

**EXTRA INFORMATION**

3/12/12 (8)

**Christine Joyce**

---

**From:** Steve Ledoux  
**Sent:** Monday, March 12, 2012 6:34 AM  
**To:** Board of Selectmen  
**Subject:** Fwd: Ethanol - Fire Dept Opinion

Sent from my iPad, please excuse any brevity or typos

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Robert Craig <[rcraig@acton-ma.gov](mailto:rcraig@acton-ma.gov)>  
**Date:** March 12, 2012 1:36:19 AM EDT  
**To:** Steve Ledoux <[sledoux@acton-ma.gov](mailto:sledoux@acton-ma.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Ethanol - Fire Dept Opinion

Steve,

I stated the classes were conducted by the Division of Services, they were actually conducted by the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy. I corrected that in this second draft.

---

**From:** Robert Craig  
**Sent:** Monday, March 12, 2012 1:29 AM  
**To:** Steve Ledoux  
**Subject:** RE: Ethanol - Fire Dept Opinion

Steve,

Sorry this is so late, my wife and I were out of state for the weekend and arrived home later in the evening than I thought we would and then I spent a little time trying to gather some information for a response, Please let me know if I can provide any further information or if you wish to discuss this further or in more detail. It is definitely a concern but more information, training and planning will be required. Following then is a draft response:

As a result of your inquiry I did check with the Fire Department relative to your questions regarding freight trains with ethanol running through Acton. At this point the fire department has not been made aware of any specific details as to this proposal. This issue first came to light when Fire Chiefs were given general information about the ethanol train proposal late last Fall. Subsequently and just within the last few weeks fire departments have been provided the opportunity to send a limited amount of officers to a program conducted by the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy designed to educate local fire departments about ethanol incidents and to provide information for them to be utilized for planning for responses to such incidents. As such, much of the needed information is just being disseminated now and planning for response will take place in the near future. All this to say that response planning is just starting and will continue with the development of more information. As such, Chief Craig is currently attempting to gain additional information in this regard. However, in the interim and without more specific and detailed information, Chief Craig has indicated that in the event of a derailment we would most likely need a significant amount of mutual-aid response to handle the incident. In answer to your question about statistics or odds of such an incident, Chief Craig does not have specific information in that regard, but will attempt to obtain any information that might answer that question. As far as what actions would be taken in the event of an incident, Chief Craig indicated the following. In the absence of more detailed and specific response plans which are currently being developed, an incident would most likely involve or necessitate a significant and unified incident command structure with a significant mutual aid response.

Once again, much of the information for this type of incident is currently being developed and Fire and EMS personnel will receive additional training in this regard in the near future.

---

**From:** Steve Ledoux  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 11, 2012 9:19 AM  
**To:** Robert Craig  
**Subject:** Re: Ethanol - Fire Dept Opinion

Thanks

Sent from my iPhone. Please pardon brevity or typos.

On Mar 11, 2012, at 9:01 AM, "Robert Craig" <[rcraig@acton-ma.gov](mailto:rcraig@acton-ma.gov)> wrote:

Yes, I will do that, should be able to get it go you sometime this evening if that is Ok.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 11, 2012, at 8:44 AM, "Steve Ledoux" <[sledoux@acton-ma.gov](mailto:sledoux@acton-ma.gov)> wrote:

Can u draft a response?

Sent from my iPad, please excuse any brevity or typos

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** David Clough <[daveclough1@gmail.com](mailto:daveclough1@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** March 11, 2012 12:56:51 AM EST  
**To:** Steve Ledoux <[sledoux@acton-ma.gov](mailto:sledoux@acton-ma.gov)>  
**Cc:** Mike Gowing <[mikeg.acton@gmail.com](mailto:mikeg.acton@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** Ethanol - Fire Dept Opinion

Steve,

I'm sure we each can have an idea on this, but can you check in with the Fire Department on their thoughts of this train running through Acton? Can they handle a derailment? Do they have stats on the odds of an issue? How actions would they take if there was an incident? Anything else important that I didn't ask?

Thanks,

- Dave