
HEALTH AND SAFETY PROGRAM 511 – SEVERE WEATHER PROGRAM

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1. Westlake in Plaquemine, Louisiana, is dedicated to the protection of its employees from emergencies caused by severe weather. The purpose of this procedure is to provide guidelines during and directly prior to a tornado event and minimize personnel exposure to the hazards associated with lightning. Each department should consistently maintain good housekeeping practices. To be prepared for any adverse weather conditions.

2.0 SCOPE

- 2.1. This policy applies to all Westlake and contract employees working at the Westlake Plaquemine, Louisiana facility. This includes operation and maintenance activities outside the fence line such as dock loading and unloading, grass cutting, and construction activities.

3.0 DEFINITIONS

- 3.1. **Tornado** – A violently rotating column of air extending from the base of a thunderstorm to the ground. Tornado intensities are classified on the Fujita Scale with ratings between F0 (weakest) to F5 (strongest).
- 3.2. **Tornado Watch** – An advisory for a specific area where weather conditions are favorable for the development of tornados.
- 3.3. **Tornado Warning** – An advisory for a specific area where a tornado may be imminent.
- 3.4. **Permanent Structure** – Any designated shelter-in-place location excluding tents and trailers.
- 3.5. **Exposed Elevated Structures** – Any structure above grade where there is no metal structure above personnel. Exposed elevated areas could include, but are not limited to, the tops of structures (columns, vessels, tanks) with no overhead protection, on the roof of buildings, on the elevated, exposed exterior of a column, and stairs on a tank/sphere.
- 3.6. **Exposed Areas** – Locations where a person could have the potential to be exposed to the effects of lightning, such as open fields, top elevation of structures, and tops of storage tanks.
- 3.7. **Protective Areas** – Covered structures such as pipe racks, grating or diamond plate decks, and any buildings such as maintenance shops, operator shelters, work trailers, or control rooms.

HEALTH AND SAFETY PROGRAM 511 – SEVERE WEATHER PROGRAM

- 3.8. **Essential Work** – Any work that is critical to safe operation of the unit or facility as determined by management. This would include critical work that would ensure uninterrupted operations or startup/shutdown activities.
- 3.9. **Lightning Notification** – A notification sent to a select group when lightning is detected within 15 miles of the Plaquemine Site.
- 3.10. **Lightning Alert** – A notification sent to the Plaquemine Site when lightning is detected within seven (7) miles of the Plaquemine Site.
- 3.11. **All Clear** – A notification sent to the site indicating no lightning strikes have been detected within seven (7) miles of the Plaquemine Site for thirty (30) minutes.
- 3.12. **Weather Service** – Third-party weather service utilized to monitor lightning for the Plaquemine Site and provide notifications for Lightning Alert Levels.

4.0 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

4.1. HSE DEPARTMENT

- 4.1.1. Coordinate with the weather service vendor to provide and update notification lists.
- 4.1.2. Train security personnel in their roles associated with this policy.
- 4.1.3. Liaise between the weather service vendor and the Plaquemine Site for any issues or adjustments that may be necessary.
- 4.1.4. Provide training to all affected personnel on this policy.
- 4.1.5. Develop messages for Severe Weather and All Clear Alerts.
- 4.1.6. Train site on Severe Weather Policy.

4.2. Weather Service Vendor

- 4.2.1. Make notifications calls (automated) to the Security Center for Notification (15 miles), Lightning Alert (7 miles), and All Clear.
- 4.2.2. Send out emails and texts directly to lists provided by EHSS Department for Notification Level and Lightning Alert level.
- 4.2.3. Send out emails and texts for “All Clear” to lists provided by EHSS Department.
- 4.2.4. Make modifications to the service (i.e., notification levels, notification lists) as directed by the EHSS Department.

4.3. Security Center

- 4.3.1. Receive Notification Level (15 miles), Lightning Alert (7 miles), and All Clear calls from the weather service vendor.
- 4.3.2. Notify the site via the plant radio system and site email upon receiving the Lightning Alert Notification, Tornado Watch, or Tornado Warning.

HEALTH AND SAFETY PROGRAM 511 – SEVERE WEATHER PROGRAM

- 4.3.3. Upon receiving notification for “All Clear”, security personnel will notify the site via the plant radio system and site email.
- 4.4. **Employees and Contractors**
 - 4.4.1. Receive training on the Severe Weather procedure.
 - 4.4.2. Bring work to a safe level and move to protective areas when required.
 - 4.4.3. Take shelter immediately if you see a funnel cloud and report the sighting immediately to the Main Gate (Ext. 333).
 - 4.4.4. Once Westlake is under a Tornado Watch, follow the actions identified in Section 5.2.5.1.
 - 4.4.5. Once Westlake is under a Tornado Warning, follow the actions identified in Section 5.2.5.2.
- 4.5. **Department Managers**
 - 4.5.1. Learn, understand, and follow this procedure.
 - 4.5.2. Notify employees and review emergency plans if notified of severe weather.

5.0 PROCEDURE

- 5.1. **When severe weather (lightning) has been issued:**
 - 5.1.1. Alert Levels
 - 5.1.1.1. Notification Level
 - 5.1.1.1.1. When lightning is detected by the Weather Service within 15 miles of the site, an email and a text message notification will be sent out to the following:
 - 5.1.1.1.1.1. Westlake Maintenance Manager
 - 5.1.1.1.1.2. Westlake Maintenance Superintendents
 - 5.1.1.1.1.3. Turner Site Manager
 - 5.1.1.1.1.4. Turner Supervisors
 - 5.1.1.1.1.5. Turner Safety
 - 5.1.1.1.1.6. Shipping Supervisors
 - 5.1.1.1.2. When lightning is detected by Impact Weather within 15 miles of the site, an email notification will be sent out to the following:
 - 5.1.1.1.2.1. Manufacturing Managers
 - 5.1.1.1.2.2. Production Unit Managers
 - 5.1.1.1.2.3. Shift Supervisors
 - 5.1.1.1.3. This notification is for information purposes only. No actions are required at this time.

HEALTH AND SAFETY PROGRAM 511 – SEVERE WEATHER PROGRAM

5.1.1.2. Lightning Alert Level

5.1.1.2.1. When lightning has been detected by the Weather Service within seven (7) miles of the site, a Lightning Alert will be sent out utilizing the following:

5.1.1.2.1.1. DL Plaquemine Employees, DL Plaquemine Contractors (site email notification)

5.1.1.2.1.2. Plant Radio System

5.1.1.2.1.3. Text message to Notification Level Text Group

5.1.1.2.2. When a Lightning Alert is sent out, the following actions must be taken:

5.1.1.2.2.1. All personnel conducting non-essential work in exposed elevated structures must bring their task to a safe mode and evacuate to a protective area.

5.1.1.2.2.2. All crane and aerial lift operations must be brought to a safe position and stopped.

5.1.1.2.2.3. For confined spaces, where the manway attendant is located in an elevated exposed structure, spaces must be exited and personnel must evacuate to a protective area (including excavations designated as confined spaces).

5.1.1.2.2.4. All personnel working in exposed areas without overhead protection (i.e., Open fields) must bring their work to a safe mode and evacuate to a protected area.

5.1.1.2.2.5. All essential work critical to the safe operation of unit or facility will continue. Take all precautions to minimize exposure to lightning during this alert.

5.1.1.2.2.5.1. Essential work will be determined by Management.

5.1.1.3. All Clear

5.1.1.3.1. When no lightning has been detected within seven (7) miles of the location for thirty (30) minutes, an All Clear will be called by the Weather Service and communicated utilizing the same media used for the Lightning Alert.

HEALTH AND SAFETY PROGRAM 511 – SEVERE WEATHER PROGRAM

- 5.1.1.3.2. Follow all site permit procedures regarding work stoppage prior to resuming any work in the facility.
- 5.2. **When a severe weather (Tornado) watch or warning has been issued:**
 - 5.2.1. If you see a tornado or funnel cloud, you should take shelter immediately. Seek shelter that is capable of protecting you from flying debris.
 - 5.2.2. The Weather Service provides notice by email to a defined site list when the site is under tornado watch or warning.
 - 5.2.3. If an early forecast (>24 hours prior to the event) indicates a high probability of severe weather, site leadership will consider any actions to be taken in preparation.
 - 5.2.4. When the geographical area, including Westlake, has been issued a Tornado Watch or Warning by the Weather Service, a communication will be made by the Main Gate as follows:
 - 5.2.5. Tornado Notification Levels
 - 5.2.5.1. Tornado Watch
 - 5.2.5.1.1. When a Tornado Watch has been issued for a geographical area which includes Westlake, an automatic email and text message notification will be sent out by the Weather Service to the following:
 - 5.2.5.1.1.1. Westlake Maintenance Manager
 - 5.2.5.1.1.2. Westlake Maintenance Superintendents
 - 5.2.5.1.1.3. Turner Site Manager
 - 5.2.5.1.1.4. Turner Supervisors
 - 5.2.5.1.1.5. Turner Safety
 - 5.2.5.1.1.6. Shipping Supervisors
 - 5.2.5.1.2. When we are under a Tornado Watch, an automatic email notification will be sent out by the Weather Service to the following:
 - 5.2.5.1.2.1. Production Managers
 - 5.2.5.1.2.2. Production Superintendents
 - 5.2.5.1.3. Upon notification of a Tornado Watch, the following actions will be taken:
 - 5.2.5.1.3.1. Each department Manager or designee should notify employees and review emergency plans.

HEALTH AND SAFETY PROGRAM 511 – SEVERE WEATHER PROGRAM

5.2.5.1.3.2. All employees should be prepared to act quickly if a warning is issued or you suspect a tornado is approaching.

5.2.5.2. Tornado Warning

5.2.5.2.1. When a Tornado Warning has been issued for a geographical area which includes Westlake by the Weather Service, a notification will be sent out by the Main Gate utilizing the following:

5.2.5.2.1.1. Plant-wide alarm system activated

5.2.5.2.1.2. Red Phone

5.2.5.2.1.3. DL Employees Plaquemine and DL Contractors Plaquemine (site email notification)

5.2.5.2.2. Upon the notification of a Tornado Warning, the following actions will be taken:

5.2.5.2.2.1. All employees engaged in outdoor activities or vehicles shall move into permanent structures as expeditiously as possible.

5.2.5.2.2.2. All employees working in non-permanent buildings shall move to permanent structures (i.e., shelter-in-place locations).

5.2.5.2.2.3. Employees in permanent structures shall move to the ground floor away from windows and into central hallways and rooms.

5.2.5.2.2.4. Once safely inside of permanent structure, all employees are required to scan their Westlake issued badge on the electronic accountability reader system or follow alternate accountability protocol.

5.2.5.3. All Clear

5.2.5.3.1. Once the Tornado Warning has been lifted, the Main Gate will give the all-clear by the following:

5.2.5.3.1.1. Plant Wide Alarm – All Clear Sounded

5.2.5.3.1.2. Red Phone – All Clear Call

5.2.5.3.1.3. Site email notification to: DL Employees Plaquemine and DL Contractors Plaquemine

HEALTH AND SAFETY PROGRAM 511 – SEVERE WEATHER PROGRAM

6.0 TRAINING

- 6.1. All Westlake and contract employees who conduct work in the Plaquemine facility will receive initial training on this policy via site-specific orientation.
- 6.2. All visitors to the Westlake Plaquemine facility will receive training on this policy via the Visitor Orientation video.
- 6.3. Refresher training for all Westlake employees will be conducted via CBT every 2 years or when substantial revisions have been made to this policy.

7.0 REVIEW FREQUENECY

- 7.1. This policy will be reviewed every 5 years to ensure the policy is in line with current applicable health and safety regulations and site safety management systems.

Date Change	Person	Reason
7-21-25	Adam Rabalais	Combined Tornado and Lightning procedure