

University of Louisiana at Monroe

Proximity Threat Analysis

The University of Louisiana at Monroe (ULM) is located in eastern Ouachita Parish at 700 University Avenue, Monroe, LA 71209. This assessment is designed to identify, and where possible, discuss mitigation of the threats posed by nearby businesses and transportation routes.

PROXIMITY THREATS

Light Industry: There are a number of small to medium sized light industry concerns located within 1 mile of the University but none of them appear to pose a specific identifiable hazardous materials incident threat.

U. S. Hwy 165: By far, the most dangerous proximity threat for ULM is U.S. Hwy. 165. It runs north and south and is located less than 1000 feet to the west of campus. On an average day, thousands of tractor-trailers will pass the campus, and a significant number of them will be carrying hazardous materials of one type or another. They include explosives, gases, flammable liquids and solids, oxidizing substances, poisonous and infectious substances, radioactive materials, corrosive substances and many other hazardous wastes. Each of these substances poses a risk for explosion, toxic release and fire. Hazardous materials incidents are 10 times more likely to occur when being transported by truck as compared to rail.

Fertilizer Plant: The Ouachita Fertilizer Company is located less than one mile north of the University on U.S. Hwy. 165. OFC blends fluid fertilizer for retail distribution to farm customers throughout Louisiana. Although chemicals handled can be considered highly hazardous, the company's proven safety program and track record negate any excessive precautions needed.

Interstate 20: Of mild threat to the campus is Interstate 20. It runs east and west and is located only 2 miles to the south of the campus. Again, thousands of tractor-trailers will pass through on an average day, and a significant number of them will be carrying hazardous materials of one type or another but pose no immediate threat.

Rail Line: A Kansas City Southern – Union Pacific rail line runs east and west and is located about 2000 feet to the south of the campus. An additional branch from this line runs north and south and is located approximately 2000 feet to the west of campus. Trains using this route carry the same types and quantities of hazardous materials as trucks, but they are more likely to carry more dangerous gasses and liquids like chlorine and anhydrous ammonia. Even accounting for the more dangerous cargo, the increased distance and better safety record of rail transportation make the rail line less of a threat to the campus. It must be remembered, however, that the threat is certainly not negligible.

Airport: Monroe Regional Airport is located 2 miles southeast of campus. The airport supports commercial, private, military, and cargo transportation. The campus is not in direct line with the glide path for any runway. Although the airport presents a threat potential, it is minimal.

Gas Lines: There are buried natural gas lines on and near the ULM campus. Normal precautions, as laid out in the Gas Line Safety procedures, are sufficient to limit risk from these lines.

NON-THREAT ISSUES

Evacuation: ULM is not isolated in that several improved roads service the campus from all sides. Procedures are spelled out in the "Emergency Evacuation Procedures". Immediate action will be taken to secure the campus, the safety of the students, employees, and visitors based on visual observations and immediately available facts. Upon contact with Emergency Authorities, Campus Administrators will carry out all directions and actions ordered.