



U. S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board

RECOMMENDATION STATUS CHANGE SUMMARY

Report:	United States Steel Corporation Clairton Plant Coke Oven Explosion
Recommendation Number:	2025-03-I-PA R3
Date Issued:	August 10, 2026
Recipient:	U.S. Steel
New Status:	Open – Awaiting Response or Evaluation/Approval of Response
Date of Status Change:	Not Applicable – Initial Status

Recommendation Text:

Develop a written procedure in accordance with industry guidance such as NFPA 56 Standard for Fire and Explosion Prevention During Cleaning and Purging of Flammable Gas Piping Systems, for washing valve seats with pressurized water. Ensure that the procedure includes steps and other controls, including overpressure protection, to minimize the hazards of the operation. Ensure that workers who will or might perform the operation are involved in the development of the procedure and are trained on the procedure.

Board Status Change Decision:

A. Rationale for Recommendation

On August 11, 2025, a loss of containment of coke oven gas at the U.S. Steel Clairton Coke Works facility in Clairton, PA resulted in an explosion. The loss of containment occurred when a valve in a coke oven battery was over pressurized during maintenance. The explosion fatally injured two workers, injured eleven other workers, and resulted in \$52.2 million in property damage.

The U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB) investigated the incident and found several safety issues including deficiencies in process safety management such as a lack of procedures and ineffective hazard analyses. Facility siting was specifically noted as a deficiency during the investigation. As a result of these findings, the CSB issued five recommendations to U.S. Steel. This status change summary addresses CSB Recommendation No. 2025-03-I-PA R3.