

WHAT'S NEW

HSEM Staff Member Sparks Nationwide Investigation

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Congratulations are in order for HSEM's Steve Tomlyanovich whose determination to enforce the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) has paid off nationwide.

EPCRA is a program that requires companies to document and report hazardous materials used and stored in a community. A decade ago, Tomlyanovich tried to get information on the presence of battery acid and diesel fuel stored at AT & T Wireless sites in Minnesota. When his efforts to collect the information from the company were not successful he contacted the Environmental Protection Agency in Chicago.

The EPA began a nationwide review which, according to an EPA news release, found violations in 43 states. The legacy AT&T sites are now owned by New Cingular Wireless (NCW) which agreed to pay a civil penalty of \$750,000 and spend \$650,000 on environmental projects.

Tomlyanovich says he is pleased to see his action finally got results.

"It's dedicated state employees like Steve who make a difference", says his supervisor, Field Services Branch Director Cathy Clark. "EPCRA is a vital program that provides the information community leaders need before and during an emergency situation."

[Follow this link to read more about the settlement](#)