

Vol. I No. 1

# Planning, Prevention, and Preparedness Newsletter

### January 2011

Inside this issue:

Inside Story Pg. 2:

# NEWSLETTER RELAUNCH

**EPA Region 8 announces** start of new quarterly newsletter.

# Action part of Region's re -emphasis on outreach to our response partners.

EPA Region 8 is proud to unveil our own Region 8 newsletter -PARatus (ready). We want to make this truly your own newsletter which will deliver relevant information to you quarterly. You need information to perform your job professionally, and we'll deliver that information to you. We envision it being for the thinking response professional. While we will have different articles and sections, we will highlight a different thought provoking aspect of response in each issue. Our newsletter has been redesigned and is relaunched after a hiatus of over 2 The newsletter is inyears. tended to compliment other newsletters from around the region.

What is **PARatus**? It is a quarterly newsletter from EPA Region 8 for the response community. Our goal is to provide you with information on any and all aspects of preparedness, and to keep you abreast of upcoming events of benefit to vou.

What PARatus is not! There will be no fancy high gloss pictures (OK maybe some). Because we don't have a large team of specialists working on original articles, Paratus is projected to arrive quarterly.

How will we do it? We plan to rob, steal, plunder and otherwise abscond with articles from other newsletters and web sites (full credit and references provided). We will reprint any articles (Maybe summarize them) that we feel could be of benefit to you and are in the public domain. Sometimes we will even write them ourselves or re-write articles that may not be written well.

Be part of the solution! While we are using Email for delivery, help us resolve our delivery and audience issue. Let us know what the best delivery option for you is. What would you like to see in your newsletter? Don't be part of the 10% not in the know. Subscribe now and be the one with the answers.

While every recipient of the prior newsletter will be immediately added to the list of new recipients, there have been numerous changes in addresses, and we are accepting new subscribers by simply calling or sending Email to: Ray Figueroa at figueroa.raymond@epa.gov). Please give your name and Email to the same number and Email address and request to be added to the Email list.

All are encouraged to provide suggestions for new articles, provide comments on the content of Paratus, or even submit an article or tip. We encourage the submission of lessons learned from current or past experiences. You may submit a story,

New Governors' Guide to State Homeland Security Inside Story Pg.3: EPA Announces new office of International & Tribal Affairs Inside Story Pg.4: CAMEO and Tier II Enhancements New Chems to TRI List SPCC Program Inside Story Pg. 5:

Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)

information, or article for publication. We are actively seeking articles, essays, photos, artwork, and calendar items for your newsletter.



### **TRAINING & EXERCISES** LUKE CHAVEZ-COORDINATOR 303-312-6512 / chavez.luke@epa.gov **OPERATION NEPTUNE – DOUGLAS COUNTY, COLORADO** FULL SCALE AND RECOVERY TABLE TOP EXERCISE :

On October 6, 2010. Douglas County Emergency

Management conducted a full scale exercise (FSE). Approximately 150 people from several local, state and federal partners participated in the planning, evaluating, controlling and playing in this exercise. EPA has been part of the planning team in designing this FSE for the past year. EPA previously participated in a Douglas County table top exercise (TTX) in preparation for this 2010 FSE and as part of the exercise building process under the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP). The FSE tested emergency operation plans in the Roxborough community just south of Denver. Colorado in response to a hazardous materials release due to a terrorist act.

The exercise scenario involved a terrorist act of hijacking a chlorine tanker truck in a semi-densely populated area in Douglas County, CO.

The tanker released 20 tons of chlorine after a law enforcement altercation and an explosion. The FSE was conducted in real time and tested (Cont. Pg 2)

### Partner Corner

- More localized info? Check out these sites.
- Montana
- Wyoming
- North Dakota
- South Dakota
- <u>Utah</u>
- Colorado

### Planning, Prevention, and Preparedness Newsletter

### January 2011

**OPERATION NEPTUNE** (From pg. 1)



the initial response in the first four hours. Several objectives were tested from the local, state and federal level including Onsite Incident Management, Information Sharing and Dissemination, Medical Surge, and Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)/Hazardous Material Response and Decontamination.

Kathie Atencio and Luke Chavez with the Preparedness, Assessment and Response (PAR) Program were part of the planning team as well as evaluated for the exercise objective Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)/Hazardous Materials (HazMat) Response and Decontamination. Joyce Ackerman, On Scene Coordinator (OSC) and the Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team (START) contractors participated as players and were part of the unified command with the initial local responders. The START team also deployed the regional level A response unit to the incident.

A TTX was also conducted as a follow up on October 15, 2010, to address the recovery portion of the incident. Kathie Atencio, Luke Chavez and Joyce Ackerman all participated as players as well as evaluators.

On October 22, 2010, an After Action Conference (AAC) was held where the planning team and participants discussed both the FSE and the TTX. The AAC discussed and determined positive outcomes of the exercises, but more importantly, how to improve the response and communications with all parties involved in such an incident.

A final Improvement Plan (IP) and ACC report was combined for both exercises and is available. The ACC/IP documents outcomes and findings of the FSE and TTX and any action items to help improve all participants' response capabilities.

Being involved in planning and as responders in Douglas County's FSE was very beneficial to EPA Region 8.

EPA' s role in addressing hazardous materials and assisting local responders gave us a better understanding of the County's capabilities and how EPA would collaborate with other responders in an incident of this level. The FSE planning was a great experience and opportunity to meet and work with other local, state and federal agencies that we would normally be working with during



a response. EPA was also able to test our own plans and procedures and how we can improve our response processes, capabilities and time. Douglas County Emergency Management (DCEM) did an excellent job in organizing, designing and planning this FSE. EPA is looking forward to continue work with DCEM as well as others involved in the exercise event.

The Director of Emergency Management for Douglas-County, Fran Santagata, was extremely pleased with EPA's

involvement in the exercise. The EPA has been a solid partner with Douglas County through the very active Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC). The Operation Neptune exercise series was a culmination of collaboration that has been ongoing for years. Ms. Santagata stated that valuable lessons were learned as to EPA's on scene capabilities that may be critical in a real event for a successful outcome. Local responders realized where they currently have some chemical detection and identification gaps that can be filled with EPA resources. EPA also provided expertise at the Recovery TTX as to what the long term ramifications of a large release of chlorine would be which assists the County in planning for this type of event. Ms. Santagata stated that she is looking forward to building on the accomplishments from Operation Neptune and continuing to enhance the County's collaboration with the EPA.

Did You Know? - Most victims of chemical accidents are injured at home.

# HOMELAND SECURITY GINA CRISTIANO - HOMELAND SECURITY/RRT/RSC COORDINATOR 303-312-6688 / CRISTIANO.GINA@EPA.GOV

### National Governors Association Publishes New Guide to State Homeland Security



**McCarter** Tuesday, 09 November 2010 G A offers advice for

newly elected governors

In the wake of last week's elections, the National Governors Association (NGA) Monday released a handbook to guide newly elected state governors through setting up and managing state homeland security operations.

"Governors must be ready from their first hours in office to respond to the threats of terrorism and disasters and ensure the necessary mechanisms are in place to protect citizens, property and businesses," said John Thomasian, director of the NGA Center for Best Practices, in a statement. "This can be a daunting task, as the threats individual

states face are diverse and ever changing. This guide provides a resource for governors taking office, as well as veteran governors, as they determine how to organize and operate homeland security and public safety systems in their states." The resulting handbook. A Governor's

Guide to Homeland Security, views related activities through the lenses of preparedness, prevention, response, and recovery.

Within those disciplines, the guide explores the coordination of state homeland security and emergency management agencies, the establishment of the authority of a governor's homeland security advisor, the operation of emergency response plans, the organization of state fusion centers, and the use of public Safety communications.

"How a governor addresses

these issues has tremendous implications for a state," Thomasian said. "The state

strategies and best practices contained in the guide enable governors to learn from what has worked in other states as they make these important decisions."

The guide warns that governors must protect the citizens of their states from terrorism and natural disasters, ranging from largescale incidents like the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and Hurricane Katrina (Cont. Pg. 3)

## Planning, Prevention, and Preparedness Newsletter

### National Governors Association New Guide to State Homeland Security (From Pg. 2)

to more localized plots like the Hutaree militia group's plans to kill police officers.

To assist governors with defending against these threats "from their first hour in office," the NGA guide walks them through elements of disaster preparation, prevention, response, and recovery to organize activities under state homeland security and emergency

management agencies. In terms of preparation, governors should take care to select qualified homeland security advisors and to designate state administration agencies to manage federal homeland security funds, the handbook advises.

"Governors must also ensure that appropriate stakeholders are involved in preparedness activities," the guide states. "For example public health professionals are critical players in most homeland security incidents and should be included in discussions In addition, the value of citizen preparedness must be recognized and communicated through public service announcements and social media campaigns. before an incident occurs. Finally, all states must conduct preparedness exercises to assess readiness and capabilities to respond to homeland security incidents."

To bolster prevention, governors should strengthen state fusion centers, the guide says. Fusion centers centralize local, state, and federal information and intelligence analysis to identify potential threats, providing governors with valuable information on plots before their perpetuators can complete them. Fusion centers aggregate information on a national scale to "connect the dots" and bring together disparate pieces of information to warn of pending plots that may extend outside of the state as well, the guide notes.

The guide also emphasizes the need for states to prevent cyber attacks-a challenge requiring a comprehensive inventory of the critical infrastructure owned and operated by the private sector but which the state depends upon. To respond to attacks or disasters when they do occur, governors must have wellrehearsed plans for tactics, operations, and communications. Governors must involve their chief of staffs, communications directors, homeland security advisors, emergency management directors, fusion center directors, state police commanders, local law enforcement agency chiefs, and public health directors in the training for these plans, the guide says.

Governors also must know where to turn to call for help outside of the state. Deploying National Guard or calling for a presidential disaster declaration could leverage federal resources guide suggests, while exercising emergency management assistance compacts could draw help from other states in the region

To recover from an incident, governors must make use of federal resources available through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and other sources, the guide says." To help coordinate recovery efforts, governors can create a central agency to help local areas access state and federal resources. These one-stop shops can be extremely beneficial to individuals, businesses, local Governments, and non-profit organizations," the guide states. "For example, the rebuild Iowa office and rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission were created following severe flooding in 2008; the Louisiana recovery Authority was established following severe hurricanes in 2005; and the Indiana office of Disaster recovery became a new lead agency for the damaging storms in 2008."



In early 2009, Administrator Jackson met with the National Congress of American Indians and announced her intention to review the American Indian Environmental Office's (AIEO) placement in the EPA structure. After consultation with the National Tribal Caucus and EPA leadership in July 2009. she announced the restructuring that would move AIEO from the Office of Water to the Office of International Affairs. and rename the office to reflect the inclusion. "Tribes and tribal lands face disproportionate environmental and public health concerns" said Michelle DePass, assistant administrator for the new OITA. "It is my honor to assume leadership of the American Indian Environmental Office - and I look forward to working with tribal communities as partners in overall efforts to address these pressing issues."

The President's 2011 budget request for the Agency includes a \$41.4 million increase in tribal funding across the country, of which \$30 million is targeted for new multi-media tribal grants. This new grant program will be tailored to address individual tribes' most serious environmental needs through the implementation of environmental programs, and will help tribes address their environmental priorities to the fullest extent possible. In addition, a 24 percent increase of \$2.9 million is proposed to support new staff positions to oversee, provide guidance, and ensure accountability for the new grant program an additional \$8.5 million is provided for General Assistance Program grants which can be put towards programs and projects ranging from assistance for

enforcement and compliance activities to education and job training.

Recently, the Preparedness Unit in Region 8 finalized an interagency agreement with the Indian Health Service to assist the Program in meeting with all 27 tribal governments over the next couple of years.

The goal of the Program is to create a foundation to better understand the priorities, risks, and vulnerabilities of the Region 8 tribes. This will help the Program to identify opportunities to improve planning and preparedness efforts through a regionwide approach and to strengthen partnerships. Phase I of our outreach is to meet with all the tribes to determine:

- What the tribe's planning and response capabilities are;
- If the tribe is receiving grant funding;

- If the tribe has a Tribal Emergency Response Commission (TERC) and/or working with a Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC).
- If facilities are reporting under EPCRA, RMP, SPCC/FRP, etc.;
- If the tribe has any emergency plan in place and is able to implement it; and
- What the tribe's priorities are for potential risks and hazards (including natural disasters, chemical and oil releases, and terrorist acts).

Phase II of the outreach is to provide specific technical assistance and training to certain tribal governments based on their priorities.

#### REPORT

Need to Report a Possible Environmental Violation? Fill out the form at www.epa.gov/tips/

January 2011

EMERGENCY PLANNING & COMMUNITY RIGHT TO KNOW ACT (EPCRA) BRADLEY MILLER – 303-312-6483 / miller.bradley@epa.gov

## New CAMEO and Tier II Enhancements

L L New versions of CAMEO and Tier2 Submit are now available.

Download CAMEO 2.2 at http://www.epa.gov/oem/content/cameo/cameo.htm

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Download Tier2 Submit 2010 at http://www.epa.gov/osweroe1/content/epcra/tier2.htm

If you're upgrading to CAMEO 2.2 from a previous version of CAMEO, follow the instructions in the guidance document (provided on the download page) to ensure that you don't lose your current data.

What's changed in CAMEO 2.2?

- Added a New Record button to the toolbar in all modules
- Added a lat/long check in the Facilities module (CAMEO compares the lat/long values against a bounding box area that approximates the area of the county listed on the facility record's street address)

- Added ability to link to documents within the Resources module (similar to site plans in the Facilities and Special Locations modules)
- Enhanced search capabilities in the Resources module
- Updated to allow import of Tier2 Submit 2010 files
- Fixed minor bugs

What's changed in Tier2 Submit 2010?

- Updated state-specific fields
- Fixed minor bugs

# **EPA Adds 16 Chemicals to TRI List**

EPA is adding 16 chemicals to the list of toxic chemicals subject to reporting under section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) of 1986 and section 6607 of the Pollution Prevention Act of 1990 (PPA). These 16 chemicals have been classified by the National Toxicology Program in their Report on Carcinogens as "reasonably anticipated to be a human carcinogen." EPA has determined that these 16 chemicals meet the EP-CRA section 313(d)(2)(B) criteria because they can reasonably be anticipated to cause cancer in humans. For a list of these chemicals (Click here)



# \*\*\* **REMEMBER** \*\*\*

Hazardous Chemical Inventory Forms (Tier I/Tier II) for 2010 are due to your SERC, LEPC and fire department by March 1, 2011!



OIL SPILL PREVENTION/SPCC MELISSA PAYAN COORDINATOR 303-312-6511/ PAYAN.MELISSA@EPA.GOV

# EPA Oil Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures Rule - What about Farmers?

As we've seen in the news lately, oil spills can cause a lot of damage to the environment. While the BP spill in the Gulf of Mexico is an extreme example, most people don't realize that it doesn't take a lot of oil to do significant damage. As little as one gallon of oil can contaminate one million gallons, or more than three-acre feet, of water.

The purpose of EPA's Oil Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) program is to prevent oil spills from damaging our water, land and natural resources. By developing plans and taking basic precautions, farmers and livestock producers can avoid the damage, costs, and headaches that can result from even a small release from their tanks.

One of the key provisions of the SPCC program is the development of a plan to prevent the release of oil products into waters of the United States. Not every farm or livestock operation needs an SPCC plan. The rule requires facilities that store more than 1,320 gallons of oil or fuel in above ground containers (or more than 42,000 gallons in buried containers) to have an SPCC plan -- if an accidental release could reasonably be expected to discharge into waters of the U.S. For purposes of the rule, oil includes, but is not limited to petroleum oils, fuel (gasoline, diesel, etc.), sludge, synthetic oils, oil refuse, and oil mixed with wastes other than dredged spoil. Oil also includes animal fats, vegetable oils and fish oils.

Although the SPCC requirements have been in place since 1974, there is a renewed interest in the rule. In January 2010, rule amendments become effective that are intended to make compliance simpler and easier for farmers and livestock producers. Under these amendments, only containers with a capacity of 55 gallons or more are counted towards the 1,320 gallon threshold. Also, containers located on separate parcels can be considered separately when calculating whether this threshold is met. Pesticide containers and application equipment as well as residential heating oil tanks are exempted from the SPCC rule.

Another important change is the ability for farmers to self-certify. The amendments state that an SPCC plan can be self-certified if the total oil storage capacity at a facility is less than 10,000 gallons. An easy-to-use template is available on EPA's website for those eligible to self-certify, so long as no single container is larger than 5,000 gallons. If total farm storage capacity exceeds (Cont. Pg. 5)



#### Planning, Prevention, and Preparedness Newsletter

#### EPA Oil Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures Rule (From pg 4)

10,000 gallons, the SPCC plan must be certified by a professional engineer. These new amendments provide for a compliance date of November 10, 2011, for facilities which were not in existence prior to August 16, 2002. Facilities in existence prior to August 16, 2002 that do not have an SPCC plan in place are currently out of compliance and must prepare and implement a plan as soon as possible.

So what does an SPCC plan involve? To prepare or update a plan, farmers first need to identify the location and contents of containers holding oil and the controls in place to prevent spills. Plans also should describe measures in place to prevent any potential spills from reaching water, and the methods and resources available to contain and clean up spills. Plans should also include a list of emergency contacts and first responders.

SPCC plans should also detail spill prevention measures such as the use of suitable containers for the oil stored; information about contractors or other local personnel that can help clean up an oil spill; overfill prevention mechanisms for tanks or containers; effective, properly sized secondary containment for bulk storage containers; general secondary containment in places where fuel or oil is transferred; and periodic inspection and testing of pipes and containers.

In case of a spill, the operator should follow the cleanup and response procedures in their plan and notify the National Response Center (1-800-424-8802) of any discharge to waters of the U.S. Operators should also notify EPA directly if more than 1,000 gallons of oil is discharged to water in a single event, or if more than 42 gallons of oil is spilled to water on two different occasions within any 12-month period.

EPA knows that farmers and livestock producers have a firsthand appreciation of the value of clean water. SPCC plans are an effective way to minimize the likelihood of a spill and to ensure that any spills that do occur are contained before they can damage precious water resources.

EPA specialists are available to help farmers and livestock producers comply with the SPCC requirements. A number of workshops are being planned in regional locations to explain the SPCC rule provisions in detail.

Additional resources are available to provide more information about the SPCC program.

A useful fact sheet for producers is available at www.epa.gov/osweroe1/docs/oil/spcc/spccfarms.pdf.

SPCC plan template can be found at www.epa.gov/oem/content/spcc/tier1temp.htm.

The SPCC rule can be obtained at www.epa.gov/osweroe1/content/spcc/.

Questions can be addressed to the EPA Ag Compliance Assistance Center at <u>www.epa.gov/agriculture/</u> (888-663-2155) or the Oil Information Center at <u>www.epa.gov/superfund/contacts/infocenter</u> (800-424-9346).

You may also call EPA Region 8 oil program staff at 800-227-8917. Melissa Payan (303-312-6511), Donna Inman (303-312-6201) or Cynthia Peterson (303) 312-6879.

#### **Oil Regulations Workshop Announcement for Watertown, SD:**

In February EPA's Oil Program staff will conduct a free workshop **in South Dakota** on the oil pollution regulations and the requirements for a Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plan. SPCC plans must be prepared and implemented by facilities which store, process, transfer, distribute, use, consume, drill, produce, gather, or refine oil or oil products as described in the Article. The workshop will be held on February 17, 2011 from 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. This workshop will cover requirements for all SPCC regulated facilities and will include an update on EPA's revisions to certain regulatory requirements subject to the SPCC rule.

If you have any questions related to this workshop please call 303-312-6801. Amendments to the SPCC rule were finalized on January 14, 2010. The SPCC rule was amended to provide increased clarity, to tailor requirements to particular industry sectors, and to streamline certain requirements for facility owners or operators subject to the rule. Information regarding these amendments is available at this Web page: <u>Oil Pol-</u><u>lution</u> Prevention; Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure Rule Requirements. We encourage workshop participants to review the on-line

documents prior to attending a workshop and to bring them to the workshop.

Location for SPCC Workshop: Codington County Extension Complex 1910 West Kemp Avenue Watertown, SD 57201-3048

**REGISTRATION INFORMATION** 

**This workshop is free of charge, but you must register to attend.** To register you may complete the <u>online registration form</u> *or* call Jim Peterson at 303-312-6562 or David Lennon at (303) 312-6801 with your name, the name of your organization, your organization's address, and your daytime phone number

### Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)

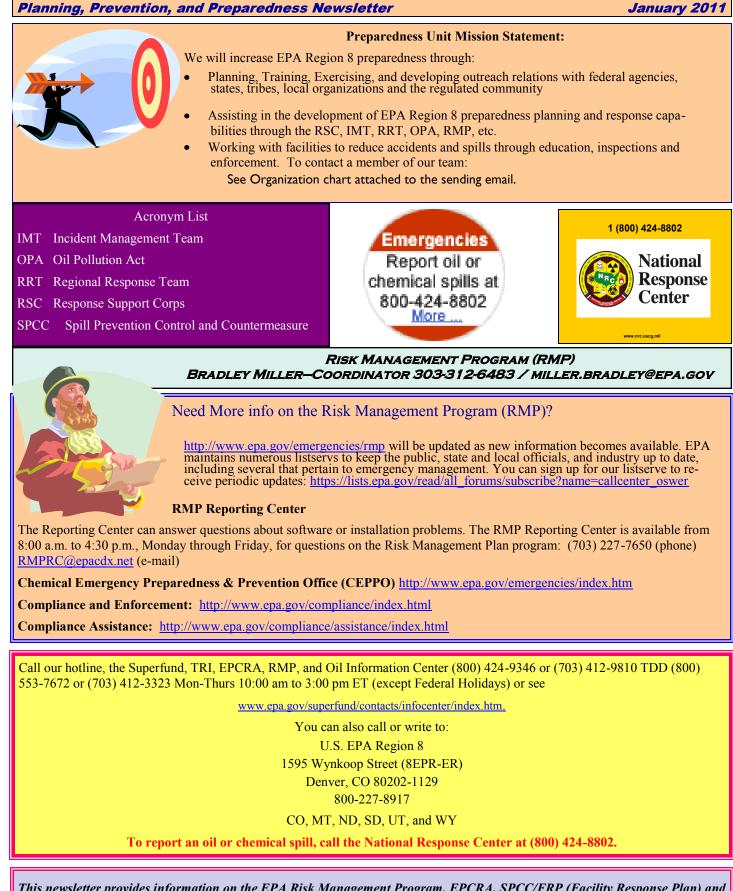
The Office of Pipeline Safety is the Federal safety authority for the nation's 2.3 million miles of natural gas and hazardous liquid pipelines. Here <u>www.phmsa.dot.gov/about/agency.</u> you can find information regarding pipeline regulations, proposed and final rulemakings, pipeline statistics, Common Ground Alliance and One Call programs, request procedures under Freedom of Information Act guidelines, reports on major pipeline accidents/incidents and corrective action orders, pipeline mapping systems information, training and publications, and online library of Pipeline Safety forms and public information files.

PHMSA recognizes the first element of facing a challenge is to prepare for it. Preparing involves many different activities; planning, training, exercising, and enhancing capabilities.

Reaching out to emergency responders, hazardous materials, and pipeline industry stakeholders is one of PHMSA's core goals to ensure these communities are fully primed to deal with any type of hazardous material or pipeline incident. PHMSA provides technical expertise to industry and works closely with the response community to ensure the transportation system remains safe. Moving into the future, it is essential for PHMSA to continue to build partnerships with you, the stakeholder, for the improvement of emergency response capabilities and continue to enhance the safety of the hazardous materials transportation and energy pipeline supply system.

Hazardous Materials Transportation and Pipeline Accidents are to be reported directly to the 24-hour National Response Center (NRC): at 1-800-424-8802. To reach the DOT's 24-hour Crisis Management Center, call 202-366-1863





This newsletter provides information on the EPA Risk Management Program, EPCRA, SPCC/FRP (Facility Response Plan) and other issues relating to Accidental Release Prevention Requirements. The information should be used as a reference tool, not as a definitive source of compliance information. Compliance regulations are published in 40 CFR Part 68 for CAA section 112(r) Risk Management Program, 40 CFR Part 355/370 for EPCRA, and 40 CFR Part 112.2 for SPCC/FRP.

Page 6