



## **Harris County Precinct 8**

### **Phil Sandlin, Constable**

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#### **PRESS RELEASE**

July 28, 2021

Yesterday evening, at approximately 7:30 PM, LyondellBasell in La Porte requested response from numerous area first responder agencies after experiencing an acetic acid leak at their facility, located at 1515 Miller Cut Off Road. Precinct 8 units responded to the scene after receiving the call and it was confirmed two deaths occurred onsite as a result this incident. Another 42 patients were treated, with injuries ranging from critical to minor. All personnel were accounted for by LyondellBasell as of 10:00 PM last night.

According to LyondellBasell, their acetyls unit where the leak occurred had been shut down earlier in the day for maintenance. Following this incident, LyondellBasell reported their response team acted quickly to isolate and contain the leak. Air monitoring of the area during this incident was conducted and it was determined there was no actionable levels and monitoring is ongoing.

Overnight, investigators with the Harris County Fire Marshal's Office conducted initial interviews and determined there was no explosion or fire associated with the leak. At 5:17 this morning, LyondellBasell gave the 'all clear' for this incident.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), and the Chemical Safety Board were all notified of this incident. At this time, Deputy Investigators with Precinct 8 are conducting follow-up investigation in conjunction with the Fire Marshal's Office and with cooperation from LyondellBasell to determine the cause of this incident. As this investigation progresses, more information will be released.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to those who lost their lives as well as those who were injured in this incident.

Information from LyondellBasell regarding this incident can be found at [www.lyb.com/response](http://www.lyb.com/response).

Jason Finnen, Chief Deputy

Harris County Precinct 8 Constable's Office