pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
PROGRAM INTEGRATION OFFICE

PA DEP – EMERGENCY RESPONSE INCIDENT REPORT

INCIDENT			
Brief Description:	ERT response to a fire at Ethane Cracking Furnace #5 at Shell Chemicals, Potter Twp, Beaver County		
Incident Date & Time:	2:19 PM on 6/4/25		
Weather Conditions:	Clear, dry and 70 degrees F		
LOCATION			
County:	Beaver County		
Municipality:	Potter Township		
Address / Directions:	300 FRANKFORT RD MONACA, PA 15061-2210		
Latitude / Longitude:	**Lat:**	**Lon:**	**Data Source:**
POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY			
Contact Person:	KIMBERLY KAAL, Environmental Manager		
Company / Organization:	SHELL CHEM APPALACHIA LLC		
Address:	300 FRANKFORT RD MONACA, PA 15061-2210		
Phone Number:	724-814-4503		
PROPERTY OWNER / FACILITY CONTACT			
Contact Person:	same as RP		
Company / Organization:			
Address:			
Phone Number:			
INSURANCE COMPANY INFORMATION			
Contact Person:	n/a		
Company:			
Phone Number:			
Policy Number:			
TRANSPORTATION RELATED INFORMATION			
Carrier Contact Person:	n/a		
Carrier Company:			
Carrier Address:			
Carrier Phone Number:			
License Plate:	**Truck / Tractor:**	**Trailer:**	**DOT #:**
Police Report:	**Police Dept.:**	**Report #:**	
CLEANUP CONTRACTOR			
Contact Person:	n/a		
Company / Organization:			
Address:			
Phone Number:			
DEP Emerg. Contract:	☐ **Yes** ☐ **No** **Estimated Cost:** $		

OTHER AGENCIES INVOLVED

Agency	Contact Person	Phone Number
none		

OBSERVATIONS / REMARKS

Don Bialosky PADEP ERT Manager contacted me at 7:43 PM to respond to a fire and possible butadiene and benzene emissions at Shell Chemicals. I was not at home when I received the call. I departed my home for the incident at 8:55 PM. I had already perfomed a bump test of my Altair 5X PID. I arrived at Shell Chemicals at 9:30 PM. There was no unusual/emergency activity on site. I did not observe any visible, fugitive or malodor emissions. The Altair 5x PID did not register any emissions above 0 ppm. I announced my presense at the Admin Security Gate. They called for their Security manager. I spoke with Lauren Uffleman, Shell Chemicals EH&S. She gave me the basic overview of the incident. She had already called me and left several voicemails concerning the incident. I will attach the voicemails to the report. Lauren Uffleman had Kim Kaal, Shell Chemicals EH&S Manager call me back. I spoke with Kim Kaal at 9:45 PM and she informed me of the incident in detail. Ethane Cracking Furnace (ECF) #5 (Source 035) experienced a fire beginning at 2:19 PM from furnace overpressure. The cause of the furnace overpressure is unknown. The fire caused smoke and VE from the furnace and stack for approximately 9 minutes. Fire fighting efforts continued until 4:00 PM. ECF #5 was not in production during the fire. It was operating under Pilots only. Shell reported possible butadiene and benzene emissions during the incident since there may be residual benzene and butadiene in the system even though there was no production and the reporting levels are so low. Shell will perform emissions calculations to determine if any benzene or butadiene emissions occurred and include that information in their subsequent reports to the NRC and PADEP. The NRC incident # is 1433121. Shell will submit the subsequent incident and malfunction reports as required to NRC and PADEP. Shell evacuated 15 employees due to the fire. There were no fire related injuries. There was one heat related injury. Fire fighting water runnof was captured by the collection system and sent to the WWTP. The incident did not cause any additional flaring by the Total Enclosed Ground Flares or Elevated Flare. Shell fenceline monitoring did not report any emissions from the incident. Currently, the following sources are in operation: ECF 1, 2, 3 and PE 1. Shell confirmed that there were no ongoing emissions or fire. I spoke with Don Bialosky, PADEP ERT Manager, at 10:01 PM. We discussed the incident. We agreeed that there was no reason to observe the ECF #5 at this point. I also met with two of Shell Chemicals Corporate Relations people on site: Kenyatta Miles and Joe Minnitte. I departed from Shell Chemicals at 10:15 PM.

DEP INCIDENT TYPE

☒ Air Contamination ☐ Land Contamination / Waste ☐ Mining Incident ☐ Oil or Gas Well Incident
☐ Radioactive Material ☐ Storage Tank Incident ☐ Water Contamination ☐ Water Supply Contamination
☐ Other or Non-DEP Incident:

RELEASE TYPE

☐ Discharge / Release ☐ Dumping / Disposal ☒ Fire Related
☐ None ☐ Spill ☐ Unknown
☐ Other:

MEDIA AFFECTED

☒ Air ☐ Land ☐ Surface Water ☐ Ground Water ☐ Within Facility Only ☐ None

Waterway:		☐ Affected ☐ Threatened
Area of Stream Affected:	☐ None or N/A ☐ See OBSERVATIONS / REMARKS section.	
Public Water Supply:		☐ Affected ☐ Threatened ☐ Notified
Public Sewage Treat.:		☐ Affected ☐ Threatened ☐ Notified

Endangered Species Impacted:	☐ Yes	☐ No	☒ Unknown	Species:
Endangered Species Habitat Impacted:	☐ Yes	☐ No	☒ Unknown	Species:
Cultural Resource Impacted:	☐ Yes	☐ No	☒ Unknown	Type:
Migratory Bird Impacted:	☐ Yes	☐ No	☒ Unknown	Species:

SUBSTANCES(S) INVOLVED

Substance	CAS Number	Lowest Published Exp. Limit	Total Amt Involved	Amt. Released	Amt. Recovered

SOURCE OF MATERIAL

☐ Above Ground Storage Tank ☐ Highway - Cargo ☐ Highway –Fuel / Fluids ☒ Industrial / Commercial
☐ Mining / Quarry ☐ None ☐ Oil / Gas Well ☐ Pipeline
☐ Railway (Train) ☐ Residential / Community ☐ Underground Storage Tank ☐ Unknown
☐ Vessel (Boat) ☐ Other:

MONITORING INFORMATION

Monitoring Conducted:	☒ Air ☐ Radiation ☐ Water Quality
Monitoring Results:	☐ None or N/A ☒ See OBSERVATIONS / REMARKS section.

SAMPLE INFORMATION

Sample(s) Collected:	☐ Yes ☒ No
Sample Description(s):	

DEP MATERIALS / EQUIPMENT USED (Sorbents, Test Strips, Meters, etc.)

Altair 5X PID

DEP RESPONDER INFORMATION

Name: Scott Beaudway **Title:** AQS **Phone:** 412-417-7952

Mileage (Portal-to Portal): 29 **Time (Response + Travel + Documentation + Refitting):** 0 **Reg. Hrs.** 3.75 **OT Hrs.**

PROGRAM REFERRAL (For Information and/or Follow up)

Program	Staff Notified	Date	Via
PADEP Air Quality	Steve Wiedemer	6/4/25	☒ Email ☐ Phone ☐ In Person
PADEP SWRO Management	Kevin Halloran, Eric Gustafson	6/4/25	☒ Email ☐ Phone ☐ In Person