Ethylene Oxide: Technical Reviews and Outreach to Potentially Affected Communities

Status Report for Evonik Corporation, Milton, Wisconsin

First Quarter 2021 Update

As EPA pursues its mission to protect public health and the environment, addressing ethylene oxide remains a major priority for the Agency. EPA's National Air Toxics Assessment (NATA), released in August 2018, identified a number of areas of the country where risks of cancer were potentially elevated because of ethylene oxide emissions. NATA estimated risk based on emissions from 2014, which were the most recently available at the time.

Because NATA is a screening-level analysis, additional work is needed to better understand emissions in areas NATA identifies as potentially having elevated risk, and to identify opportunities for early reductions at individual facilities, while EPA reviews its regulations for industries. EPA is supporting its state air agency partners in that work.

In January 2021, EPA posted a status report describing the technical analysis and outreach work conducted for Evonik Corporation. This document summarizes any additional work conducted in the first quarter of 2021.

Technical review updates:

Evonik Corporation, located in Milton, Wisc., is a chemical manufacturing plant. It makes specialty chemicals that are used in household, industrial and institutional cleaners, as well as mining, roof coatings, asphalt and other industrial applications.

- **Technical analysis**: The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) has been working with Evonik and the previous owner since 2010 to reduce emissions. From 2014 to 2019, reported emissions dropped 85% from 792.4 to 111.45 pounds per year. This reduction is the result of emissions verification, removal of equipment, and installation of emission-reducing components. During the first quarter of 2021, WDNR continued to work with Evonik to refine its understanding of emissions and potential risk from the facility.

Outreach updates:

- **Website**: WDNR maintains a website about Evonik. The website gives background on the facility, including its reported EtO emissions since 2012.