

Prince Edward Island: Coastal Environments and the Cleanup of Oil Spills by E.H. Owens, P.O. Box 4224, Station A, Victoria, B.C. V8X 3X8, for the Environmental Emergency Division, Environmental Protection Service. Environment Canada, Halifax, Nova Scotia. Report EPS 3-EC-79-5, April 1979, 167 pages, no charge.

Oil spills are always undesirable, but especially unfortunate where they impinge on areas of unspoiled beauty. The economic impact of a summer influx is a serious consideration to year-round residents.

On Prince Edward Island, a coastline of 1260 km is exposed to a tidal range of 1.5 m to 3.0 m, over a wide variety of shoreline types. Winds, waves, tides, and ice relate to the transport and distribution of shore-zone sediments during a wide range of temperatures (-6.7 to $+18.4^{\circ}\text{C}$). These variables are discussed in detail as related to various types of oils. Excellent photographs illustrate various conditions. The most useful part of the report is Part 9 — Checklists. Spill information, shore-zone character, shore-zone sensitivity, shoreline protection and shoreline cleanup information each have practical application to any coastal area. The bibliography consists of 58 references, primarily to Canadian and American sources.

Three additional regional reports on oil spill control have been prepared by Dr. Owens:

Canadian Great Lakes — 1979, Report EPS 3-EC-79-2

Coastal Environments in Bay of Fundy — 1977, Report EPS 3-EC-77-9

Coastal Environments of Canada — 1977, Report EPS 3-EC-77-13.

H.H. FAWCETT

News Section

ACS, Division of Chemical Health and Safety

Background

The Division was authorized on a three-year probationary basis by the Council of the American Chemical Society in San Francisco, 1 Sept. 1976, and was given permanent status by the Council in Washington 12 Sept. 1979, following a successful three-year period.

Programs

The Division has conducted highly successful and informative symposia at each of the national meetings, starting with New Orleans, March 1977. For example, at the recent Washington meeting, symposia were conducted on a variety of topics (some in co-sponsorship with other Divisions and Committees):

The RCRA Act of 1976, and Abandoned Disposal Sites
Safety and Health as Related to Nuclear Power Plant Wastes

Effects of Chemicals on Reproduction — Not for Women Only
Information Resources for Chemical Health and Safety
Occupational Health Control in Fossil Energy Technologies
Legal Aspects of Environmental Health and Safety Regulations
Development of Occupational Health Standards
General Papers on Chemical Health, Safety, and Fire Protection

Objectives

The objective of the Division is to contribute to the overall objectives of the Society as reflected by our Federal Charter, and to serve as a focal point for activities which relate to the national interests as reflected by the professional responsibilities of the chemist and engineer.

Future meeting plans

Dr. Douglas Walters, NIEHS, Research Triangle Park, N.C. (919) 541-3355, is Program Committee chairman, and will be pleased to have your suggestions for future symposia topics. Deadline for San Francisco meeting is April 15, 1980.

Membership

All members of the American Chemical Society may join as full members by submitting membership application to Professor Ernest I. Becker, Secretary-Treasurer, Hunting Towers No. 429, 1204 South Washington Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, U.S.A.

Transchem '80

The seventh symposium on the safe transportation of hazardous substances will be held at Teesside Polytechnic, Middlesbrough, on 16th/17th April, next year.

The meeting, organised jointly by Cleveland Constabulary and the Polytechnics Department of Chemical Engineering, will consist of technical papers, visual presentations and formal and informal discussions.

Contributions on the various methods of transportation, environmental and other considerations, labelling and the identification of products etc., as well as the organisation and response to incidents by the emergency services, manufacturers and hauliers, will be given by senior personnel from industry, transport and emergency services, also members of national bodies and committees associated with the safety aspects involved. The final programme will be available in February, 1980.

Further information from Inspector R.P. Sigsworth, Cleveland Constabulary, P.O. Box 70, Dunning Road, Middlesbrough, TS1 2AR, U.K.
Tel: (0642) 248184.

Preparations For and Responses to Acute Chemical Emergencies

A national invitational conference will be held by the Disaster Research Center (DRC) in Columbus, Ohio, July 14–15, 1980 on preparations for and responses to acute chemical emergencies. This conference will be of interest to policy and decision makers from the public and private sector who deal with hazardous chemicals as well as disaster planners and emergency operational personnel. Attendees will include disaster-interested governmental officials, legislative aides, and agency administrative heads, as well as corporate officials and persons representing organizations involved in the processing, producing, transporting and using potentially dangerous chemicals. Other participants will be local police and fire department officers, industry safety personnel, civil defense and emergency preparedness officials, medical and health workers, elected officials from communities with large chemical industrial complexes, representatives from labor unions, public interest citizen groups, professional associations and other public and private organizations directly interested in socio-behavioral aspects of acute chemical disasters.

At the conference, research results will be presented and panel discussions will be scheduled so that reactions can be given to the findings and observations reported. To maximize involvement and the exchange of ideas about half of the conference will be devoted to small group meetings organized around DRC research-based issues and questions. Topics to be discussed will range from community preparedness for chemical hazards to the role of the first-on-the-scene responder at in-transit emergencies to major crisis coordination at state and local levels in both the public and private sectors.

The only charge participants will pay to attend the conference will be a pre-paid, non-returnable registration fee of \$25 which will defray the costs of two luncheons, coffee breaks and handout materials. Funds exist to pay for travel and lodging expenses for a limited number of officials from local and state governments and non-profit organizations who have cooperated in past DRC field work. All other participants will have to pay for expenses not covered in the registration fee, but special room rates will be available.

Interaction among participants will be maximized since no more than 120 persons will be invited. Formal invitations will be mailed out in February 1980. A small number of places are being reserved for officials and organizations who might not currently be on the specific DRC mailing list for chemical disaster project information but whose presence at the conference would be particularly worthwhile and relevant. Any person or organization that is not on the list and is interested in the conference should write immediately to Charlsa Norman, Conference Coordinator, at the DRC address. Those expressing interest will be sent additional material and considered for invitations to the conference as space permits. Under no circumstances should one send the registration fee to DRC until a formal invitation is received.

The DRC address is: Disaster Research Center, 128 Derby Hall, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio 43210.