

Minter City, MS Derailment

30 March 2015

Minter City Derailment

- 9 rail cars derailed
 - Lumber – Auto racks – 1 Hazmat (DCPD)
- Rural agricultural area and woodlands impacted.
- MDEQ responded immediately and relayed assessment data internally and to EPA.
- RP initiated an immediate and appropriate response to the incident.

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- Resin Oils Heavy
 - Main component is DCPD (Dicyclopentadiene)
 - Produced in the steam cracking of naphtha and gas oils to ethylene
 - Major uses: resins, inks, adhesives and paints
 - 0.003 odor threshold
 - Flammable: 1% to 10% range
 - Toxic to kidneys, liver, GI tract, upper respiratory tract, skin, eyes, CNS.

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- Challenges
 - Coordination of multiple priorities
 - Derail/Rerail
 - Response/Cleanup
 - RR Dangerous Goods transition to Environmental
 - RR Engineering and Maintenance of Way
 - Undercutting
 - Rouge excavator
 - Don't assume everyone knows ICS or how to function within the ICS framework.

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- Challenges
 - Landowners
 - 2 landowners impacted, one of which is a family of three lawyers. They in turn hired legal representation almost immediately.
 - Were on site unannounced almost daily.
 - Very dangerous situation: rail traffic, work activities, potential for exposure to DCPD.
 - Slowed site activity due to routing of all requests through attorneys for landowners and RR.

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- What went right?
 - No casualties!
 - RP was present and engaged throughout.
 - ICS was established very early and was a critical component in managing a challenging response.
 - Everybody learned something...good or bad.
 - Competing priorities have to be considered.
 - See the big picture.
 - I should have gone to law school.

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Questions?

