

U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board Media Advisory / News Release – Sept. 20, 2004

CSB to Hold News Conference and Public Meeting in Kinston, NC, this Thursday, Sept. 23, 2004, Concerning the West Pharmaceutical Explosion

CSB News Conference 11 a.m. Thursday

The CSB will hold a news conference at 11 a.m. this coming Thursday, Sept. 23, at the NC Global Transpark Education and Training Center, 3800 Highway 58 North, Kinston, NC (Tel. 252-523-1351). The CSB will release for broadcast and publication the investigation draft report in advance of the 7 p.m. public meeting at the Kinston High School, at which time investigators will present the report and the board will vote on whether to approve it.

The on-the-record news conference will be conducted by CSB Board Member John Bresland and Steve Selk, lead investigator.

CSB Public Meeting 7 p.m. Thursday

The CSB will hold a public meeting on Thursday, September 23, 2004, at 7 p.m. in the Kinston High School Performing Arts Center, 2601 North Queen Street, Kinston. CSB investigators will present their findings and safety recommendations concerning the explosion and fire that occurred at the West Pharmaceutical Services, Inc., facility in Kinston on January 29, 2003.

Following a public comment period and discussion of the report, the board members will vote on whether to approve the report.

The meeting is open to the public and media.

The CSB is an independent federal agency charged with investigating industrial chemical accidents. The agency's board members are appointed by the president and confirmed by the Senate. The Board does not issue citations or fines but does make safety recommendations to plants, industry organizations, labor groups, and regulatory agencies such as OSHA and EPA. Further information about the CSB is available from www.csb.gov.

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