U. S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board
RECOMMENDATION STATUS CHANGE SUMMARY

Report:	BP - Husky Oregon Chemical Release and Fire
Recommendation Number:	2022-01-I-OH-R5
Date Issued:	June 24, 2024
Recipient:	American Petroleum Institute (API)
New Status:	Open – Awaiting Response or Evaluation/Approval of Response
Date of Status Change:	Not Applicable – Initial Status

Recommendation Text:

Develop a new publication or revise an existing publication, such as API Recommended Practice 556 Instrumentation, Control, and Protective Systems for Gas Fired Heaters, to incorporate the process hazards associated with Fuel Gas Mix Drum overflow. The publication should include the following at a minimum:

a) Description of the process hazards associated with Fuel Gas Mix Drum overflow and the consequential impacts on equipment using fuel gas,

b) Guidance for Fuel Gas Mix Drum design and sizing criteria which includes consideration of condensation, entrainment, overflow, and draining,

c) Guidance for instrumentation to detect high level to prevent overfilling of Fuel Gas Mix Drums, and

d) Recommended practices for selecting preventive safeguards to prevent overfilling of Fuel Gas Mix Drums.

Board Status Change Decision:

A. Rationale for Recommendation

On September 20, 2022, a vapor cloud ignited at the BP-Husky Refining LLC ("BP Husky") refinery in Oregon, Ohio. The vapor cloud formed when flammable liquid naphtha was intentionally released from a pressurized vessel to the ground in response to an abnormal situation. Two employees were fatally injured. BP Husky estimated that over 23, 000 pounds of naphtha was released during the event, and that $597 million in damage was incurred.

The U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB) investigated the incident and found several safety issues including inadequate safeguarding to prevent liquid overflow, ineffective abnormal situation management, and failure to learn from previous incidents. As a result of these findings, the CSB issued two recommendations to the American Petroleum Institute (API). This status change summary addresses **CSB Recommendation No. 2022-01-I-OH-R5**.