

Section 4: Notification Procedures

EPCRA §11003(c)(4) reads:

Procedures providing reliable, effective, and timely notification by the facility emergency coordinators and the community emergency coordinator to persons designated in the emergency plan, and to the public, that a release has occurred (consistent with the emergency notification requirements of section 11004 of EPCRA).

Facility Notification Procedures

The DeKalb County LEPC will send copies of the state and federal release notification handouts and a copy of the applicable section of the Federal EPCRA law (42 USC §11004) to all facility emergency coordinators.

These notification requirements are summarized as follows:

In the event of an accidental chemical release the owner or operator of a facility, or the transporter is required to properly notify federal, state and local agencies. Notification is required when the chemical released exceeds the reportable quantity of an extremely hazardous substance or a Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA, also known as Superfund, which pays for cleanup when liability cannot be assigned) hazardous substance.

Failure to follow these notification requirements may cause the LEPC to refer the matter to IEMA for enforcement.

When to Notify:

Immediate notification is necessary if a release occurs which results in:

- ❑. A member of the general public is hospitalized or killed
- ❑. An authorized official of an emergency agency recommends an evacuation for the general public
- ❑. Fire, breakage, release or suspected contamination occurs involving an etiologic agent
- ❑. A motor vehicle has overturned on a public highway
- ❑. Any release of oil that produces sheen of water and/or threatens involving navigable waters

If a reportable quantity release has been exceeded, immediate notification is required.

Who to Notify (in order of notification):

1. Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA)
1-800-782-7860
2. National Response Center (NRC)
1-800-424-8802
3. DeKalb Co. ESDA
1-815-895-7206
4. DeKalb Co. Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)
1-815-895-2155 (answered by DeKalb Co. Sheriff's Dispatch)

Transporters involved in an accidental chemical release must call the NRC and 911 in the area where the accident has occurred.

What to Notify:

Initial notification should include the following:

- Specific location of release
- Name and telephone number of the person to contact at the site
- The chemical name of substance that is released and whether or not it is hazardous
- Quantity of substance released
- Time and duration of release
- Medium or media (air, land, and water) where release occurred
- Proper precautions that need to be put in place in result of the release, including evacuations
- Health risks associated with the release of this chemical. Advice regarding the treatment of people who may get exposed

A written follow-up notification should be done after the initial notification. The owner or operator of the facility should send the follow-up report to the SERC or LEPC. The follow-up report should include the following:

- Actions taken to respond to and contain the release
- Any known or anticipated health risks associated with the release
- What is appropriate advice regarding medical attention for exposed individuals?
- Any changed or updated information from the initial notification

Additional follow-up notices shall be made as conditions and information change.

Community Notification Procedures

The Incident Commander or designee will be responsible for communicating notification of an EHS/HM release.