

DOCKETED

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Robert Sarvey's Comments on Calpine Petition to Amend

It is premature to approve the Delta Energy Center petition to amend until safety issues have been resolved. Calpine has a long history of accidents at its power plants.



Figure 4. Previous explosion during a natural gas blow on January 26, 2003, at a Calpine natural gas power plant in Fairfield, California. The explosion was heard 10 miles away.

- Husband and father killed when explosion occurred at a Calpine co-generation facility The explosion was a result of an alleged faulty design of the hot water and steam systems, as well as negligent operation of the hot water system at the time of the explosion. Confidential settlement. <http://www.mithofflaw.com/practices-industrial-accidents-explosions.html>

Calpine contractor dies in geothermal blast / New Mexico man becomes second of firm's specialists killed this year

Pamela J. Podger, Chronicle Staff Writer

Published 4:00 am, Tuesday, July 22, 2003

A 44-year-old New Mexico man was killed over the weekend in a blast in geothermal fields in northwest Sonoma County in the second death this year of specialists hired by energy giant, Calpine Corp.

Calpine Corp. said the victim, identified by the Sonoma County coroner as [Barry Carpenter](#) of Farmington, N.M., was single. Carpenter worked for a drilling company, Air Comp.

One paramedic who lives at the Geysers responded at 3:34 p.m. Saturday to an emergency call at the northern end of the complex. Sonoma County sheriffs and Cal/OSHA officials are investigating the death.

[Bill Highlander](#), a spokesman for Calpine Corp. of San Jose, said the company was conducting its own probe. Calpine hires many specialty contractors for its energy operations, he said. No one else was injured in the Saturday accident.

The Calpine Geothermal Geysers, one of the world's largest steam fields, sprawls across 30 acres of land along the spine of the Mayacamas Mountains.

<http://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/Calpine-contractor-dies-in-geothermal-blast-New-2600957.php>

Plant worker dies after water main ruptures

A worker at a power plant in southeast Harris County was [killed Friday when a water main ruptured](#). The accident happened about 2 p.m. at a power plant owned by Calpine Corp. **Mike Addison**, 52, was near the water main when it ruptured after a plant turbine came online, said Meg Laidlaw, a local spokeswoman for San Jose, Calif.-based Calpine. <http://spewingforth.blogspot.com/2004/06/weekly-toll.html>

Compliance and Enforcement Division

INCIDENT REPORT

Calpine Los Medanos Energy Center (Site # B1866)

Pittsburg, CA

May 24, 2007

On May 24, 2007 at approximately 8:00 am, 3 operators at Calpine Los Medanos Energy Center (LMEC) were exposed to chlorine gas when approximately 300 gallons of phosphoric acid was mistakenly loaded into a 7,500 gallon tank containing 350 gallons of 12.5% sodium hypochloride solution located in the facility's water treatment building. LMEC is a 350 megawatt power plant located in Pittsburg, California that produces electricity for the public utility grid. LMEC plant operators immediately contacted the Contra Costa Fire Department (CCFD) and Contra Costa Health Services (Hazmat). The 3 operators who were exposed to the chlorine gas were taken to Delta Diablo Hospital for treatment. At 9:30 am, CCFD declared the chlorine gas release incident a Level 3 (offsite impacts expected) shelter-in-place. As a precaution, CCFD asked the Pittsburg Police Department to close 3rd Street and Harbor Road, denying entry to a 400 yard section along 3rd Street. Local businesses were informed of the incident and advised by CCFD personnel to evacuate the area. Upon entry into the LMEC building, the Hazmat team measured chlorine gas concentrations of greater than 50 parts per million (ppm). The contents of the tank containing the sodium hypochloride and phosphoric acid mixture was safely emptied which stopped the chlorine gas emissions. The doors of the building where the tank was located were opened at 1:15 pm to ventilate the remaining chlorine vapors out of the building. The chlorine levels were measured between 0.3 to 0.5 ppm exiting the building when the doors were opened. Additional samples were taken at the property line of the facility without any positive readings. The District did not receive any odor complaints from the community during this + incident. LMEC representatives do not know at this time how much chlorine gas was released into the air due to this incident. The CCFD downgraded the incident from a Level 3 to a Level 0 (contained and controlled by plant personnel) at 11:23 am on May 24 and eventually re-opened 3rd Street to the public at 1:15 pm. The three LMEC employees that were sent to Delta Diablo Hospital for treatment have been released. District Inspection staff will continue to investigate this incident to determine if any District regulations were violated.

UPDATE:

The final investigation report indicates the chlorine gas release was due to approximately 300 gallons of phosphoric acid mistakenly unloaded into a bleach tank containing 300 gallons of sodium hypochlorite. Events and conditions that contributed to the incident included the facility personnel assuming the bulk delivery was bleach, miscommunication between the bulk delivery driver and the Control Room Operator, driver did not receive site safety indoctrination, and unloading checklist was not correctly followed since product was never verified before off loading.

To prevent the recurrence of this type of incident, LMEC is revising their chemical off loading procedures and training to include:

- Emphasis on contractor orientation for Bulk Chemical Delivery Drivers
- Employee re-training on chemical unloading with emphasis on product

verification and job briefing of driver.

- Relocate product cap keys to control room for issuance by Control Room Operator upon first verification of delivery manifest and field operator to provide second verification upon acceptance of key.
- Audit delivery checklists to verify all steps are followed.

The Contra Costa Health Services (CCHS) did not receive any off-site complaints during the incident. In addition, the CCHS Hazardous Materials Response Team conducted air sampling at various locations of the plant perimeter without any positive readings.

The District has not taken any enforcement action since no violation was documented.

http://r.search.yahoo.com/_ylt=AwrTcc_FWL9Ymr0AkAQnnIIQ;_ylu=X3oDMTBya2cwZmh2BGNvbG8DZ3ExBHBvcwM1BHZ0aWQDBHNIYwNzcg--/RV=2/RE=1488963910/RO=10/RU=http%3a%2f%2fwww.baaqmd.gov%2f~%2fmedia%2fFiles%2fCompliance%2520and%2520Enforcement%2fIncident%2520Reports%2fi052407_calpine_losmedanos_update.ashx%3fla%3den/RK=0/RS=3RHjDXXkGzBoTOJqEMDFTVWTc2U-

One cleanup has led to another – and a bill of over \$300,000 – for the Calpine power plant in Westbrook.

Maintenance work done there this month resulted in rust spewing from the plant’s exhaust stacks and mixing with rain, creating a residue that coated about 300 cars in an employee parking lot at nearby Idexx Laboratories.

Calpine is paying between \$1,000 and \$1,500 to have each of the cars detailed, said John Flumerfelt, a spokesman for the company.

“We feel really, really bad that this happened,” he said Thursday, adding that the substance posed no environmental or health risks. He said the company reported the incident to the state Department of Environmental Protection, which did not have concerns.

<http://www.pressherald.com/2016/04/28/emissions-from-westbrook-power-plant-coat-300-cars-at-idexx-parking-lot/>