

Regional Response Team (RRT) Annual Report

Region:	4	Calendar Year:	2016
EPA RRT Co-Chair:	James Webster	Email:	Webster.James@epa.gov
USCG RRT Co-Chair:	Forest Willis	Email:	Forest.A.Willis@uscg.mil
EPA RRT Coordinator:	Gary Andrew	Email:	Andrew.Gary@epa.gov
USCG RRT Coordinator:	James Davis	Email:	James.P.Davis3@uscg.mil

A. Annual Meetings

	Dates	Location	# of Attendees	Website for presentations
1.	March 1-3	Gulfport, MS	85	https://www.nrt.org/site/site_profile.aspx?site_id=54
2.	August 16-18	Savannah, GA	105	https://www.nrt.org/site/site_profile.aspx?site_id=54
3.				

B. Activations / Notifications

1.	Dates:	September 16	Event:	Pelham Pipeline Spill	ACT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NOT	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Issue / Concern:	On September 9, 2016, at 1449 hours, Colonial Pipeline reported to the National Response Center that there was a gasoline spill from a 36" below-ground pipeline. Gasoline traveled overland for approximately 500 feet to a pond that feeds into the Peel Creek which is a tributary of the Cahaba River. Colonial has estimated the amount of gasoline released to be at least 6,000 barrels, or 252,000 gallons. On-Scene Coordinators, Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team Contractors and the United States Coast Guard Gulf Strike Team were deployed to the incident.						
	Agencies Involved:	Environmental Protection Agency, United States Coast Guard, Alabama Department of Environmental Management, Alabama Emergency Management Agency, Federal Emergency Management Agency Department of the Interior, US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Pollution Fund Center						
	Decisions Made:	Federal On Scene Coordinator (FOSC) Chuck Berry provided an overview of the site conditions. Contacts between FEMA and Colonial Pipeline provided for updates on critical infrastructure repair progress.						
2.	Dates:	November 01	Event:	Colonial Gasoline Pipeline Fire	ACT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NOT	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Issue / Concern:	On October 31, 2016 at 1455 hours a Colonial Pipeline contractor struck a 36" below ground transmission gasoline pipeline while unearthing threaded O-rings (TOR) for rendering the line inert to install a permanent repair necessitated by the previous pipeline rupture on September 9, 2016. The gasoline pipeline exploded and caught fire. At 1656 hours, Colonial Pipeline reported the incident to the National Response Center. One worker was fatally injured and six workers were transported to local hospitals.						
	Agencies Involved:	Environmental Protection Agency, United States Coast Guard, Alabama Department of Environmental Management, Alabama emergency Management Agency, Federal Emergency Management Agency Department of the Interior, US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Pollution Fund Center, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Pipeline Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, Department of State, Tennessee Department of Emergency Management						
	Decisions Made:	FOSC Buerki provided an overview of site activities.						
3.	Dates:		Event:		ACT	<input type="checkbox"/>	NOT	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Issue / Concern:							

	Agencies Involved:				
	Decisions Made:				
4.	Dates:		Event:		ACT
	Issue / Concern:				
	Agencies Involved:				
	Decisions Made:				

C. RRT Exercises

1.	Dates:	April 19, 20	Event:	NUWAIX 2016
	Agencies Involved:	All RRT 4 state and federal agencies		
	Summary of exercise:	This was a US Navy led exercise. It uniquely involved the activation of the RRT by the Navy Federal On Scene Coordinator.		
2.	Dates:	March - June	Event:	Downstream Notification Exercises
	Agencies Involved:	EPA, Region 4 States, DOI, some local agencies		
	Summary of exercise:	This series of exercises was intended to strengthen the process of identifying and notifying potentially impacted parties downstream of a spill including adjacent EPA regions natural resources trustees and a variety of internal R4 and EPA Headquarters office personnel.		
3.	Dates:		Event:	
	Agencies Involved:			
	Summary of exercise:			

D. Changes in RRT Leadership

Agency	Outgoing Personnel	Incoming personnel
1) USCG	Darrel Wieland	James Davis
2)		
3)		

E. Best Practices and Lessons Learned by the RRT (which may help other RRTs)

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F. Federal, State, and Local Planning and Coordination Efforts

RRT 4 continued to dedicate meeting time to state and local concerns. Meetings in Mississippi and Georgia highlighted planning and coordination efforts involving our host communities. Local industry and response organizations actively participated in these meetings, sharing their knowledge, demonstrating their resources and developing relationships with the RRT 4 community.

G. Challenges and Issues (and Operational Requirements Which May Require NRT Attention)