

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT  
Portage Creek Area - Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Region V

Subject: POLREP #3  
Continued Staging Pad Construction and Seasonal Demobilization  
Portage Creek Area  
059B05  
Kalamazoo, MI  
Latitude: 42.2839750 Longitude: -85.5791570

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From: Sam Borries, On-Scene Coordinator

Date: 11/17/2011

Reporting Period: 11/4/11 - 11/17/11

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Background

Site Number:	059B05	Contract Number:	EP-S5-09-05
D.O. Number:	0087	Action Memo Date:	7/5/2011
Response Authority:	CERCLA	Response Type:	Time-Critical
Response Lead:	EPA	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	NPL	Operable Unit:	05
Mobilization Date:	9/26/2011	Start Date:	8/30/2011
Demob Date:	11/17/2011	Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:	MID006007306	RCRIS ID:	NA
ERNS No.:	NA	State Notification:	Yes
FPN#:	NA	Reimbursable Account #:	NA

#### 1.1.1 Incident Category

Fund-lead removal action.

#### 1.1.2 Site Description

See POLREP #1

##### 1.1.2.1 Location

See POLREP #1

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat  
See POLREP #1

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results  
See POLREP #1

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

Site activities for this reporting period have focused on site preparation at the John Street support area. As reported in POLREP #2 an elevated water table in the excavation area of SA7 continues to prevent contaminated soils from being excavated. Site activities are being temporarily shut down until cold weather arrives to harden the surface soils of the SA7 excavation area. It is also anticipated that by this time construction activities south of Reed Street will return Portage Creek to its channel and lower the elevated water table. EPA will assess conditions at the end of November/early December to determine when personnel and equipment can return to conduct excavation activities in SA7. Personnel and equipment have been demobilized until further notice.

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

From November 4, 2011 to November 17, 2011, U.S. EPA, ERRS and START conducted the following activities:

- Continued the construction of the John Street staging/solidification pad (staging pad) with the installation of the staging pad sand drainage layer;
- Removed the existing chain-link fence located along the northern perimeter (Axtell Creek) of the staging pad area;
- Continued vegetation removal and grubbing activities along the southern bank of Axtell Creek utilizing a chipper to decrease the volume of branches that will need to be hauled from the site;
- Air monitored the vicinity of all construction activities for particulates;
- Installed permanent electric power to site trailers;
- Constructed a fixed chain-link fence along the western perimeter and a temporary chainlink fence along the southern perimeter of the John Street support area;
- Cleaned equipment and temporarily demobed site personnel and equipment while awaiting SA7 site conditions to improve for excavation.

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

The major PRP for this portion of the Allied Paper Inc./Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River Superfund site was dissolved through bankruptcy proceedings in April 2010. Other PRPs are being evaluated.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

<b><i>Waste Stream</i></b>	<b><i>Medium</i></b>	<b><i>Quantity</i></b>	<b><i>Manifest #</i></b>	<b><i>Treatment</i></b>	<b><i>Disposal</i></b>

2.2 Planning Section

A summary of removal activities that will take place in the upcoming weeks include:

- Re-mobilization of personnel and equipment to the site;
  - Excavation of the SA7 soils after the surface water and groundwater recede, including the;
    - Excavation, solidification and staging of PCB contaminated soils;
    - Transportation and disposal of excavated soils;
- Other site activities will include:

- Ongoing efforts to obtain site access from property owners who own land along the project boundaries;
- Distribute Portage Creek Removal SA6 Tech Memo and post the document to the project website;
- Begin preparation of the Portage Creek Removal SA5 Tech Memo.

### 2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

See POLREP #2

#### 2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

See above.

#### 2.2.1.2 Next Steps

#### 2.2.2 Issues

An elevated water table in excavation SA7 is preventing removal of contaminated soils. See section 2.1.1 above for additional information.

### 2.3 Logistics Section

The current resources present on site for the removal include:

- Three Office Trailers
- One Security Trailer

### 2.4 Finance Section

#### 2.4.1 Narrative

NA

#### Estimated Costs \*

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
ERRS - Cleanup Contractor	\$4,700,000.00	\$532,000.00	\$4,168,000.00	88.68%
TAT/START	\$300,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$250,000.00	83.33%
Intramural Costs				
Total Site Costs	\$5,000,000.00	\$582,000.00	\$4,418,000.00	88.36%

\* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

### 2.5 Other Command Staff

#### 2.5.1 Safety Officer

Sam Borries, Craig Thomas, and Paul Ruesch, U.S. EPA FOSCs are serving as the safety officer (s).

The HASP was reviewed and signed by all site personnel. Air monitoring is being conducted by START

#### 2.6 Liaison Officer - NA

#### 2.7 Information Officer - NA

##### 2.7.1 Public Information Officer - NA

##### 2.7.2 Community Involvement Coordinator

Don DeBlasio - U.S. EPA CIC

### 3. Participating Entities

#### 3.1 Unified Command

N/A

### 3.2 Cooperating Agencies

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality  
Michigan Department of Natural Resources  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
City of Kalamazoo:  
    Department of Public Services  
    Parks and Recreation Department  
    Economic Development Department  
    Community Planning & Development  
    Public Safety Department  
    Fire Department  
    Police Department  
Bronson Methodist Hospital  
Kalamazoo Nature Center

### 4. Personnel On Site

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
U.S. EPA Oversight Contractors (Global Remediation Technologies, Inc. and Dynamac Corporation)  
U.S. EPA Removal Contractors (Environmental Quality Management, Inc., CMC Incorporated)

### 5. Definition of Terms

ERRS - Emergency and Rapid Response Services  
FOSC - Federal On Scene Coordinator  
HASP - Health and Safety Plan  
mg/kg - milligrams per kilogram  
MDEQ - Michigan Department of Environmental Quality  
NA - Not Applicable  
NPL - National Priorities List  
PCB - polychlorinated biphenyl  
PRPs - Potentially Responsible Parties  
START - Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team  
U.S. EPA - United States Environmental Protection Agency

### 6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report  
See project website at: [www.epaosc.org/portagecreekarea](http://www.epaosc.org/portagecreekarea).

6.2 Reporting Schedule  
Approximately every 2-4 weeks during the active construction season.

### 7. Situational Reference Materials

See project website at: [www.epaosc.org/portagecreekarea](http://www.epaosc.org/portagecreekarea)