

**LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
INCIDENT REPORT**

Incident ID: 120703

Incident Description

Incident Type: Release/Spill, Facility Air Release
Incident Date: 1/10/2010 20:20:00
Parish: East Baton Rouge
Municipality: Baton Rouge
Location: ExxonMobil Chemical Co - 4999 Scenic - Baton Rouge
Lat/Lon:
Basin/Segment:
Substance(s): Flammable vapors 435172 lb
Media Impacted: Air
Incident Desc: s10-0133 Undetermined cause of leak....Propylene, 1-3 Butadiene, Benzene, Ethylene, NOx, & SO2...flaring...cj

Incident Status

Lead Investigator: Serugudi Mani
Incident Region: Capital
Incident Status: Closed
Followup Status: Closed
As Of: 4/6/2010 00:00:00

Incident Reporter 1

Received By: Cindy Lafosse
Received Date: 1/10/2010 21:00:00
Dispatch #: s10-0133
Reported By: Rhonda Arledge
Phone: 225-977-8133 (Work phone number)
Reporter Title:
Organization: ExxonMobil Chemical Co
Address: P O Box 241

Municipality: Baton Rouge
State: LA
Zip Code: 70821
Comments: LSP10-00185....updated by Ernesto Johnson on 1/11/10 @ 11:40...cj

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INCIDENT REPORT

Incident ID: 120703

Incident Source 1

Source Name: ExxonMobil Baton Rouge Chemical Plant
Address: 4999 Scenic Hwy

Municipality: Baton Rouge
State: LA
Phone: 2259774079 (Work phone number)
Parish: East Baton Rouge
AI #: 286
Related Permits:

Comments: Cause is unknown at this time and significant flaring will result. Shutting down the unit. Started 20:20 1/10/10. srm
Report was received 1/19/10. EPLA (Ethylene Purification Unit) uses high pressure propylene for refrigeration. Leak in pipe started 1/9/10 but discovered 1/10/10 20:20 hrs. Proper and safe disposition of high pressure propylene is flaring. EPLA was shut down and more flaring occurred. Ended 1/11/10 3:22 am. Subsequent start up also resulted in flaring which are covered under permit.
Releases during 1/9/10 - 1/11/10 are :

Ethylene 801 lb., Propylene 422024 lb and Flammable vapors 435172 lb.
Non preventable as it was an unusual incident Investigation is being conducted and if the root cause was found will update. srm

The follow up report after investigation was received 3/22/10. Release occurred at the high pressure propylene refrigeration system in the Ethylene Purification unit. Leak occurred in the propylene line on 1/9/10 and discovered 1/10/10 8:20 PM> The proper disposition of propylene was flaring and the unit had to shut down which also resulted in flaring. The root cause investigation revealed that actual release started Octobert 9,2009 prior to detection.
Release amounts were updated :
Ethylene : 716 lb., Propylene : 2,421,834 lb VOCs 141,454 lb and flammable vapors 2,562,647 lb.

Follwing corrective actions are contemplated : Design and install a permanent repair for the line., Review vibration study; Increase HAWK camera utilization to detect leaks early; implement flow alarms for early warning via REal Time Advisor computer system.

Exxon Mobil personnel requested and met with the Enforcement Division to settle the penalty on this preventable release. srm