

Appendix 2
Hazardous Materials Group Factual
10/7/05 Addendum
Norfolk Southern Information

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Office of Railroad, Pipeline, and Hazardous Materials Investigations

ORAL INTERVIEW

Person Conducting Interview:

Name James E. Henderson
Code RPH
Title Haz. Mat. Accident Inv.

Place of Interview:

Washington, DC
to
New Orleans, LA

Date:

10/4/05

Other parties involved in the interview:

Robert Trainor, NTSB

Type of Interview:

☒ Telephone ☐ Personal

Location of Interview: (Check one)

☒ Office ☐ Field

Name of Person Interviewed:

Title:

Charles (Chip) Day

Name and Address of Firm:

Type of Operation:

Norfolk Southern Corporation
Roanoke, VA

Railroad

(Statements are paraphrased)

He stated that he now works for Norfolk Southern. (At the time of the accident he was working for Hulcher Services Inc., Denton, TX) On January 8, he took a measurement of the amount of liquid chlorine in the ruptured tank car by observing that level through the fracture opening in the tank. He passed that height measurement to Bruce Fleming of Olin. He has no memory or written note of the height measurement. Bruce told him that he calculated there was 44 tons of chlorine still in the tank using that measurement. He then noted 44 tons in his handwritten notes at midnight between January 8 and 9.

Norfolk Southern
Aiken, SC
Graniteville, SC

1. 0900 Ops meeting
- Load out plan
- Car line up?

Tasks

1. Load out Cl_2 T/C's
and take to Dlin
2. Load coil cars
- 2 on one flat
- 1 hole cause car
alone
2. USCG -
- drop to level D
- with respirator
on body for scrapping
3. Patch installed 1-12
0930 hrs
4. Sample collect prior
to buttoning up NaOH
cars

405-300-2424 & 2508

Gary Sommer

1. PPE @ decon
2. Go Kits
3. Contain all equip @
parking lot
4. Barricade tape off
around frag
5. Unbolt all chlorine hose
6. Equip list for bleach
production
7. Cell putty patch
- ✓ 8. Shore holed T/C (2)
9. Cut jacket on head
10. S/S spargers
- 11.

10

Thursday 1-6-05

1330 Arrived & met w/ NIS
to develop work
plan for entry

1530 - made 4 person
entry for checking
pressures
- No domes access-
able. Leak coming
from side wall
of southern T/C

Crew out awaiting
equipment arrival
• Wrecking plan approved
for wrecking out skirts
of site. No T/C work
- move coil covers
- Kaydin cars
- Endo box car
- Empty Ammonium
sulfate

1/7

0100 Safety meeting
- new assignment
0430 load equipment
for decon

0600 Entry in level
C to place manholes

0700 Stop ops for
meeting

0800 Cl₂ cloud large
due to humidity,
2 level A crews
to inspect hole

0900 Crew enters

0930 Crew out, found
crack but can't
fix due to jacket

0945 Coiman wrecking
around coil cars

1030 Coil cars moved
identified crack
in UTLX 900270

1050 Hul, Hepaco and
FRS enter to
identify leak
size

1150 Crew out

1145 Job shut down
for debrief

1300 5 personnel
for FBI support
of switch inspection

1430 Met FBI and
stage equip @
Decon 1

1500 Safety meeting
w/FBI

1530 Entry team in
for switch

1615 Crew out w/FBI
Police debrief
law enforcement
entry for house
check

2115 Police complete
allowed to resume
ops. Meet EPA

2227 Breed/Dave/~~Bob~~
and Todd to enter
shut down duct
7-9 ppm @ Decon
Crew moved out
of site

2230 Awaiting Ag line
from Hepaco for
covering Cl₂ spill
area

7/8

0000 Crew change
tasks:

- spread lime
- move car parts
- debris
- coil steel
- remove jacket
on holed Cl₂ car

0730 Job stopped
for body recovery
Crew to order
equipment for
patch

1200 Crew change
tasks:

- patch design
- unload NaOH
- identify second
hole
- More Ag line

GATX
58326

1/9

1830 Give approval
to proceed
after Police work
tasks:

- remove hoppers
- inspect Cl_2 car
- pump hydroxide
- spread lime
- lay panels
- Place poly tank

2000 Entry to photo

Cl_2 car and

inspect 2nd hole

2050 Poly tank set

frac 1 set and

begin transfer

Load of NaOH

found to be

whole - NO LEAKS

2315 Drilled NaOH

after cutting

stuffing box

cover.

* 0000 ± 44 ton Cl_2 in holes

0215 Meet w/ NLS

about Cl_2

exposure from

decon 3

0330 To bed @
Augusta

1537 NaOH transfer
complete.

Wrecking crew moved
hopper cars off Cl_2
North car and
box cars

Telephone company
building problem.
Shut down for
HOURS waiting
for HEPACO photo
opportunities!

Temp patch (poly)
installed, very
little leakage

Night crew preparing
for Cl_2 T/C move

- fuel
- PPE
- light plants
- decon
- New air equip
(SRS)