



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO

GOVERNOR

MIKE D. McDANIEL, Ph.D.

SECRETARY

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Contact: Tiffany Dickerson

Telephone: 225.219.3967

Railcar leaking near Baton Rouge ExxonMobil

BATON ROUGE – The East Baton Rouge Office of Homeland Security and Emergency preparedness has called off a shelter in place order for the Baton Rouge ExxonMobil plant and an area within a ½-mile radius. The shelter in place was initially called for because of a railcar that was leaking hydrochloric acid.

Currently, about 300 gallons is estimated to have leaked from the car. The leak is still going on, but has been reduced. The railcar is at the Canadian National Rail yard, which is located near ExxonMobil. Emergency responders from ExxonMobil, Baton Rouge Hazmat, the state police and others are on site. The responders are spraying the spill area with water to keep the vapors down.

The incident occurred at 6 a.m. and the State Police were notified at 6:30 a.m. The Department of Environmental Quality was notified at 8 a.m. and had field staff at the site by 8:20 a.m. preparing to take air samples.

Baton Rouge Hazmat conducted the initial air monitoring at the scene. According to DEQ emergency responders, the Hazmat readings did not find cause for concern.

DEQ officials estimate that it will take six hours to offload the leaking railcar into a secure railcar.

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