



# IMAAC

## Interagency Modeling and Atmospheric Assessment Center

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# IMAAC: OPERATIONAL CONCEPT

## Emergency Officials

IMAAC Agency reps; Incident Commanders; Designated State/Local/Tribal/Territories officials

RFI Request

RFI Response

## IMAAC TECHNICAL OPERATIONS HUB

*Single Point of Contact for the Interagency Community*

**Collaborative  
Technical  
Analysis**



Request for Information

IMAAC  
Hub

Requestor

THE IMAAC COMMUNITY

Technical  
SMEs

HSIN

*Collaborative,  
Net-Centric  
Information  
Environment*

Response



# JUST THE PLUME

- Incident: Aug 29 – Sep 3, 2017; Arkema Chemical Plant, Crosby, TX
- Activated by: EPA Region 6
- Interagency participation: FEMA (IMAAC Dir., National Watch, Region 6), EPA (Region 6 and HQ), NOAA (SDM, Emer. Response Div.), DHS-CSAC, NORTHCOM, JTF-CS, U.S. Dept H&HS, TRANSCOM



Due to Hurricane Harvey, plant was inundated w/ several feet of water.

Organic peroxides at the site required cooling to prevent spontaneous “instability”. Inundation caused cooling systems to fail.

# SO<sub>2</sub> (Release Starting @ 02 SEP 9:00 PM CDT)

## – Update #8



*Note: AEGL values for SO<sub>2</sub> may overestimate effects.*

\* Arkema Chemical Facility  
— 1.5 mile Radius

Sulfur Dioxide(AEGLs)  
03-Sep-17 06:00:00Z (4.000 hr)

Mean Area

	Value
AEGL-3 Death Possible	3.0
AEGL-2 Injury Possible	2.0
AEGL-1 not displayed	

### FACTS

Crosby, Texas

Location: 29.9491° N/ 95.0211° W

Event Time: 9:00 PM CDT, 02SEP2017

Type: Sulfur Dioxide

Amount: 32,000 lb (16,000 lbs/hr)

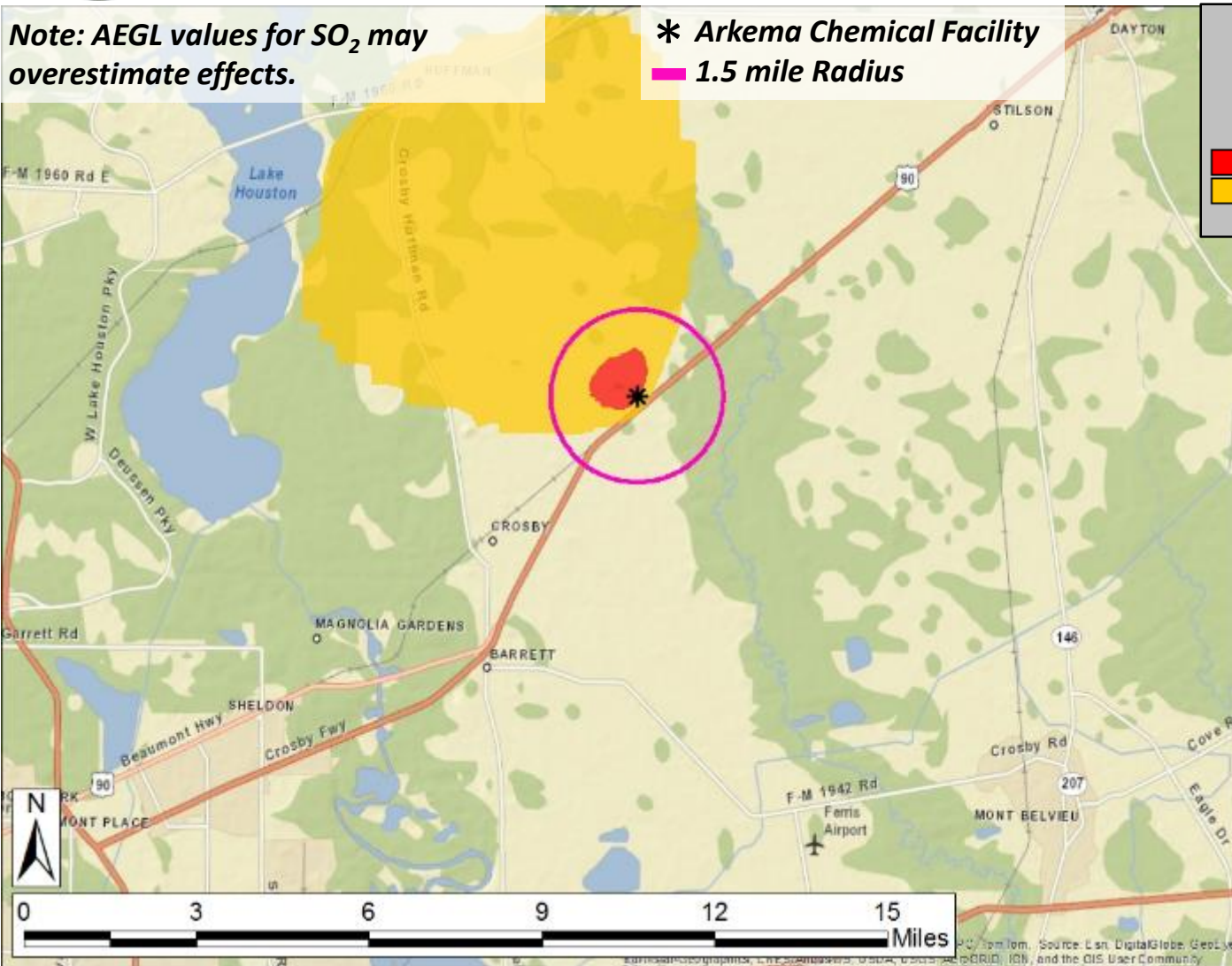
Dissemination: Release over 2 hours

Weather: 3 km NAM

Model: HPAC 6.4

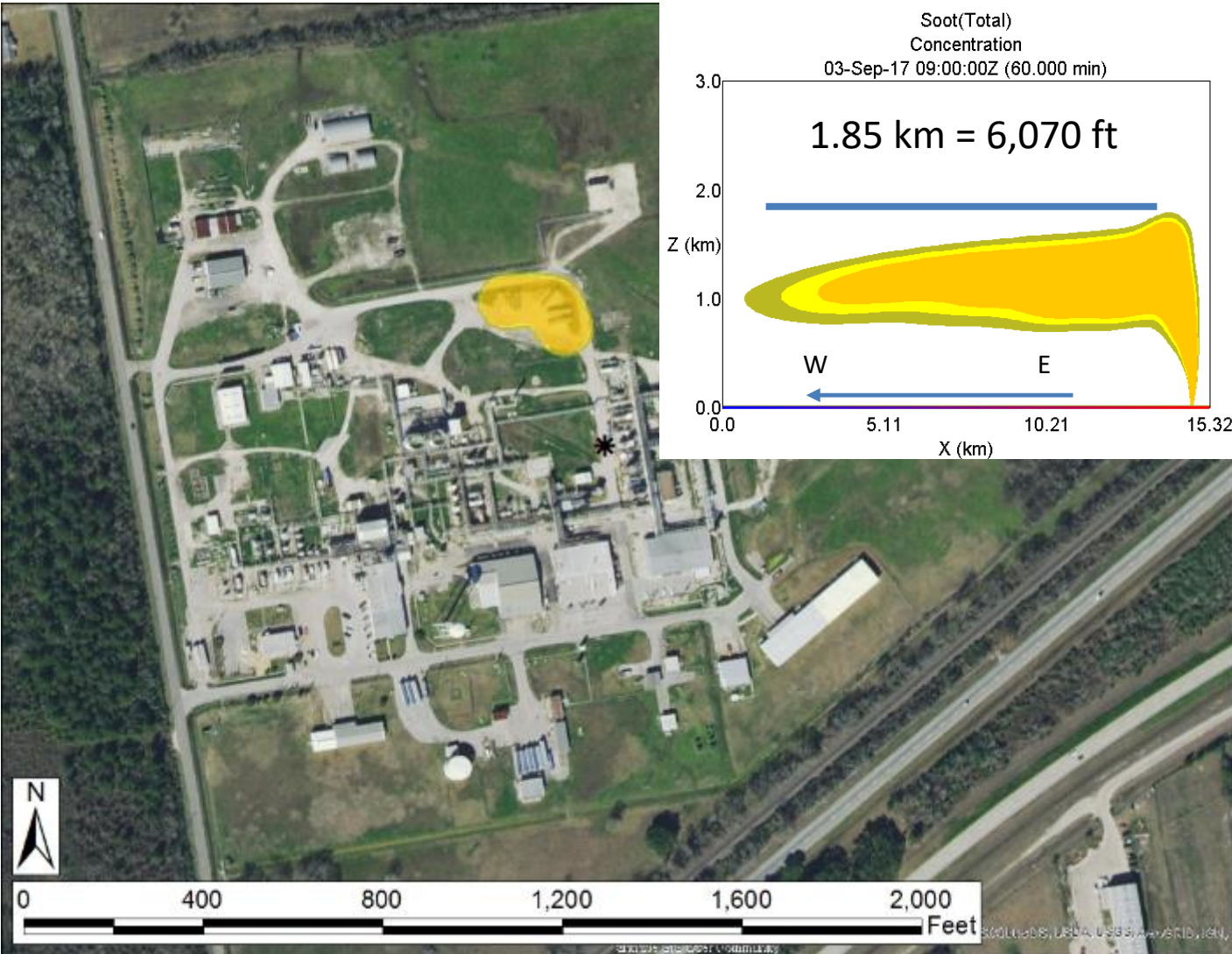
Static Population Estimates:

LandScan 2015





# Soot – Burning Trailer – (Starting @ 03 SEP 3:00 AM CDT) – Update #8



Soot(Total)	
03-Sep-17 09:00:00Z (60.000 min)	
Mean Area	
	ug/m3
Hazardous	250.0
Very Unhealthy	150.0
Unhealthy	65.0

**Note:** Hazard is from estimated incidental material burning (e.g. tires, trailer, insulation). The combustion products from organic peroxide constitute minimal atmospheric hazards.

## FACTS

Crosby, Texas  
 Location: 29.948086° N/ 95.019951° W  
 Event Time: 3:00 AM CDT, 03SEP2017  
 Type: Organic Peroxide  
 Amount: 6 containers (38,000 lb each)  
 Dissemination: Release over 1 hour  
 Weather: 3 km NAM  
 Model: HPAC 6.4  
 Static Population Estimates:  
 LandScan 2015

# JUST THE PLUME BUT IN THE FUTURE



- Incident: 30 Jun – 26 Jul, 2016; Anhydrous Ammonia Leak, Vineland, New Jersey
- Activated by: EPA Region 2
- Interagency participation: Planning Only



Planned demolition of a old ice plant.

The plant's anhydrous ammonia storage is connected to the main building with a 1" pipe and is estimated to contain ~4,700 lbs.

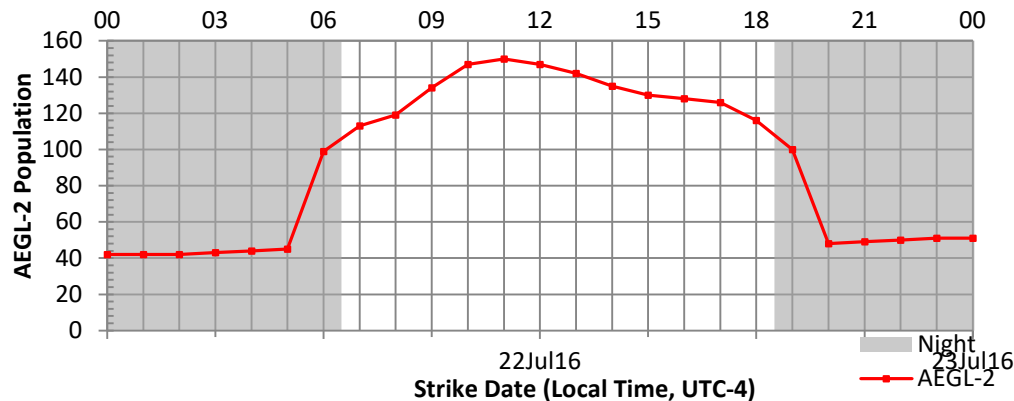
The storage container is degraded and possibly unstable.

# Ammonia – Estimated AEGL-2 Populations



## FACTS

Vineland, NJ  
 Location: 39.489696°N/75.023344°W  
 Beginning Incident Time:  
 0000 EST 22JUL2016  
 Hazard: Ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>)  
 Amount: 4,700 lb  
 Incident: Continuous release  
 Weather: 12 km NAM  
 Model: HPAC 6.3  
 Static Population Estimates:  
 LandScan 2014

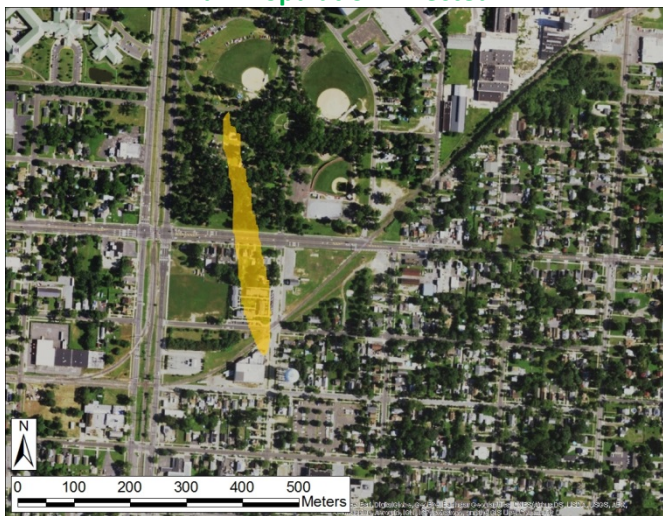


Exposure to high concentrations of **ammonia** in air causes immediate burning of the nose, throat and respiratory tract. This can cause bronchiolar and alveolar edema, and airway destruction resulting in respiratory distress or failure. Inhalation of lower concentrations can cause coughing, and nose and throat irritation.

Day

Night

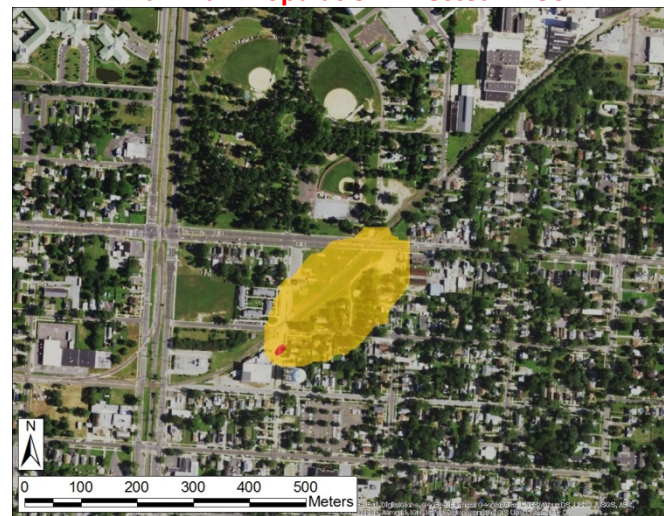
## Minimum Population Affected – 42



Value
AEGL-3
AEGL-2

	Strike Date / Time (Day/Night)	Estimated AEGL-2 Population
Min	22JUL2016 / 00:00 EST (Night)	42
Max	22JUL2016 / 11:00 EST (Day)	150

## Maximum Population Affected – 150





# THERE JUST ISN'T A PLUME

- Incident: 01 Jul, 2017; Spill of 3,000 gallons of light crude oil, Plainfield, Illinois
- Activated by: EPA Region 5
- Interagency participation: FEMA (IMAAC Dir., National Watch), EPA (Region 5 and HQ), NOAA SDM



Assessment of the potential downwind hazard due to 3,000 gallons of crude oil spilled from a ruptured rail car.

No fire!



# Modeling Summary

- Known Information: 3,000 gallons Bakken crude oil spilled out of a ruptured rail car due to a train derailment. There is no fire at the scene.
- Modeling Assumptions: Source term is represented as pooled Bakken crude oil evaporating over time. There is no ignition.
- **Results: Models do not predict a downwind hazard meeting the AEGL-1 threshold level of concern over the next 24 hours. This assumes that no fire is involved.**

# THERE JUST ISN'T A PLUME, REALLY



- Incident: 01 Feb, 2018; Chemical solutions in cold storage in a sub-basement, St. Thomas, US VI
- Activated by: US EPA
- Interagency participation: EPA Region 5, CSAC



-n-Butyllithium (CAS # 109-72-8) was discovered in a faulty refrigerator in universities sub basement.

What are the possible outcomes and how do we handle this issue?



# The Request

From: US EPA, N-IMAT

Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2018 3:09 PM

To: DTRA Ft Belvoir R and D Mailbox Reachback

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Request for IMMAC model (REAL LIFE SITUATION)!!!

Please, run IMAAC model for the situation, involving the following:

Chemical of concern -n-Butyllithium (CAS # 109-72-8) (currently working

Concentration/amount: 1.6 M in Hexanes solution/ 2 x 800 mL (in brown glass jars) 2.6 M in Hexane solution/ 130 g (in a very corroded metallic jar - no inner container info available)

All three containers are inside, lacked refrigerator that is working and has substantial ice accumulations inside.

All this is taking place inside the university building in sub-basement lab .

Please, respond ASAP and let me know if you have question.



# The Response

From: DTRA Mailbox Reachback

Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2018 4:02 PM

To: S&T CSAC Reachback

Subject: Request for IMAAC model (REAL LIFE SITUATION)!!!

- This scenario should not produce a large airborne hazard (mostly CO and CO<sub>2</sub>). Material is highly flammable and in contact with water or air will emit flammable gases which may ignite spontaneously. We conclude that the primary hazard from these agents is a fire or perhaps a small explosion (but that seems less likely than the fire).
- Given the potential risks of a fire, we recommend assistance from the local fire department and/or first responders trained to quench chemical fires and decontamination. Options that can be considered, and executed only by trained hazmat personnel, is the use of flame retardant gases such as Halon. Halon robs the surrounding area of oxygen. Do not employing standard methods to such as employing carbon dioxide as in metal fires, to include organometals which will react with CO<sub>2</sub> generating a great deal of heat and therefore feeding any fire.

DHS S&T CSAC concurs with the above.



# THERE IS A PLUME BUT IT IS IN THE WATER!

- Incident: 9 Jan, 2013; Methanol Leak at Young's Industrial Park in Charleston, WV.
- Activated by: DHS NOC vis FEMA Region 3
- Interagency participation: Post event analysis




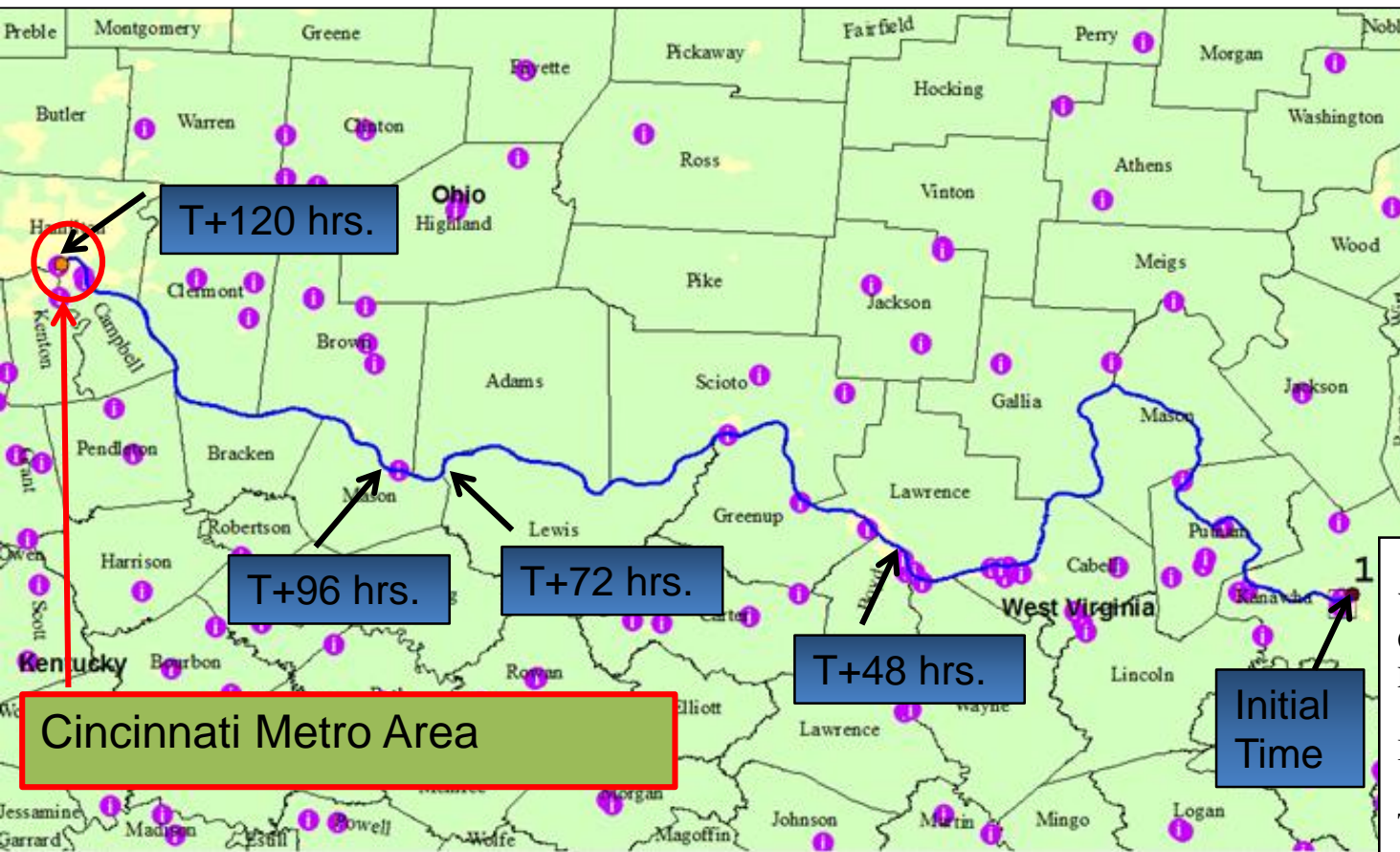
4-methylcyclohexane released, but modeled as methanol and only as an airborne hazard at first.

Later (15 Jan) requested to model when the hazard would reach the water intakes downstream from the leak.



# 5-Day Water Transport

 Public\_Water\_Supplies: Intakes



## FACTS

Young's Industrial Park  
Charleston, WV  
Location: 38.365078° N/  
81.609888° W  
Incident Time: 2230Z  
09JAN2014  
Type: Methanol  
Amount: 7,500 gallons  
Incident: Leak  
Model: ICWater 3.2

Distance from incident location to Cincinnati: 265 km

# THERE IS A PLUME BUT ITS UNDER WATER!

- Incident: 5 Nov 2015; Barge ARGO recovery efforts in Lake Erie.
- Activated by: NOAA's Office of Response and Restoration



A sunken barge in Lake Erie (the Argo) has been at the bottom of the lake for 78 years.

It has 8 tanks holding 30,000 gallons each, thought to be benzene/toluene mixture (sensors have also detected xylene).



# Summary of Inputs

- Known Information: A sunken barge in Lake Erie (the Argo) has been at the bottom of the lake for 78 years. It has 8 tanks holding 30,000 gallons each. Unknown what product, but thought to be benzene/toluene mixture (sensors have also detected xylene).
- Modeling Assumptions:
  - 30,000 gallons benzene released instantaneously in ~ 45 ft water
  - 30,000 gallons is approx. 99,000 kg benzene
  - Floats to the surface (less dense than water) and evaporates in ~ 25 minutes (this number arrived at in consultation with NOAA and ALOHA)
  - Winds from West at 8 knots, slightly stable atmosphere
  - Request concentrations of 500 ppm, 50 ppm, and 0.5 ppm
  - Assumed incident time of 1800Z 05 NOV 2015



# Summary of Outputs

- 4-hr AEGLs and Concentration plots at multiple times provided
- Results (based on assumptions of release and weather):
  - 500 ppm downwind distance effects ~ 2 km
  - 50 ppm downwind distance effects ~ 10 km
  - 0.5 ppm downwind distance effects ~ 80 km



# Benzene Conc @ 15 Min – Far View



Benzene(Total) Concentration		
05-Nov-15 18:15:00Z (15.000 min)		
	kg/m3	In contour area (km <sup>2</sup> )
500 ppm (IDLH)	0.0017	0.360
50 ppm	1.72E-04	4.039
0.5 ppm	1.72E-06	11.965

## FACTS

Lake Erie (Argo Wreck approx. location)

Location: USNG 17TLG7562910808

Event Time: 1800Z 05NOV2015

Type: Benzene

Amount: 30,000 gallons (99,000 kg)

Dissemination: Evaporation from fresh water surface

Weather: Winds from W at 8 kts

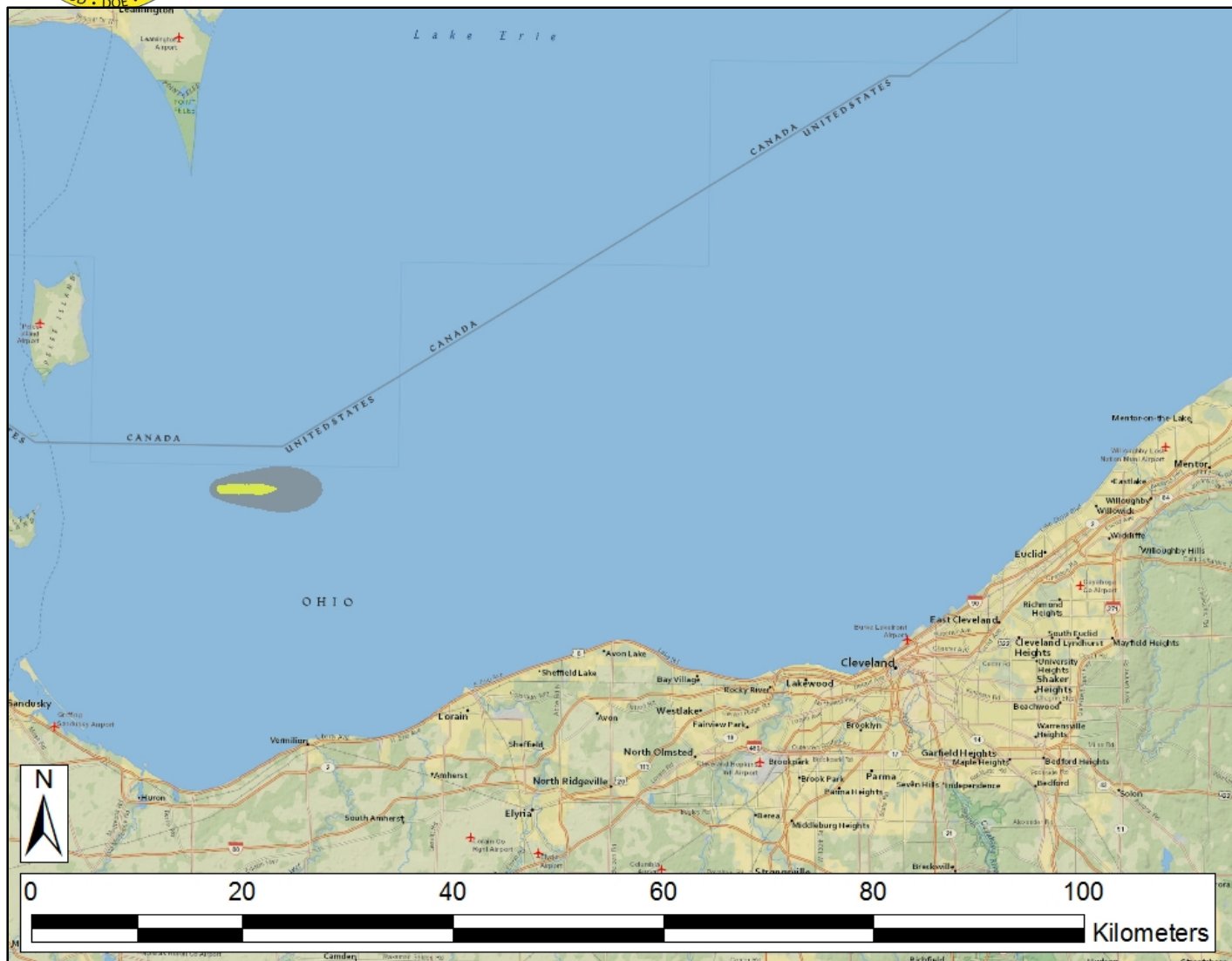
Model: HPAC 5.3

Static Population Estimates:

LandScan 2014



# Benzene Conc @ 30 Min – Far View



Benzene(Total) Concentration		
05-Nov-15 18:30:00Z (30.000 min)		
	kg/m3	In contour area (km <sup>2</sup> )
50 ppm	1.72E-04	5.559
0.5 ppm	1.72E-06	33.612

## FACTS

Lake Erie (Argo Wreck approx. location)

Location: USNG 17TLG7562910808

Event Time: 1800Z 05NOV2015

Type: Benzene

Amount: 30,000 gallons (99,000 kg)

Dissemination: Evaporation from fresh water surface

Weather: Winds from W at 8 kts

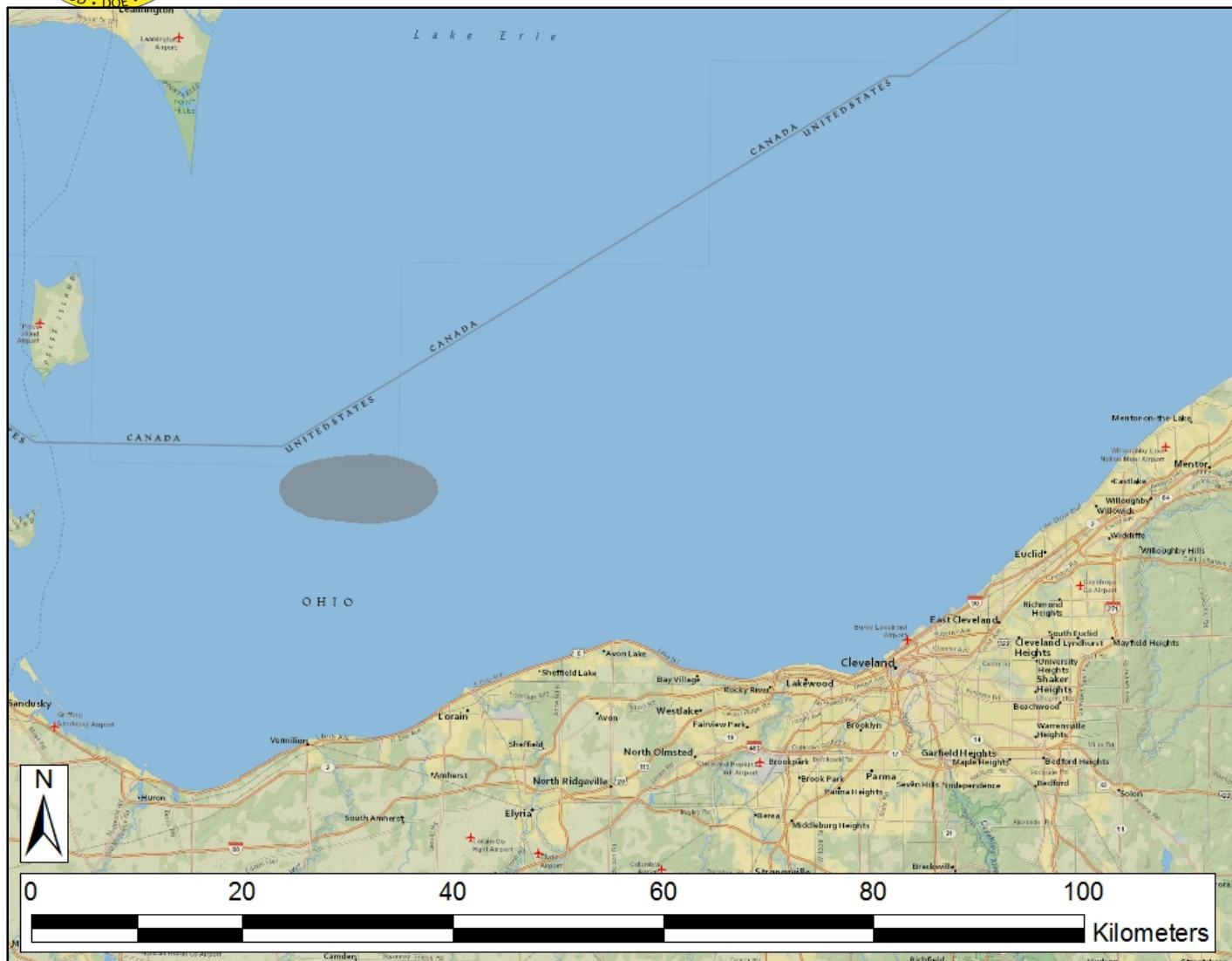
Model: HPAC 5.3

Static Population Estimates:

LandScan 2014



# Benzene Conc @ 1 Hr – Far View



Benzene(Total) Concentration		
05-Nov-15 19:00:00Z (60.000 min)		
	In contour	
	kg/m3	area (km <sup>2</sup> )
0.5 ppm	1.72E-06	77.270

## FACTS

Lake Erie (Argo Wreck approx. location)

Location: USNG 17TLG7562910808

Event Time: 1800Z 05NOV2015

Type: Benzene

Amount: 30,000 gallons (99,000 kg)

Dissemination: Evaporation from fresh water surface

Weather: Winds from W at 8 kts

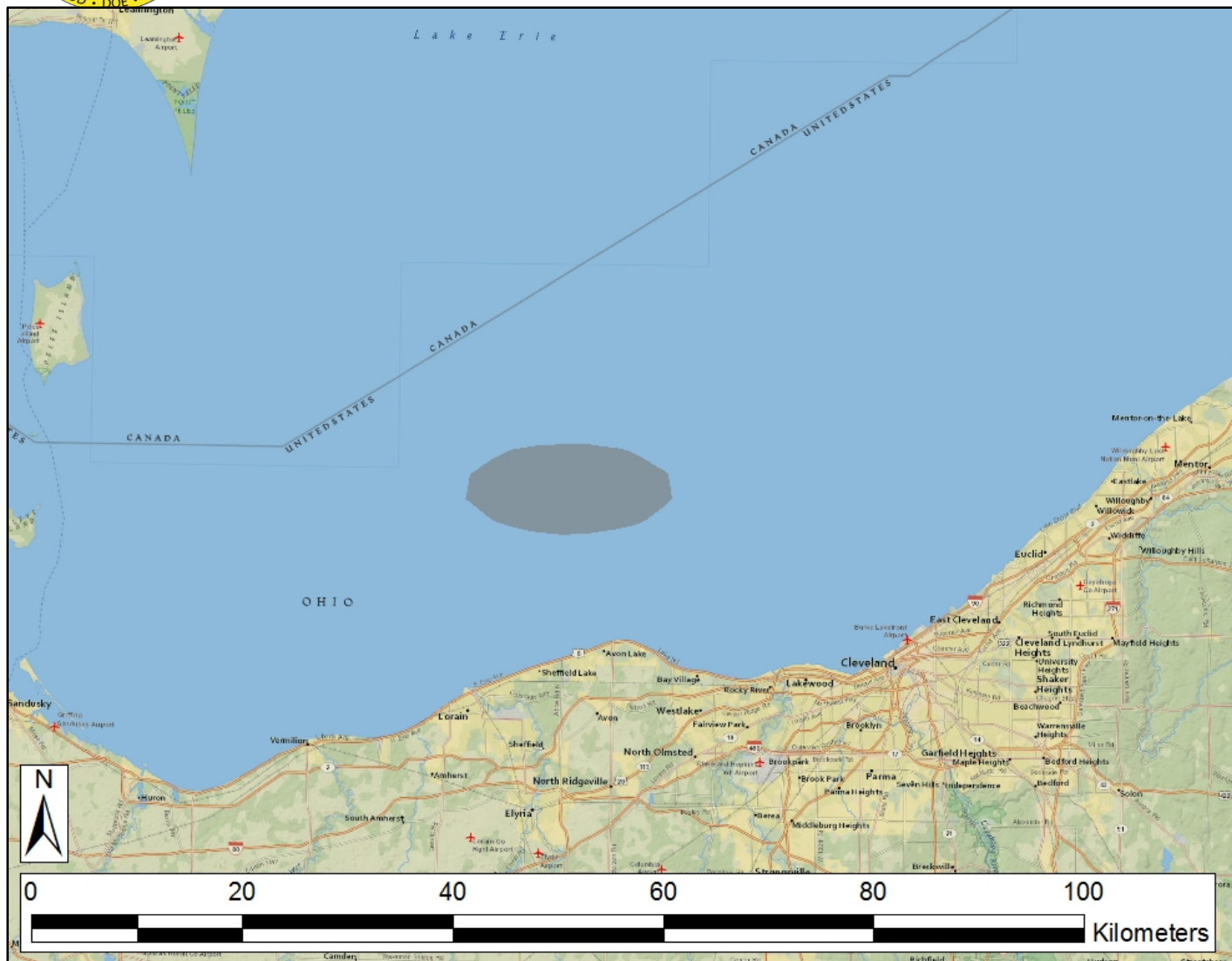
Model: HPAC 5.3

Static Population Estimates:

LandScan 2014



# Benzene Conc @ 2 Hr – Far View



Benzene(Total) Concentration		
05-Nov-15 20:00:00Z (2,000 hr)		
	kg/m3	In contour area (km <sup>2</sup> )
0.5 ppm	1.72E-06	129.954

## FACTS

Lake Erie (Argo Wreck approx. location)

Location: USNG 17TLG7562910808

Event Time: 1800Z 05NOV2015

Type: Benzene

Amount: 30,000 gallons (99,000 kg)

Dissemination: Evaporation from fresh water surface

Weather: Winds from W at 8 kts

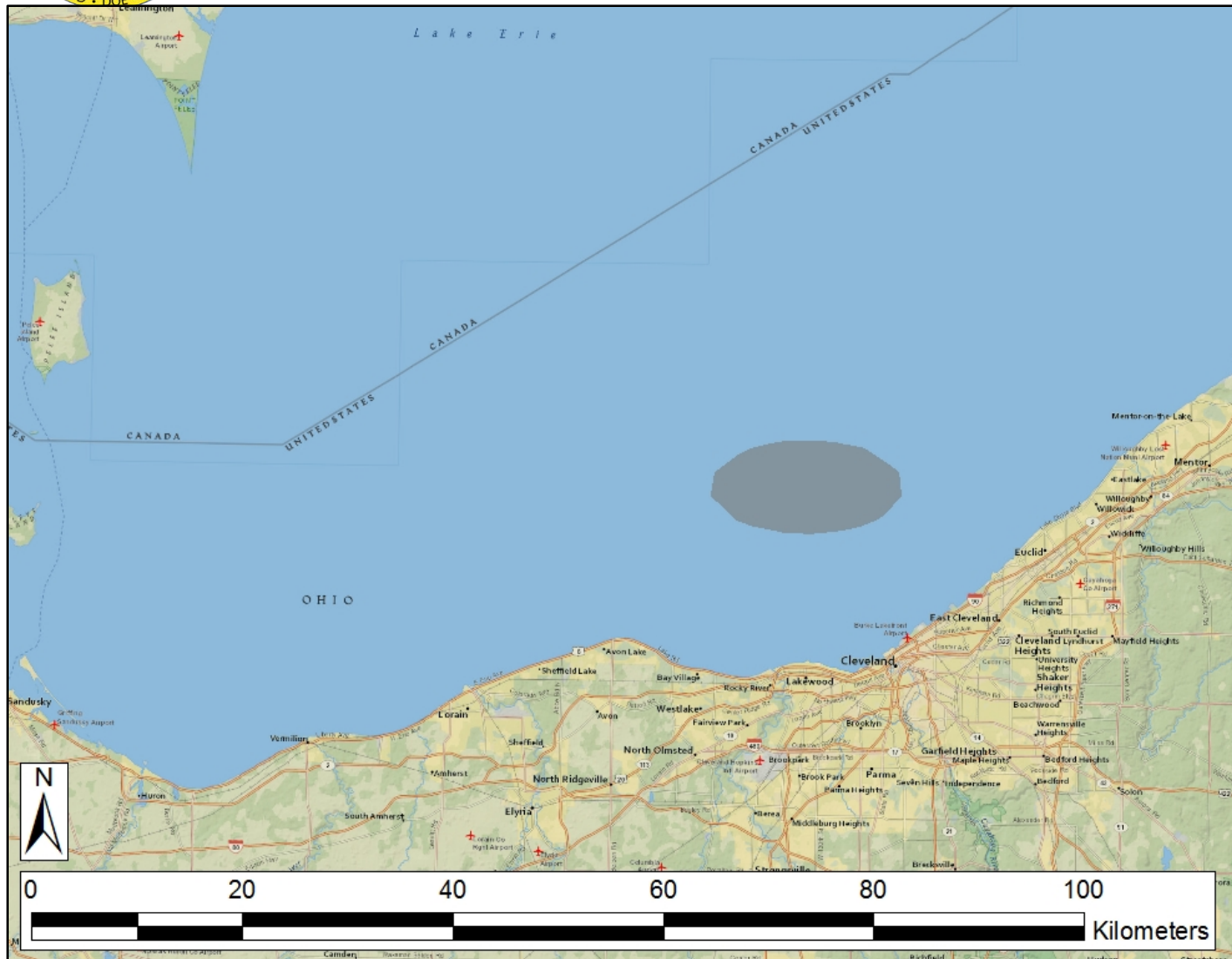
Model: HPAC 5.3

Static Population Estimates:

LandScan 2014



# Benzene Conc @ 3 Hr – Far View



Benzene(Total) Concentration		
05-Nov-15 21:00:00Z (3.000 hr)		
	In contour	
	kg/m3	area (km <sup>2</sup> )
0.5 ppm	1.72E-06	124.568

## FACTS

Lake Erie (Argo Wreck approx. location)

Location: USNG 17TLG7562910808

Event Time: 1800Z 05NOV2015

Type: Benzene

Amount: 30,000 gallons (99,000 kg)

Dissemination: Evaporation from fresh water surface

Weather: Winds from W at 8 kts

Model: HPAC 5.3

Static Population Estimates:

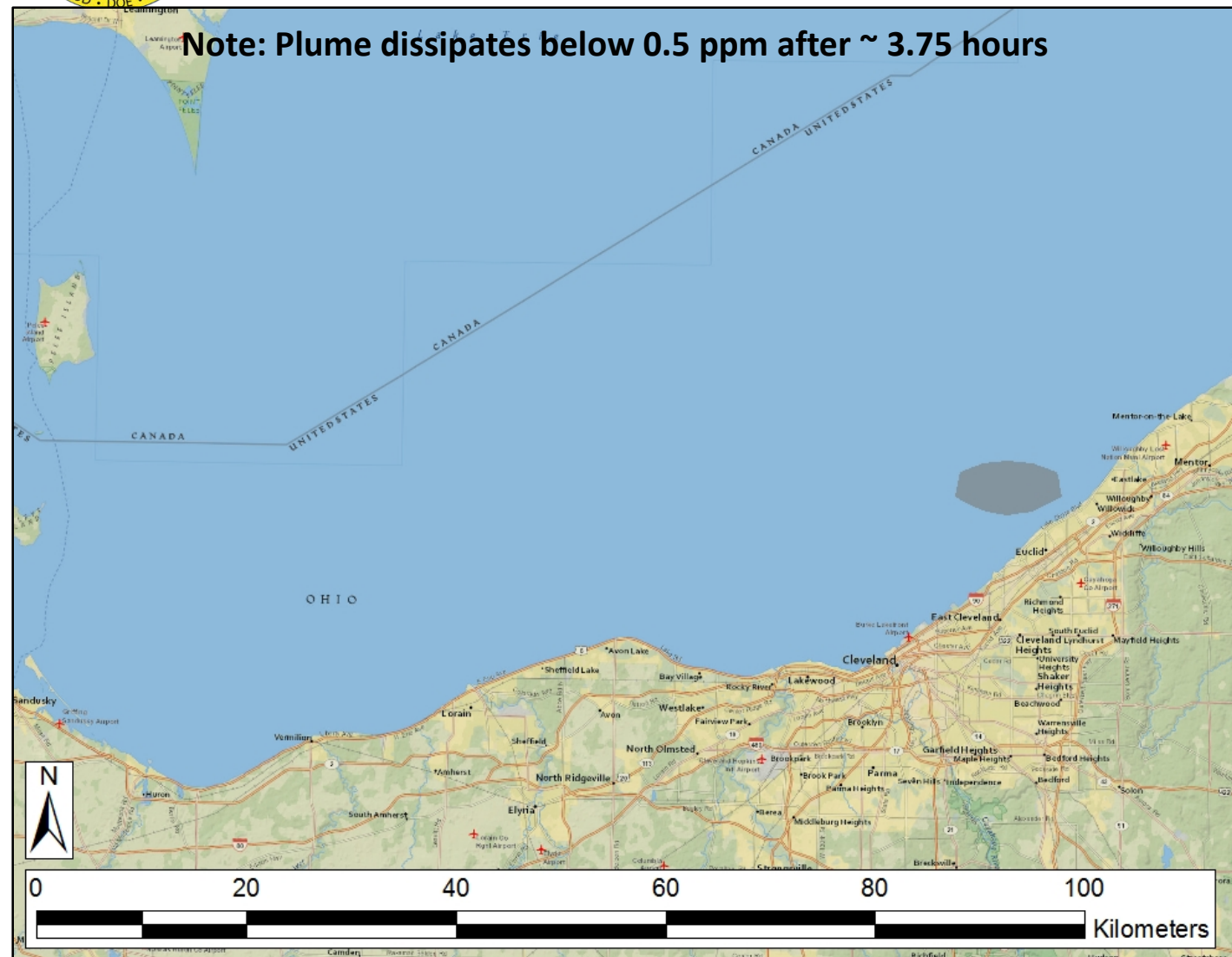
LandScan 2014



# Benzene Conc @ 3.75 Hr – Far View

Note: Plume dissipates below 0.5 ppm after ~ 3.75 hours

Benzene(Total) Concentration		
05-Nov-15 21:45:00Z (3.750 hr)		
	kg/m3	In contour area (km <sup>2</sup> )
0.5 ppm	1.72E-06	39.320



## FACTS

Lake Erie (Argo Wreck approx. location)

Location: USNG 17TLG7562910808

Event Time: 1800Z 05NOV2015

Type: Benzene

Amount: 30,000 gallons (99,000 kg)

Dissemination: Evaporation from fresh water surface

Weather: Winds from W at 8 kts

Model: HPAC 5.3

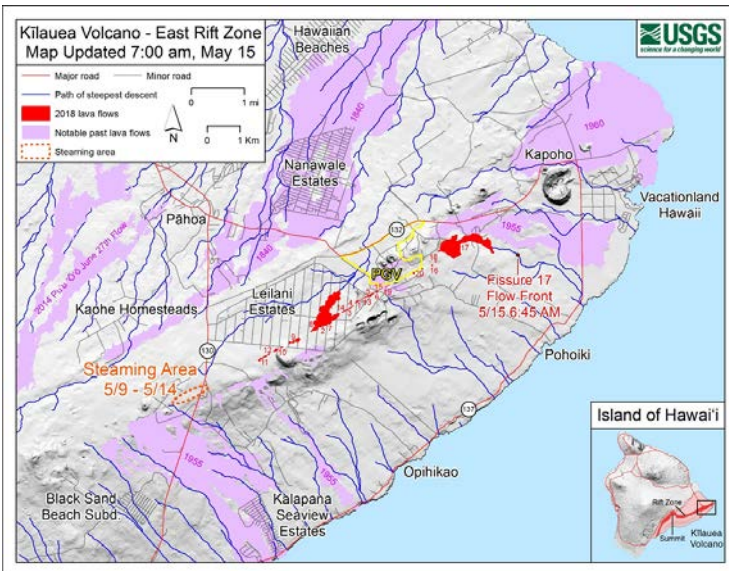
Static Population Estimates:

LandScan 2014

# THERE IS A PLUME AND AN EXPLOSION!



- Incident: 03 – 26 May, 2018; Model sulfur dioxide and Ash release from the Kilauea volcano in Hawaii.
- Activated by: FEMA, HI CST
- Interagency participation: FEMA (IMAAC Dir., National Watch, Region 6), EPA (Region 5 and HQ) Washington VAAC

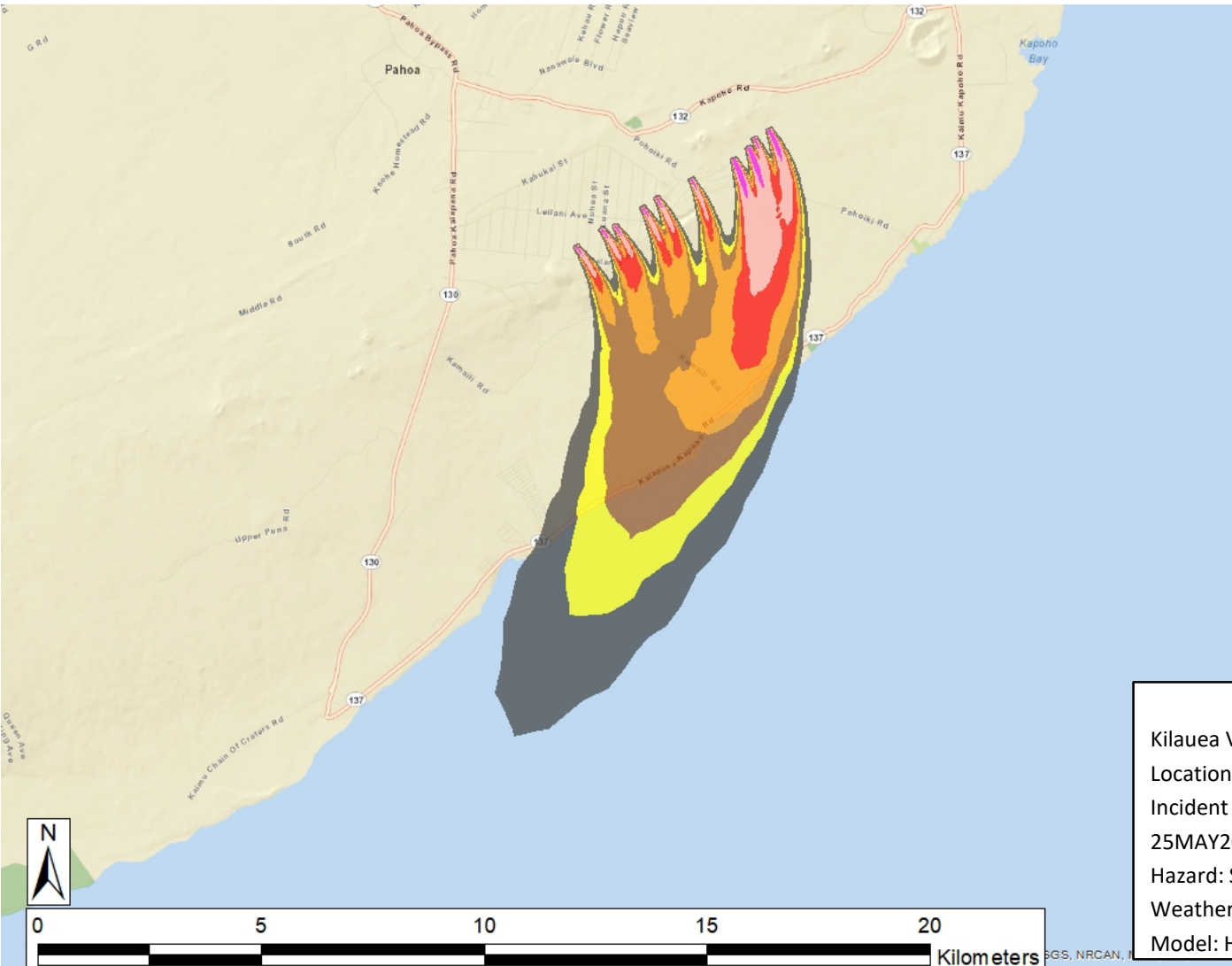


The Kīlauea volcanic began erupting in the late afternoon on May 3, 2018. Lava spatter and gas bubbles erupted from the fissure for about two hours and lava spread a short distance from the fissure.

Personnel at Pohakula Training Center on the north side of the volcano were experiencing mild effects.

Courtesy: [https://volcanoes.usgs.gov/volcanoes/kilauea/multimedia\\_maps.html](https://volcanoes.usgs.gov/volcanoes/kilauea/multimedia_maps.html)

# Sulfur Dioxide Concentration – 26 May 1600Z/26 May 0600 HST



## Sulfur Dioxide Concentration

IDLH (100 ppm)

20 ppm

NIOSH STEL (10 ppm)

5 ppm

3 ppm

NIOSH REL (2 ppm)

1 ppm

Most people can smell sulfur dioxide at levels of 0.3 to 1 ppm.

## FACTS

Kilauea Volcano, Hawaii – Fissures IVO Leilani Estates

Location: 19.469068° N / 154.897732° W

Incident Time: 26MAY2018 0400Z/

25MAY2018 1800 HST

Hazard: Sulfur dioxide (amount varies by fissure)

Weather: 5 km WRF from NCEP

Model: HPAC 6.4



# Important Caveats

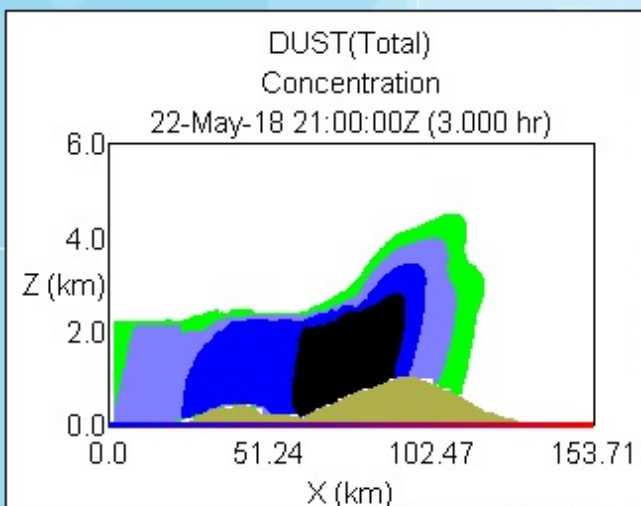
- **Caveats**

- All modeling products displayed below are hypothetical. They are based on something that may happen, but has not occurred yet. Should an incident occur, please consult the Washington VAAC (see below).

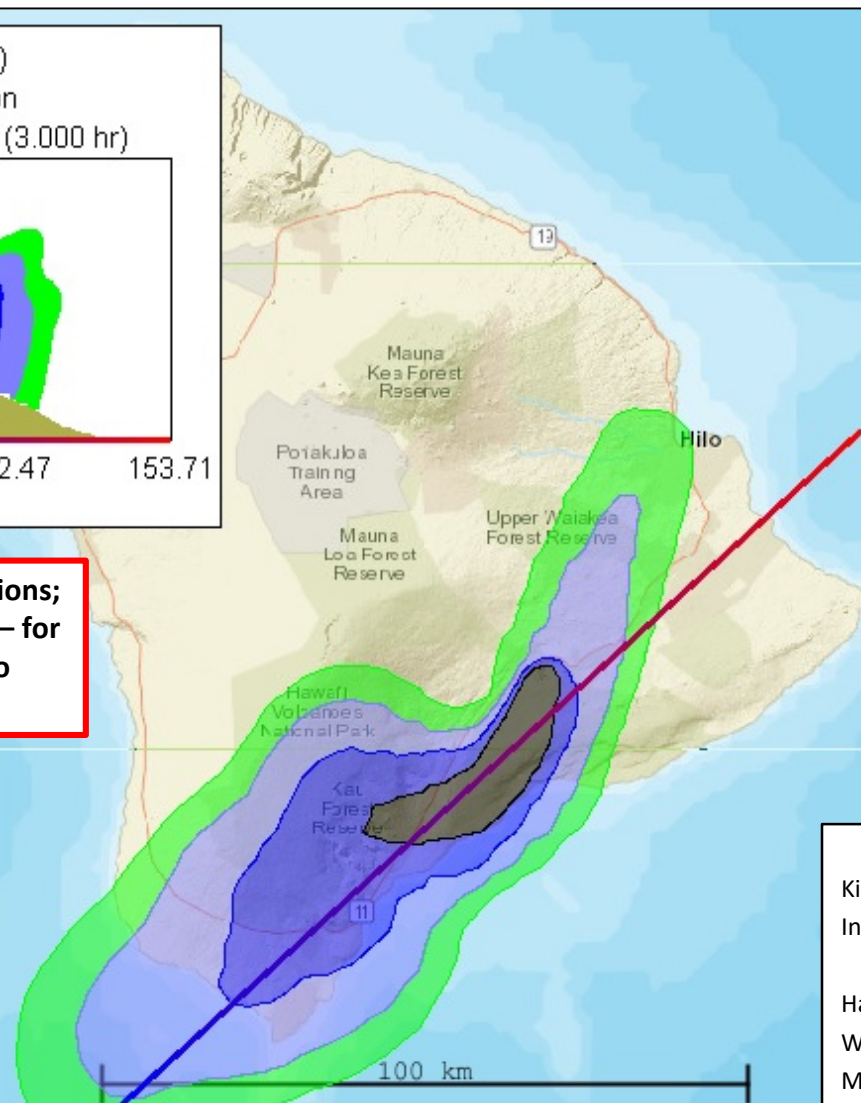
- **VAAC – Washington**

- ***The Washington Volcanic Ash Advisory Center produces the official guidance and ash advisories for this event. If an actual event occurs, the Washington-VAAC is the official and only guidance to use.*** They can be contacted by email at [w-vaac@noaa.gov](mailto:w-vaac@noaa.gov).
- Flight restrictions should only be based on VAAC guidance.

# Eruption 22 May 1800Z / 22 May 0800 HST; Concentration + 3 hours



Please see slides on assumptions;  
this is a hypothetical release – for  
actual releases please refer to  
VAAC guidance.



## Dust (Concentration)

No Fly	2.0e-6 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
10% of No Fly	2.0e-7 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
1 % of No Fly	2.0e-8 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
0.1% of No Fly	2.0e-9 kg/m <sup>3</sup>

*Note: The predominant direction of the plume can be highly dependent on the plume height.*

## FACTS

Kilauea Volcano, Hawaii  
Incident Time:  
1800Z 22MAY2018 / 0800 HST 22MAY2018  
Hazard: Volcanic Ash (see previous slides)  
Weather: 5 km WRF from NCEP  
Model: HPAC 6.4



# CONTACT INFORMATION



## For Emergencies

**IMAAC Operations: (703) 767-2003**

Email: [IMAAC@FEMA.DHS.GOV](mailto:IMAAC@FEMA.DHS.GOV)

For general inquiries and exercise support requests, please send an email to  
[IMAACINQUIRIES@FEMA.DHS.GOV](mailto:IMAACINQUIRIES@FEMA.DHS.GOV)

Public website: <https://www.dhs.gov/imaac>