

United States Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB) announces that it will hold a public meeting on February 4, 2010, in Garner, North Carolina to consider urgent recommendations to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), the American Gas Association (AGA) and the Chair of the NFPA 54/ANSI Z223.1 Committee that result from its investigation of this incident.

The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. in the Oak Forrest Ballroom at the Sheraton Raleigh Hotel, 421 Salisbury St., Raleigh, North Carolina. The meeting is free and open to the public. Pre-registration is not required, but to assure adequate seating, attendees are encouraged to pre-register by emailing their names and affiliations to ConAgra@CSB.gov by January 29, 2010.

On June 9, 2009, the ConAgra Slim Jim production facility in Garner, North Carolina, experienced a catastrophic natural gas explosion that caused four deaths, three critical life-threatening burn injuries, an amputation, and other injuries that sent a total of 71 people to the hospital. The explosion caused serious structural damage to 100,000 square feet of the packaging area of the plant, including wall and roof collapse, which had the potential to cause additional deaths and serious injuries.

The accident occurred during the installation and commissioning of a new gas-fired industrial water heater, manufactured by Energy Systems Analysts, Inc. (ESA). On the day of the accident, an ESA worker was attempting to purge the new gas piping of air by opening the supply of gas, prior to the start-up of the water heater. The purged gas was piped directly into the room rather than being vented to the outside. Some ConAgra employees smelled gas in the packaging area, others did not. Personnel who were in and out of the utility room noticed the gas odor but most were not seriously concerned and considered the purging activity to be a normal part of the start-up process. The ESA and ConAgra employees were not aware that as a result of the purging, a dangerous release of natural gas had occurred into the building, exceeding the lower explosive limit (LEL).

The vicinity of the utility room contained numerous potential ignition sources, including multiple unclassified electrical devices. Nonessential personnel were neither aware of the water heater start-up nor instructed to leave the plant during the gas line purging activity. Over 200 people who had no role in the installation were in the building at the time of the explosion.

At the meeting, the CSB investigative team will present its preliminary findings supporting the need for urgent recommendations arising from this incident to the CSB Board and the public. The Board will then ask questions of the team. At the end of the panel discussion, the Board will consider the urgent recommendations proposed by the staff. At the end of the Board's deliberations, the Board may decide to proceed to vote to formally approve the draft urgent recommendations.

The meeting will be videotaped and an official transcript will be included in the investigative file. All staff presentations are preliminary and are intended solely to allow the Board to consider the issues and factors involved in this case in a public forum. No factual analyses, conclusions, findings or recommendations of the staff should be considered final. Only after the Board has considered and approved the urgent recommendations will there be an approved final record.

Christopher W. Warner,

General Counsel.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Agency: Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS).

Title: Chemical Weapons Convention Declaration and Report Handbook and Forms.

OMB Control Number: 0694-0091.

Form Number(s): Form 1-1, Form 1-2, Form 1-2A, Form 1-2B, etc.

Type of Request: Extension without change of a currently approved collection.

Burden Hours: 16,047.

Number of Respondents: 816.

Average Hours per Response: 30 minutes to 577 hours (depending on the required documentation).

Needs and Uses: This information is required for the United States to comply with the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), an international arms control treaty. The Chemical Weapons Convention Implementation Act of 1998 and Commerce Chemical Weapons

Convention Regulations (CWCR) specify the rights, responsibilities and obligations for submission of declarations, reports and inspections.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Frequency: Annually or on occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

OMB Desk Officer: Jasmeet Seehra, (202) 395-3123.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, (202) 482-0266, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dHynek@doc.gov).

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to Jasmeet Seehra, OMB Desk Officer, via the Internet at Jasmeet.K.Seehra@omb.eop.gov or Fax to (202) 395-5167.

Dated: January 12, 2010.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Fisheries Certificate of Origin

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before March 16, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dHynek@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection