

### **Are All Releases Subject to HAZWOPER Regulations?**

No. OSHA defines an emergency response in 29 CFR 1910.120 (a)(3) (HAZWOPER) to be a response effort by employees from outside the immediate release area or by other designated responders (i.e. mutual-aid groups, local fire departments, etc.) to an occurrence which results, or is likely to result, in an uncontrolled release of a hazardous substance.

Responses to incidental releases of hazardous substances that can be absorbed, neutralized, or otherwise controlled at the time of release by employees in the immediate release area, or by maintenance personnel are not considered to be emergency responses.

Your site's safety management should determine what are the types and quantity of spills that employees and maintenance personnel can actually clean up without being considered an emergency response.