



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

**Subject: Situation Report #8
Norfolk Southern Train Derailment
Graniteville, SC**

**To: Don Rigger, Chief
Emergency Operations Section, ERRB**

**From: Kevin Misenheimer, OSC
Incident Commander**

Date: January 12, 2005

Operational Period: January 11, 2005 07:00 - January 12, 2005 07:00

The following tasks have been completed during the last operational period:

January 11, 2005 07:00 - 19:00:

- EPA, GST, START and CTEH finalized the placement of the Area Raes. Operation and maintenance on the Area Raes continued throughout the day. This included battery replacement, repeater tower placement and repositioning if needed. The highest reading recorded today was 1.4 ppm in the park next to the derailment.
- Norfolk Southern contractors set up and completed the liquid transfer from the full (North) chlorine car. NS then began the process of evacuating chlorine vapors from the car. Norfolk Southern contractor continued to sparge chlorine gas from the breached tank car into sodium hydroxide. NS contractors determined that a steel permanent patch would be placed on the breached car. NS contractors continued fabrication and modification of the steel patch.
- South Carolina Department of Natural Resources continued to investigate the fish kill on Langley Pond. At least 250 dead fish were observed and enumeration is scheduled for 12 January, 2005
- ATSDR, CTEH, Norfolk Southern and DHEC continued working on a reoccupation fact sheet that can be distributed to the public when they are allowed back into their homes. It will describe the precautions they need to take as well as explain how chlorine affects the environment.

- Members of the BellSouth hazmat crew (Saber team) arrived to further investigate the central office which is located approximately 200 yards from the derailment scene.

January 10, 2005 19:00 – January 11, 2005 07:00:

- A natural gas leak detected in the area near where the air monitoring equipment is staged temporarily disrupted EPA activities. EPA ERT was unable to monitor Area Raes for the period that the fire chief requested evacuation while the gas lines and man hole were assessed. This caused a delay in the placement of additional Area Raes until early morning.
- Norfolk Southern contractor began liquid transfer from the northern tank. During the evening, Norfolk Southern contractor continued to sparge chlorine gas from breached tank into sodium hydroxide.

Next Steps

- Continue to provide over-site of NS response activities and continue air monitoring.
- NS will complete transfer of chlorine from the second full rail car and continue to sparge chlorine vapors from the damaged car.
- ATSDR, CTEH, NS and DHEC will finalize the reoccupation fact sheet as well as translate it into Spanish and then submit it for review and distribution.
- Continue to support Unified Command.