



# U. S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board

## RECOMMENDATIONS STATUS CHANGE

### SUMMARY

<b>Report:</b>	Freedom Industries Chemical Release
<b>Recommendation Number:</b>	2014-01-I-WV-R3
<b>Date Issued:</b>	September 28, 2016
<b>Recipient:</b>	Eastman Chemical Company (ECC)
<b>New Status:</b>	Closed – Acceptable Action
<b>Date of Status Change:</b>	February 12, 2018

#### Recommendation Text:

*Update appropriate sections of the Crude MCHM Safety Data Sheet to include toxicological and ecological information based on the June 1, 2016, National Toxicology Program's toxicity evaluation of Crude MCHM. Include information about the effects of Crude MCHM on fetal and early life growth and development. Distribute the revised Crude MCHM SDS to all customers that previously received and are currently using or storing MCHM from Eastman, and ensure all new MCHM customers receive the revised SDS with shipment.*

#### Board Status Change Decision:

##### A. Rationale for Recommendation

On January 9, 2014, aboveground storage tanks (ASTs) at Freedom Industries, Inc., in Charleston, West Virginia, were found to have leaked approximately 10,000 gallons of Shurflot 944, a mixture of crude methylcyclohexane methanol (MCHM) and polyglycol ethers (PPH, stripped), through two small holes on the tank floor. The secondary containment, or dike wall, had cracks and holes from disrepair that allowed the tank contents to escape the containment and find a pathway to the Elk River. Once in the river, the tank contents flowed downstream to the intake of the West Virginia American Water (WVAW) water treatment facility, about 1.5 miles down-river from Freedom. The evening of January 9, 2014, WVAW issued a Do Not Use (DNU) order for 93,000 customer accounts (approximately 300,000 residents) across a portion of nine counties.

The U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB) made a recommendation to Eastman Chemical Company (ECC), the manufacturer of Crude MCHM, to revise its Safety Data Sheet (SDS) to include toxicological information not available at the time of the incident but is now available from the National Toxicology Program (NTP). Specifically, the CSB is recommending that ECC add information related to Crude MCHM's developmental impacts.

##### B. Response to the Recommendation

In November of 2017, ECC advised the CSB that it had revised its Crude MCHM SDS to include the toxicological information from the NTP related to developmental impacts and that existing and new customers have been/are provided with the updated version.

##### C. Board Analysis and Decision

As Eastman Chemical Company has fully satisfied the intent of CSB Recommendation No. 2014-01-I-WV-R3, the Board voted to change its status to: "**Closed – Acceptable Action.**"