

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Buffum MKE - Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region V

Subject: POLREP #2
Progress
Buffum MKE
C5Y4
Milwaukee, WI
Latitude: 43.0813980 Longitude: -87.9059090

To: Karen Dettmer, RACM
Lindor Schmidt, MHD
Ryan Wozniak, WDHS
Mark Drews, WDNR

From: Kathy Halbur, OSC
Paul Ruesch, OSC

Date: 7/2/2014

Reporting Period: 6/18/2014 - 7/2/2014

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	C5Y4	Contract Number:	EP-S5-08-02
D.O. Number:	141	Action Memo Date:	5/14/2014
Response Authority:	CERCLA	Response Type:	Time-Critical
Response Lead:	EPA	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	6/10/2014	Start Date:	6/11/2014
Demob Date:		Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:		RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	WDNR
FPN#:		Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

Time Critical Removal Action

1.1.2 Site Description

The Buffum MKE Site is a 3-story abandoned industrial building on a small lot in a mixed residential, commercial, and industrial area. The building was constructed in the early 1900's, and many different businesses have operated there over time. The last business to operate at the Site closed in 2008, and the property has fallen into disrepair.

1.1.2.1 Location

The Site is located at 3456 North Buffum Street, Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin. Residential properties are located to the north and east, the Beerline recreational trail is located to the south, and an operating business is located across the street to the west. Across the Beerline Trail are more residential properties.

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

See Initial POLREP for threat description.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

See Initial POLREP for pre-removal assessment information.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

The time critical removal action includes collection and removal of all solid and liquid wastes contained at the Site building. In addition, surfaces containing hazardous ash and dust will be cleaned. Building materials (i.e., peeling lead and PCB paint) that pose a health and/or migration risk will be removed. All associated wastes collected during the removal will be properly disposed of at EPA approved facilities, in compliance with the Off-Site Rule.

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

See Initial POLREP for activities that occurred June 10-17, 2014.

The following activities took place during this reporting period (June 18 - July 2, 2014):

- Collection, characterization, and consolidation of all liquid wastes abandoned at the Site;
- Collection and identification of all compressed gas cylinders abandoned at the Site;
- Recovery by suppliers of three abandoned cylinders (three additional cylinders remain for pick-up and/or disposal);
- Collection and staging of approximately 2 tons of hazardous solid waste from the rooftop elevator shaft/mechanical room;
- Collection, staging, removal, and disposal of non-hazardous debris and RCRA empty containers from the first and third floors of the building;
- Collection and recycling of scrap metal from the first and third floors of the building;
- Collection and recycling of mercury switches throughout the building;
- Cleaning of the main floor drain for the eastern half of the building;
- Spill containment/runoff control for contaminated water migrating off-site through building doors;
- Perimeter, hot zone, and personnel air monitoring;
- Waste profile sampling and analysis; and
- Recovery of personal documents for a previous operator.

2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)

The owner of the building is tax delinquent, out-of-state, and unable to care for the building. A signed Consent for Access To Property and a declaration of inability to conduct the cleanup was submitted by the Site owner to EPA on February 26, 2014. There are no known viable previous operators.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

Waste Stream	Medium	Quantity	Manifest #	Treatment	Disposal
Non-Haz Debris & RCRA Empty	solid	20 tons	NA	NA	Orchard Ridge Landfill, Menomonee

Containers					Falls, WI
Scrap metal	solid	5 tons	NA	Recycle	Auto & Scrap Recyclers, Milwaukee, WI
Oxygen cylinder	gas	(2) 4' cylinders	NA	Recycle	AirGas
Oxygen cylinder	gas	2' cylinder	NA	Recycle	Apria Health
Mercury switches	liquid/solid	0.50 pound	NA	Recycle	WM Mercury Solutions, Union Grove, WI

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

The work plan for this time critical removal action includes collection and removal of all solid and liquid wastes contained at the Site building. In addition, surfaces containing hazardous ash and dust will be cleaned. Building materials (i.e., peeling lead and PCB paint) that pose a health and/or migration risk will be removed. All associated wastes collected during the removal will be properly disposed of at EPA approved facilities, in compliance with the Off-Site Rule.

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

Site operations will be suspended from July 3-7, 2014. The crew will demobilize on July 3, 2014 and return to Milwaukee on July 6, 2014. There will be 24 hour security during this time.

The following activities are planned for the next reporting period:

- Removal and staging of non-hazardous debris from the building for shipment & disposal;
- Removal and staging of scrap metal from the building for shipment & recycling;
- Disposal of liquid waste streams (flammables, corrosives, oils, etc);
- Consolidation and disposal of hazardous solid waste;
- Cleaning of building floors, drains, pits, trenches, and sumps;
- Additional assessment of migrating building contamination; and
- Perimeter and hot zone air monitoring.

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

See Section 2.2.1.1

2.2.2 Issues

Heavy rainfall and strong thunderstorms have been an almost daily occurrence since the removal action started. Winds during the June 30, 2014 storm were reported to be greater than 70 mph. Two other storms during this reporting period had winds greater than 50 mph. The holes in the roof and the cracks in the walls are noticeably expanding as a result of the severe weather and increased activity in the building, thus limiting work areas that can be safely accessed. Some of the contaminated areas will not be able to be cleaned. The effect of this is currently being evaluated. The City is currently evaluating condemnation.

The City of Milwaukee extended and repaved Buffum Street in April, 2014. MDPW returned during the week of June 30, 2014 to complete restoration of the grassy areas along the Buffum Street sidewalk and the Beerline Trail. Restoration of the sidewalk immediately adjacent to the Site will be delayed until the completion of the removal action. EPA will continue to work with MDPW to determine the specifications for the postponed restoration.

2.3 Logistics Section

The ERRS contractor (EQM, Inc.) has established and is maintaining a staging and support zone for all personnel, equipment and supplies.

2.4 Finance Section

2.4.1 Narrative

TO#141 was issued under ERRS Contract EP-S5-08-02 in the amount of \$500,000.00 on June 3, 2014. In addition, TDD#S05-0001-1405-014 was issued under START Contract EP-S5-13-01 in the amount of \$30,000.00.

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

OSCs Kathy Halbur/Paul Ruesch and ERRS RM Mark Douglas serve as on site safety officers. A HASP has been finalized and signed by all workers at the Site. Safety briefings are held each morning prior to initiation of work activity. A safety review was conducted on July 2, 2014 by Bill Boslett and Becky Fisher (EPA Safety Contractors).

2.5.2 Liaison Officer

OSC Kathy Halbur is serving as the liaison with the community and state/local government agencies. The 54th Civil Support Team held a training exercise at the Site on June 24, 2014. Representatives from the WDNR Spills Program observed a portion of the exercise.

2.5.3 Information Officer

A fact sheet was finalized and distributed door to door to residences and businesses in the neighborhood. A copy of the Fact Sheet can be found (in English and Spanish) on the project website under the 'documents' section. A repository of the Administrative Record file was established at the following address:

2300 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53212

The CIC for the project is Susan Pastor.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

N/A

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

City of Milwaukee
Redevelopment Authority
Department of Health
Fire Department
Department of Neighborhood Services
Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security
Department of Public Works
State of Wisconsin
Department of Natural Resources
Department of Health Services
54th Civil Support Team
Riverworks Development Corporation

4. Personnel On Site

U.S. EPA - 3 (OSCs Halbur, Ruesch, and Mendoza coordinated oversight during this reporting period)
ERRS (EQM, Inc) - 6
START (TetraTech, Inc) - 2 (START personnel rotated during this reporting period)

Security Officer Services, Inc - 1

Total daily workers = 9

5. Definition of Terms

CFR - Code of Federal Regulations

CIC - Community Involvement Coordinator

CST - Civil Support Team

EPA - Environmental Protection Agency

ERRS - Emergency & Rapid Response Services

HASP - Health and Safety Plan

MDNS - Milwaukee Department of Neighborhood Services

MDPW - Milwaukee Department of Public Works

MFD - Milwaukee Fire Department

mg/kg - milligrams per kilogram

MHD - Milwaukee Health Department

MOEMHS - Milwaukee Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security

NR - Natural Resources

OSC - On scene coordinator

PCBs -Poly-Chlorinated Biphenyls

ppb - parts per billion

ppm - parts per million

RACM - Redevelopment Authority of the City of Milwaukee

RCL - Residual Contaminant Level

RML - Removal Management Level

RM - Response Manager

START - Superfund Technical Assessment & Response Team

SVOCs - Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds

TDD - Technical Direction Document

VOCs - Volatile Organic Compounds

WDHS - Wisconsin Department of Health Services

WDNR - Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

<http://www.epa.gov/Region5/cleanup/buffum/index.html>

<http://www.epaosc.org/BufumMKE>

6.2 Reporting Schedule

Progress POLREPS will be issued as significant activities occur.

7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.