



NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD - **Public Hearing**

Conrail Derailment in Paulsboro, NJ with Vinyl Chloride Release

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| GROUP | 3 |
| EXHIBIT | |
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Agency / Organization

Washington Township

Title

Washington Township

Letter of Preparedness

John Hoffman

From: John Hoffman
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2011 2:46 PM
To: DeAngelo, Jack
Cc: Pat Dolgos; lee jim
Subject: CBRNE Team

Jack,

This morning I was approached by a number of firefighters and fire officers within WTFD who expressed some concerns regarding the current status of the Gloucester County CBRNE Team. Some of these concerns lead directly to the safe and well being of them while they are performing duties as part of the team. Under our agreement, the individuals are still "employees" of the fire district even though they get released to perform duties directly under the command of others.

In the beginning, our department provided a number of HAZMAT Technicians to ensure the team had enough personnel to qualify for grant money. In addition, we willingly accepted the responsibility for our department to provide for technical DECON to the team. At the current count, it looks like we are providing 11 firefighters to the team not counting others who are members of our department but who are county employees and are working as such when assigned to a CBRNE job. Another 85% (estimate) of our department firefighters are qualified to perform DECON. This represents a significant and continuing commitment on our department's part to ensure the Gloucester County CBRNE Team and the supporting DECON unit are capable of providing an adequate response to Gloucester County.

To ensure the CBRNE Team remains effective and provided with adequate numbers of qualified personnel and to satisfy the concerns of the firefighters from our department, we'd like to ask you provide the following information by the next training session scheduled for next week:

- A copy of all active and valid SOPs/SOGs for CBRNE
- A copy of the current organizational chart with individual names and their respective positions
- A list of the current qualified technician level and non technician level team members
- A copy of the 2011 training schedule
- A copy of the 2011 funding level for training & new team equipment
- A copy of the 2010 attendance list at training drills and actual full team responses

Please feel free to contact me regarding this request or to discuss further some of the concerns in more detail.

John Hoffman
Fire Chief
Washington Township FD