

## NRG/Potomac River Sheen Response Nov 28 – Dec 5, 2016

RRT MEETING – MAY 9, 2017

### **Potomac River Drinking Water Intakes**



### No Potomac, No Coffee



3 million + people rely on the Potomac River for drinking water

 Water service disruption is possible if intakes closed for + 24 hours

Regional economic impact is + \$1B after 3 days if service is disrupted

### **Regional Water Supply**



## Potomac River Sheen – Overview

- Sunday 11/27: oil sheen first reported, NRG Energy notifies NRC but does not take responsibility, utilities notified, State/County agencies notified, ICPRB model run, initial protective actions;
- Sheen incident no urgency by LEMs;
- Sheen incident a major threat to the five DWs;
- <u>11/28</u>: Unified Command established, first flyover conducted, sheen observed for 12 mile stretch, booms deployed and more requested, GCMS extraction method developed, sheen and intake sampling;
- 11/29: multiple COG/UC regional calls, no flyover due to weather, river flow is low, stagnant
- <u>11/30 12/5</u>: shoreline surveyed, IAP developed, regional calls and intake monitoring continued, USCG lab fingerprints oil to source - NRG
- 12/6 on: shoreline cleanup operations, regional calls and monitoring continue

### Monday 11/28

- UC provides situation report regarding sheen magnitude from fly-over survey:
  - Intermittent
     sheen over 10-12
     miles
  - Obvious

     leading and
     trailing edges
     from
     Monocacy R to
     Fairfax Water





Sheen was very apparent at FW intakes
This continued with varying intensity for 9 days.
"Makeshift" boom deployed by FW

## Quagmire?

- ▶ 1. Jurisdictions and Regulatory entities on Potomac
  - A. Maryland owns the river in this section;
  - B. MW COG coordinates planning, preparedness and communications Metro Washington Council of Governments;
  - C. ICPRB private group provides river modelling for utilities
  - D. EPA OSC AOR from beltway north whereas USCG Sector NCR/Md from beltway south;
  - E. Bevy of regulatory and coordinating entities County EMAs, DDOEE, State EMAs, VaDEQ, MDE, MDE, MDE-NPDES and Sector NCR/Md;
  - F. Drinking Water Primacies EPA III ODW, Virginia DH and MDE ODW;
  - G. DW utilities and their customer utilities on both sides

## Coordination and Organization

### Unified Command

- Nov 28 includes EPA OSC, Sector NCR/Md, MDE, MEMA, DDOEE, VaDEQ and VaDEM;
- Objectives protect intakes, assess impacts, find source/RP
- DW utilities demand representation in UC;
- Nov 29 EPA Region 3 IMT slow to mobilize, however Operations initiated right away with ERRS contractor deployment to begin hard boom placement at all five intakes;
- Nov 30 Liason (LNO) takes over daily coordination calls between UC/IMT and COG/Utilities, provides situation reports;
- Overflights resume on Dec 1, no overflights on Nov 29 and 30;
- Source identification group focusses on Whites Ferry, NRG Dickerson, and Monocacy R upstream possibilities, fingerprint samples from Whites Ferry and NRG collected on 11/30 and sent to sent to Coil lab on 12/1;
- Coil Lab Data returned on 12/5, NRG confronted, declared a 150gal turbine oil discharge; SDS and turbine oil samples distributed by UC;

#### Incident Organi zati on Chart





## INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM

### UNIFIED COMMAND



"I am not sure why the water utilities cannot be a part of the UCG. It seems to me that there would be no conflict with respect to the investigatory nature of what you are doing. By being a part of the UCG, they would have the opportunity to help frame objectives and tactics. I very much appreciate allowing us to have XXXX engaged and for the COG to have a rep, but the process of sharing information with the utilities is a tedious one. I think the UCG ought to be as big a tent as necessary to ensure an optimal response in every critical area – investigation, treatment, protection/mitigation, and health. If you need to compartmentalize some of the meetings, that makes sense, but excluding the utilities cuts out the opportunity to expedite decision making on both sides."

DIRECTOR FEMA ONCRC – 11/29/16 EMAIL TO FOSC

## Who's in Unified Command?

NRT Technical Assistance Document (TAD) 2007

- Have jurisdictional authority or functional responsibility under a law or ordinance;
- Have the regulatory authority for commanding, coordinating or managing a major aspect of the response;
- Have the resources including funds to support participation in the response organization;
- Have an area of responsibility that is affected by the incident or response operations;

# Going Forward?

## Preparedness

Bring utilities, county and state EMs, primacies, Health departments into training sessions to meet and work thru issues and priorities, exercise the ERPs;

## DW Utility Emergency Response Plans (ERPs)

- Limited to power outage response?
- Call down lists should include 911 and/or county officials?
- Capability to harden intakes? (Now have sized and cut deflection boom)
- Train to their plans?
- Coordinated with LEMs and SEMs for contamination incidents?
- Oil contamination treatment capability?
- Alternate sources of dw?

## Preparedness

- EPA RIII FOSC Potomac River Geographic Response Plan in development;
- "Bridging the Gap" Guidance Document from EPA HQ
- EPA HQ ODW and Region III "Water and Emergency Services Workshops"
- NCR Water Agency Response Network (WARN) Exercise (4/27/17)
- CBERS in Virginia (Community Based Emergency Response Series) 4/25/17
  - "Water You Drinking"
  - assess lines of communication between agencies;
  - identify interdependencies between different agencies;
  - assess agency capabilities and resources;
  - determine stakeholder's roles and responsibilities

"Bridging the Gap – Coordination between State Primacy Agencies and State Emergency Management Agencies"

- https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-12/documents/bridging\_the\_gap.pdf
- in many jurisdictions these agencies have worked in isolation rather than in collaboration"
- Montgomery County (Md) Emergency Management reacted as discharge was a minor release;
- ► Fairfax County similar;
- WSSC (DW) reacted as discharge was MAJOR concern
- Fairfax County EM and Fairfax Water (DW) similar
- Primacies Va DoH, MDE and EPA RIII ODW different levels of engagement

### NCRWARN Functional Exercise

Thursday, April 27, 2017 · 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. DC Water · Bryant Street Pumping Station 301 Bryant Street, NW · Washington, DC 20001

**Event Description:** The District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (DC Water) will be hosting an U.S. EPA-sponsored National Capital Region Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network (NCRWARN) functional exercise (FE) on Thursday, April 27, 2017. The FE will be the opportunity to rehearse a NCRWARN resource request mission (i.e., activation, deployment and demobilization) using a hypothetical scenario. This will also be an opportunity to assess recent updates made to the NCRWARN resource request process. Additionally, participants will utilize the new Metropolitan Washington Council of Government (MWCOG) information sharing website. Upon arrival, DC Water will demonstrate capabilities and display response equipment. Participants and observers will not be conducting physical activities as part of the FE.

Who Should Participate: Representatives from NCRWARN members, interested nonmember utilities and response partners.

#### Timeline: Thursday, April 27, 2017

Check-in:	10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
<ul> <li>Functional Exercise – Operational Brief:</li> </ul>	11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
<ul> <li>LUNCH – Provided by DC Water and MWCOG:</li> </ul>	11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
<ul> <li>Functional Exercise – Demonstrations and Displays:</li> </ul>	12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
<ul> <li>Improvement Planning:</li> </ul>	1:00 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.
<ul> <li>Demobilization - Evaluations/Closing:</li> </ul>	1:45 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Registration: All participants should register at www.horsleywitten.com/dcwater/ncrwarn/

Questions: Please contact Carl Simons by email at <u>csimons@horsleywitten.com</u> or Will Keefer by email at <u>wkeefer@horsleywitten.com</u> or by phone at 508-833-6600.

Local POCs: The DC Water contact is Dusti Lowndes at <u>dusti.lowndes@dcwater.com</u>. The MWCOG contact is Heidi Bonnaffon at <u>hbonnaffon@mwcog.org</u>.









## Summary

### More work needed:

- Utilities and EMAs CBERS type training
- EMAs and Primacies
- Utility ERPs robust plans need to include oil contamination response;
- Call down lists should include local fire and EMA;
- Be ready to harden intakes in near term, don't rely on EPA or RP;
- What support resources are needed ie lab, sampling
- Can county and or state support resource needs or does EPA need to assist
- IMT where can utilities best fit?