

Gas Explosion Kills 14, Injures Dozens

From Isa Abdulsalami Ahovi,
Jos

ACHLORINE gas cylinder explosion, yesterday, killed 14 persons and injured about a hundred others at Lamingo Water Board Treatment Plant in Jos, the Plateau State capital.

Delta Denies
Receipt Of

People at the scene confirmed that the chemical still hung in the air as at mid-day yesterday, even as OLA Hospital, Bingham University Teaching Hospital, Plateau Specialist Hospital and Air Force Hospital, battled to save the lives of victims of the gas poisoning.

At the hospitals, little chil-

dren were seen with bloated abdomens, as other victims gasped for breath.

Two students from the National Film Institute (NFI), Jos, which is adjacent to the Water Treatment Plant, were among the dead.

Consoling victims and their families, Director of Press and Public Affairs to the State Governor, Emmanuel

Nanle, who confirmed the incident to reporters, said the state government was already taking measures to address the issues, noting that obsolete components of the treatment plant would be done away with, to forestall future occurrence.

According to Nanle: "The contamination has been contained and does not

affect the water which has been supplied to public mains; water from the mains is safe for consumption and is not affected in anyway by the aerial contamination of chlorine from the explosion."

The State Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Deputy Superintendent Emmanuel Abuh, also con-

firmed the incident, which he said was "as a result of chlorine explosion from a Treatment Plant at the Water Board."

Abuh said the Treatment Plant had been cordoned off while the management of the plant has been advised to take precautionary steps.

Reps Raise Alarm
Over EFCC's