, FE-101)	CO	2.1	18.1	1.45 hrs	10.49	0
	NO _x	3.6	30.8	1.45 hrs	1.93	0
	PM	0.66	5.7	1.45 hrs	0.36	0
	Total VOC's	40.0	430.5	1.45 hrs	2.84	0
	SO ₂	0.002	0.002	1.45 hrs	73.89	73.89
	1,3 BD	0.97	6.2	1.45 hrs	0	0
	Benzene	0.98	0.98	1.45 hrs	0	0

** This is the quantity of material released above permitted maximum emission rates. It is this number – summed for each pollutant – which Motiva evaluates against reportable quantities in the table in Section V.a of this report. It is calculated using the formula below. Finally, the maximum permitted emission allowed at the source is subtracted to yield the amount emitted above the permitted limit. If the number is negative, then a zero is entered (no emissions above the permitted rate).

Amount Released Above Permitted Quantity = Total Quantity Released by Event (lb) + [(Permit Limit Average, lb/hr) x (Duration, hr)] – [(Permit Limit Maximum, lb/hr) x (Duration, hr)]

VI. Statement of actual or probable fate or disposition of the material:

All materials were released to the atmosphere and dispersed naturally. No fires or fatalities resulted from this release. No road closures or evacuations were required.

VII. Immediate remedial or corrective actions taken, or to be taken, to stop the release and/or to recover pollutants:

Upon discovery, Motiva operations quickly secured the DHT unit and shutdown the unit in a safe manner.

VIII. Procedures or measures which have or will be adopted to prevent recurrence of the incident or similar incidents:

Motiva's long-term plan to prevent reoccurrence is to install plug connectors on the unused pins of the DeltaV backplans. The plug connectors will be installed once the manufacturer provides suitable plugs that have been tested to allow problem-free installation and as control systems can be powered down during planned unit shutdowns to allow the installation of the plugs.

- IX. If an unpermitted or unlicensed site or facility was involved in the release, a schedule for submitting a permit or license application to the department, or rationale for not requiring a permit or license:**

No unpermitted or unlicensed facility was involved in this release.

- X. For discharges to the ground or ground water, the following information shall also be included: all information of which the reporting party is aware that indicates pollutants are migrating, including, but not limited to, monitoring well data; possible routes of migrations; and all information of which the reporting party is aware regarding any public or private wells in the area of the migration used for drinking, stock watering, or irrigation:**

N/A.

- XI. Reporting party's status, other responsible parties:**

SCOGI Louisiana Holdings LLC and Shell Chemical LP are the owner and operator, respectively, of the OL-5 elevated flare. Motiva Enterprises LLC, Norco Refinery is the owner and operator of the DHT unit.

- XII. A determination of whether or not the release was preventable; if not, an explanation of why the release was not preventable.**

This incident was not preventable by Shell Chemical.