EPA Louisiana Hurricanes IMT SITREP # 55

REPORTING PERIOD: 10/27/05 0700 hours to 10/28/05 1900 hours

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OPERATIONS

A. Environmental Assessment Branch

Environmental Sampling Group

- No samples were collected during the reporting period.

Environmental Water Quality Sampling Group

- **Water Quality:** No water sampling was received by Operations on October 27 or 28, 2005. Operations has no plans for future water quality sampling events, but continues to coordinate and support LDEQ water quality sampling, as requested.

Rapid Response Team

- No rapid response sampling requests were received on October 27, 2005.
- Three soil samples, including a duplicate, were collected at the Agriculture Street Landfill on October 28, 2005 per the *Streamlined Sampling and Analysis Plan for Hurricane Impacts Evaluation - Seep Sampling Event*, dated October 26, 2005. These samples will be analyzed for polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, TAL metals, and iron-reducing bacteria.

Potable Water Testing Group

- The Region 8 Mobile Lab located in Kinder, LA, conducted bacteriological analyses for public water system and private water well samples. The lab analyzed 10 samples on October 27and 65 samples on October 28.
- Kinder operations will continue through Friday, October 28 2005 and will be discontinued on Saturday, October 29 2005.
- The Region 8 Lab will be demobilized on October 30, 2005 from Louisiana and transported to Houston, Texas for the remainder of the hurricane. LDHH will use their labs to conduct bacteriological analysis in future.

Summary of Potable Water Truck Tank Testing	
	Total Trucks
Reporting Period Total	55
Grand Total	1,534

Air Sampling Group

Activities conducted in accordance with the Regional Air Monitoring Plan dated October 3, 2005

- Awarded contract to construct fixed air sampling stations on October 27, 2005. Preconstruction meeting conducted on October 28, 2005. Construction to begin on November 1, 2005.
- To date, access agreements have been obtained on all required non LDEQ sites with the exception of three sites, two in Slidell and one in St Charles. Regional councel is currently coordinating with Slidell on access agreements. The Environmental Assessment Branch (EAB) is initiating access agreement coordination on the Luling site in St Charles.
- Conducted 23-hour sampling for 2.5-micron and 10-micron diameter particulate matter ($PM_{2.5}$ and PM_{10}) at 3 sites in St. Charles Parish and Orleans Parish on October 27 and 28, 2005 with low flow air samplers.
- Conducted continuous air monitoring for $PM_{2.5}$ and PM_{10} with a Beta Attenuation Monitor (EBAM) at 3 sites in Jefferson Parish and Orleans Parish. EBAMs are continuous $PM_{2.5}$ and PM_{10} monitors that are capable of continuously reporting mass measurements by satellite data upload.
- Conducted 24-hour samples for Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAH), metals, asbestos, and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from SKC low flow air sampling pumps operated at 3 sites in Orleans Parish and St. Charles Parish on October 26, 2005 through October 27, 2005 and at 6 sites in Orleans Parish, St. Charles Parish, and Jefferson Parish on October 27, 2005 through October 28, 2005. Additionally, on October 27, 2005 an AreaRAE was co-located at each site for a minimum of 3 hours that monitored for various gases dependent on the installed sensors. These samples are being taken to determine background concentrations. To date, no elevated readings have been found.
- Please see table below for a total number of air samples collected.

Activities conducted in accordance with the Air Monitoring and Contingency Plan dated October 12, 2005

- No missions to monitor construction debris burns were conducted on October 27 or 28, 2005.

Activities conducted as part of Special Requests

- No special request missions were conducted on October 27 or 28, 2005.

Estimated Number of Samples Collected as of COB on 26 Oct 2005			
	Water*	**Sediment**	**Air Samples**
Operational Period	0	0	52
Total	636	423	612**

*Water samples totals include flood water, outfall water, and surface water.
**Total air samples denote individual air samples taken since Sept. 30. These samples represent individual samples taken at various locations for PAHs, Hg, Asbestos, Metals, VOCs, and Particulates.

Infrastructure Facilities Within Impacted Areas					
Facilities	Sites Identified	Sites Assessed	Requiring Assessment[3]	Operational	Non-Operational
POTW – LA (Statewide)[1]	317	313	4	300	13
POTW – TX[2]	70	70	0	70	0
Industrial Wastewater[4]	899	311	588	260	51
Total Facilities	1286	694	592	630	64

1. Updated on October 24, 2005. The data for LA is statewide, not only in the FEMA declared parishes as in previous SITREPS.
2. This is the status of all major and minor NPDES permitted POTWS in the declared FEMA assistance zones.
3. This column represents facilities that teams have been unable to contact or otherwise determine status.
4. Updated numbers are not available. The RRC and IMT will work with the State to update this table.

B. ER /Removal Branch addresses situations that require immediate or short-term action. Divisions within the branch conduct recon of reported situations/conditions and take action to address these situations such as removal of hazardous material to the collection area. In the collection area, these materials are characterized, consolidated and packaged for transport and disposal**.**

Recovery Group 1 & 3

- Continued with reconnaissance of approximately 6000 targets identified by New Orleans Fire Department and the Civil Support Team in Orleans and Plaguemines Parish. The targets are typically drums, tanks, and cylinders. The collected materials are transported to the I-510 Collection.

Recovery Group 2

- Conducted a reconnaissance and recovery of abandoned and orphan containers from NOFD/CST Grids in near shore wetland areas and levee debris piles located in Plaquemines Parish.
- Transported collected materials to the I-510 Collection Area and the Fort Jackson Collection Area (Plaquemines Parish).

Note: Collected materials are shown on the HHW Collection Table following this section.

Response Group

- Desire Street RTA Bus Terminal - Completed the removal assessment of the RTA Bus Terminal facility located on Desire Street in Orleans Parish. Containers from the facility buildings were characterized, segregated and inventoried.
- New Orleans Crime Lab - Completed the response action at the New Orleans Police Department (NOPD) Crime Laboratory in Orleans Parish. Hazardous materials from the facility were characterized, segregated and inventoried. Materials collected were transported to the I-510 Collection Area.
- Conducted an assessment of four drums located in a residential area in Orleans Parish. The drums were suspected to contain hydrochloric acid, however, further assessment found the drums to be empty.
- Conducted a response action of three leaking transformers located in Orleans Parish. On-site characterization for PCBs in the transformer oil was less than 50 parts per million. The transformers were scheduled for pickup.
- Conducted an emergency response to a leaking drum located in a residential area located in CST Grid/Section 5 in Orleans Parish. Recovery Group 1 Team, whose air monitoring readings near the drum indicated elevated readings for hydrogen sulfide, initially discovered the drum. Vapors emanating from the leaking drum caused two of the Recovery Group 1 Team members to become ill. Those team members were taken to the Spirit of Charity Expeditionary Medical Facility. One team member declined treatment, while the other was treated and released. The subsequent emergency response confirmed the elevated air monitoring readings for hydrogen sulfide. A response team, outfitted in Level B PPE, overpacked the drum for disposal. The drum was transported to the I-510 Collection Area. The drum was categorized and determined to be mostly water with odors associated with rotting vegetation.

Removal Group

- Canal St. RTA Bus Terminal - Continued the Response Action of the Regional Transit Authority (RTA) Bus Terminal facility located on Canal Street in Orleans Parish. Approximately 300 buses were screened for waste containers. Containers collected from the facility were transported to the Orleans Parish Household Hazardous Waste Collection Area. The facility's floor was decontaminated. Twenty thousand gallons of storm water that had accumulated in the collection sumps were treated on-site.
- Desire St. RTA Bus Terminal - Initiated a Response Action of the RTA Bus Terminal facility located on Desire Street in Orleans Parish. The facility's floor was decontaminated.
- Medical Clinic - Initiated a Response Action at the Plaquemines Medical Clinic in Plaquemines Parish. An entry to conduct air monitoring indicated elevated levels of mercury vapors in a locked room.

SCHOOL ASSESSMENT GROUP

- Conducted an assessment of the chemistry laboratories at John Ehret and Higgins High School in Orleans Parish. The Group inventoried laboratory chemicals.

INTERSTATE-510 COLLECTION AREA

- Continued to accept waste from the recovery teams.

- Continued characterization of unknown chemicals.
- Transported 163 empty drums to the Orleans Parish Household Hazardous Waste Collection Area.

Emergency Responses in Areas of Hurricane Impacts		
Hurricane	Assessment[1]	Response Actions[2]
Katrina	23	27
Rita	3	4

[1] Assessments noted here are similar to activities conducted in a Removal Assessment
[2] Emergency Responses noted here are activities limited to situations were EPA removed a crew from their current assignment to respond the same day as the situation was discovered.

C. Reconnaissance Branch conducts facility evaluation to identify environmental issues.

RAD

- An LDEQ RAD team conducted one inspection in Plaquemines Parish.

UST Compliance Assistance

- Three (3) EPA/START/LDEQ/ADEQ teams conducted UST evaluations in Orleans parish.
- 48 sites visited, 4 sites with “non-ER” follow-up environmental concerns, 16 Sites with follow-up operational (i.e., the proper functioning of monitoring equipment) concerns.

Aerial Over-flight Group

- EPA Helo: Conducted overflight of Cameron Parish with Coast Guard and Deputy Operations Section Chief.
- DOT Helo: No activity.

EPA-Regulated Facilities Within Areas Impacted By Hurricane Katrina		
Facility/Site Type	Number of Facilities/Sites	Facilities/Sites Assessed
FRP Sites	192	154
RMP Sites	90	79
TRI Facilities	78	67
RCRA Sites	382	8
Removal Sites	74	47
Totals	816	355

- Awaiting LDEQ data for current numbers.
- Impact Area – Parishes Washington, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Orleans, St. Bernard, St. Charles, Jefferson and Plaquemines.
- Facilities/Sites Assessed - Sites where the team conducted a visual observation, aerial reconnaissance and/or follow-up phone calls with subject facilities or a government official.
- FRP/RMP/TRI – Taken from Region 6 databases.
- RCRA – Large Quantity Generators and Transportation Storage and Disposal facilities.
- Removal Site – Region 6 personnel filtered all Region 6 OPA and non-NPL sites (the universe) to reflect what might cause a negative environmental impact due to Hurricane Katrina activity.
- RRC in Dallas will be working on updating this table. Updated numbers will be provided as they become available to the Situation Unit.

HAZARDOUS DEBRIS COLLECTION BRANCH -The Hazardous Debris collection branches are organized by geographical locations. These branches collect and transport HHW and orphan containers to collection areas. At these collection areas, HHW is segregated and bulked for disposal. The USACE collects and transports white goods to separate collection areas where these white goods are cleaned and refrigerants and compressor oil are removed. EPA conducts air monitoring at these activities and documents operations, and coordinates closely with USACE on these activities. EPA also conducts public outreach on these activities by distributing fliers that provide information on HHW collections. These activities occurred in the following parishes: St. Tammany, Jefferson, Plaquemines, Orleans, St. Bernard, Grand Isle, Lafourche, Terrebonne, Vermillion, and Cameron. Division specific information follows:

D. East Branch

St. Tammany Division

- Changed the white goods collection time to 6:30 AM to take advantage of daylight standard time.
- As of October 27, 2005, USACE will cease to disinfect WG units after the food is removed per an agreement with Southern Scrap. The recycler stated that this is an unnecessary step.
- A second baler to crush white goods is in route to the site.

Jefferson Division
Plaquemines Division
Orleans Division

- Normal activities continue.

St. Bernard Division

- Local employees who received 40 hour Hazwoper training will begin working this week.
- Shipped out first load of manifested waste. This load totaled 19,527 pounds.
- Met today with the Parish officials to determine who will pick up orphan HW. EPA agreed to pickup HHW and Parish contractor will pickup orphan commercial HW.
- Parish contractor, URGs, starting Monday, will perform pick up and transportation operations of White Goods to Southern Scrap per contract.
- Southern Scrap will perform removal of mercury switches, CFC, and compressor oil as well as emptying and disinfecting these units per contract.

Murphy Oil

- No new activities

E. Central Branch

Grand Isle Division

- State Police removed explosives (Thermite) from the Mainland Landfill and transported off site for detonation.
- HHW operations continued with skeleton crews during a scheduled break, with pickup both curbside and on west side of beach.

Lafourche Division

Lafourche

- Crews continued with HHW and white goods operations throughout the Parish.

Vermilion Division

- Two leaking 350 gallon tote tanks located on the Hebert Canal were stabilized to prevent further discharge of material.
- One recovery team, with the aid of a boom truck, continued to collect large orphan containers (tote tanks and small ASTs) along Chapel Road.
- Final recovery efforts were conducted for HHW and orphan containers in residential areas of Delcambre, Erath, and Henry.
- Flyers and public service addresses will be used to inform Parish residents of a planned HHW collection next week.

F. West Branch

Cameron Parish

- Continued surveying property in Cameron for identification of a collection area for the West Side Ferry spoil area debris piles. Made contact with the landowners' attorney.
- Coordinate with property owners on obtaining access to form a HHW collection area in the Gibbstown area of the Parish and access surrounding marshes.

Calcasieu Parish

- Met with Parish official, local representatives, and LDEQ regarding the needs of HHW collection in Calcasieu. At this time, Parish Officials indicate that no EPA actions are anticipated.

HHW Summary Table - Period Numbers							
Location (Parish)	**Drums**	**Propane Tanks**	**Cylinders**	**Other (Large)**	**Small Containers (< 55 gal drum)**	**Period total by Location**	**Parish Grand Total**
St Tammany	2	22	12	0	270	306	49,309
Upper Jefferson	16	66	29	5	3,264	3,380	42,623
Grand Isle	52	11	43	0	1,085	1,191	14,065
Lafourche	34	23	11	0	660	728	15,021
Plaquemines	11	217	103	0	4,205	4,536	43,583
Orleans	0	164	216	0	17,277	17,657	150,670
I-510 area	204	34	40	13	565	856	4,684
St Bernard	4	90	80	39	2,889	3,102	11,412
Vermilion	79	28	24	27	1,579	1,737	10,230
Cameron	55	14	39	3	1,613	1,724	16,971
Calcasieu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Period Totals	457	669	597	87	33,407	35,217	
					341,907		
					Period Grand Total		35,217
					Total Grand Cumulative		358,568

White Goods Table		
Location (Parish)	**Period's White Goods**	**Grand Total White Goods**
St Tammany	2,474	12,765
Upper Jefferson	1,810	26,442
Grand Isle	202	903
Lafourche	9	408
Plaquemines	0	0
Orleans	5,328	20,809
St Bernard	0	0
Vermilion	0	0
Cameron	0	0
Calcasieu	0	0
Period Grand Total	9,823	
White Goods Cumulative Grand Total		61,327

INFORMATION OFFICER

Public Information Officer Report

- Associated Press Video interviewed EPA's On-Scene Coordinator, Christopher Weden, in charge of the cleanup of the Regional Transit Authority Canal Street Bus Terminal. Chris provided a tour of the ongoing cleanup at the site.
- PIO spoke with Anke Wienand, International Correspondent (for various U.S. and international media), regarding the Agriculture Street Landfill Superfund Site.
- Issued media advisory template to all regional public affairs directors encouraging local press coverage of returning EPA staffers.
- Contacted Society of Environmental Journalists to spark coverage from reporters out of the area.

Community Involvement Coordinator Report

- Current Collective Flyer Distribution Number: 867,610

SAFETY OFFICER

- Safety performed a site evaluation at the Fort Jackson HHW collection area, which was found in good shape and receiving approximately 2500 items per day.
- Task Force Leader and ASO at St. Tammany prepared a Memo regarding white goods transport issues. Key point include:
    - Refrigerators/freezers should be taped and secured during transport
    - Refrigerators/freezers should be handled carefully so that components are not punctured. Punctures can cause a release of CFC and oil

- Contractors should not ride on trailer during transport of refrigerators/freezers or any other items
- White goods should not be delivered after dark without supervision from USACE or EPA

- Safety stressed the need with Operations for ER Recovery groups to have the following items on hand: Copy of H&S Plan on-hand, communications, first aid kit, and eye wash stations.

RESOURCES ON-SCENE

						EAST BRANCH					CENTRAL BRANCH			WEST BRANCH					
PERSONNEL	JFO Baton Rouge	MOB/DEMOB	Mobile Field Personnel	New Orleans ICP (IMT)	AFO New Orleans	Orleans	North Jefferson	St. Bernard	Plaquemines	St. Tammany	Lafourche/Terrebonne	Grand Isle	Vermilion	Lafayette ICP	Beauregard	Jefferson Davis	Calcasieu/ Lake Charles/ Kinder	Cameron	TOTAL
EPA		**19***																	
- OSC	**1**		**10**	**12**		**2**	**1**	**1**	**2**	**1**	**1**						**2**	**3**	**36**
- Other	**2**		**10**	**80**	**1**	**10**		**2**	**5**	**6**	**1**	**1**	**1**					**2**	**121**
START			**84**	**81**		**22**	**24**	**24**	**1**	**3**	**6**	**2**	**17**					**13**	**277**
ERRS			**118**	**2**		**210**	**150**	**31**	**150**	**88**	**18**		**68**						**835**
REAC			**5**	**3**															**8**
CST																			**0**
USCG				**8**					**2**										**10**
Other Feds	**1**			**10**								**1**							**12**
Other Contract		**64***	**9**	**19**					**21**			**6**	**9**						**64**
TOTALS	**4**	**83***	**236**	**215**	**1**	**244**	**175**	**58**	**181**	**98**	**26**	**10**	**95**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**2**	**18**	**1363**

* mobe/demob count reflects personnel entering and leaving ICP. The number under "Other Contractor" represents all contractors who checked in. These personnel are not included in the reporting period total.

FINANCE

KATRINA

The following is a list of Mission Assignments currently coordinated by EPA/ESF10 in a Unified Command with LDEQ and USCG:

Mission Assignments	Funded	Obligations	Amount Available	Daily Burn Rate
7220-SU-LA-EPA-04-RRCC & RNA	$20,000	$17,300	$2,700	Closed
1603-DR-LA-EPA-01-RRCC & RNA	$21,300,000	$10,800,859	$10,499,141	$107,494
1603-DR-LA-EPA-02-Air, Ground, and water transportation support (Tech Support)	$1,800,000	$1,542,674	$257,326	Closed
1603-DR-LA-EPA-03-Field operations	$165,500,000	$143,800,636	$21,699,364	$1,562,155
1603-DR-LA-EPA-04-Technical Assistance Water Assessment	$2,500,000	$1,581,084	$918,916	$7,180
Totals:	**$191,120,000**	**$157,742,553**	**$33,377,447**	

RITA

The following is a list of Mission Assignments currently coordinated by EPA/ESF10 in a Unified Command with LDEQ and USCG:

Mission Assignments	Funded	Obligations	Amount Available	Daily Burn Rate
3260-EM-LA-EPA-01-RRCC & RNA	$25,000	$840	$24,160	Closed
1607-DR-LA-EPA-01	$20,000,000	$14,888,529	$5,111,471	$69,024
3261-EM-TX-EPA-01-RRCC & RNA	$5,000,000	$1,093,083	$3,906,917	$63,367
7220-SU-TX-EPA-06	$300,000	$5,490	$294,510	Closed
Totals:	**$25,325,000**	**$15,987,942**	**$9,337,058**	