

## **Preparation for a Pipeline Emergency in East Goshen Township**

- The various emergency service organizations and emergency management agencies in Chester County comprise a comprehensive, integrated system of preparation, response, and mitigation should a hazardous materials emergency occur within our community.
- If an actual or suspected pipeline emergency were to occur in East Goshen Township, it would be reported to the Chester County 9-1-1 Center where a call taker would ascertain the relevant information from the individual reporting the incident. A dispatcher would take “ownership” of the incident and dispatch the predetermined emergency resources.
- A number of years ago, in consultation with the Chester County Fire Chiefs Association, the Chester County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) approved a 14-point dispatch protocol that ensures that the Chester County Hazardous Materials Response Team is automatically dispatched to any incident that has the potential of involving hazardous materials, as would be the case in a pipeline emergency.
- The initial dispatch would involve the Goshen Fire Company for fire, emergency medical services, and fire police, the Chester County Hazardous Materials Response Team, and the WEGO Regional police.
- All Goshen Fire Company personnel from our three operating divisions have received mandatory initial and annual refresher training to the hazardous materials “awareness” and “operations” levels and have the appropriate equipment, including personal protective equipment (PPE), to operate to the “operations” level.
- The Chester County Hazardous Materials Response Team, based at the Government Services Center, and its 30 team members are certified to the hazardous materials “technician” level and have the necessary training, PPE and other equipment to operate to that level.
- Depending on the needs of the incident, other resources would be dispatched as “automatic aid” during the initial dispatch or as “mutual aid” or “outside aid” when requested by the Incident Commander.
- Community Response Plans for facilities with reportable quantities of hazardous materials are prepared, updated annually, and serve as a basis for training, exercises, and response.
- Response agencies also receive company/industry-specific training as has been provided by Sunoco to Goshen Fire Company personnel and others from this region.
- As appropriate, the County in collaboration with the Incident Commander will escalate the incident and response, as appropriate.
- All response personnel have received appropriate training in the National Incident Management System (NIMS) consistent with the roles they will play at an emergency incident.
- All major incidents, including those that involve hazardous materials, are reviewed through a post-incident analysis.

*Prepared by Goshen Fire Company  
April 2017*