Spill Response

Large

and

Small

Priority Mercury Spills

- **Mercury and a heat source**
- **Young children; pregnant women**
- **Unknown or larger amount of mercury**
- **Large number of people involved**
- **Historic spills – possible long-term exposures**

Assessment

- **Where did it happen?**
  - **Home or Public place?**
  - **Bedroom or basement?**
  - **Storage shed or hospital room?**
- **Who are the people affected?**
  - **Sensitive population (children and pregnant women)**
  - **Adults, occupational workers?**
- **When did this happen or when did you find it?**
  - **Unknown?**
  - **Where is the person who witnessed it?**

Assessment

- **How much - the amount -container?**
- **Common items:**
  - **Compact fluorescent bulb .005 g**
  - **Fever Thermometer .5 g – 1 g**
  - **Thermostat 3 g**
  - **Sphygmomanometers 110 to 200 g**
  - **Ask the container and the fullness prior to the spill.**
- **What has been done to contain or cleanup?**

Assessment

- Who needs to know (now)?
- Where did it come from – is there more?

Actions for the First Responder

- Restrict access to the area
- Remove people and pets safely, leave contaminated items behind
- Isolate HVAC, block return vents
- Lower the temperature in the room if possible

Actions, continued

- Cover spill with plastic sheeting.
- Ventilate vapors to the outdoors
- Notify the local health department
- Report 1lb. or more to

  NRC, LEPC, PEAS

What the data means

Occupational Standards
Regulatory

- IDLH 10,000 ug/m3
- NIOSH TWA 50 ug/m3

Non-Occupational
Starting Point Guidance

- Evacuation >10 ug/m3
- Commercial < 3 ug/m3*
- Residential < 1 ug/m3*

- * **After cleanup, ventilation, and stabilization**

Additional Questions, Comments?