

POLREP # 78

BoRit Asbestos NPL Site

Ambler, PA 19002

Event: CERCLA Response Activities

ATTN: Region III RRC

I. Situation (From July 1, 2013 through July 31, 2013)

- A. In April 2006, EPA Site Assessment group conducted a baseline sampling event at the BoRit Asbestos Pile Site (Site). The Site is located along West Maple Street and Chestnut Avenue in Ambler, PA, and is in the vicinity of the Ambler Asbestos National Priority List (NPL) Site. The Site consists of a waste pile, the bordering reservoir, the Whitpain Wissahickon Park, and the adjacent banks of the Wissahickon Creek, Rose Valley Creek, and Tannery Run. Results from the sampling event showed the presence of asbestos in the air, soil, surface water, and sediments. Asbestos-containing materials (ACM) are easily seen throughout the entire Site.
- B. The release meets the criteria for conducting a Removal Action under Section 300.415 of the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP). An EPA On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) determined that immediate funds are needed to mitigate the threat posed to human health and the environment. The OSC authorized a budget for the Removal Action not to exceed \$250,000, in accordance with EPA re-delegation of authority 14-2.
- C. On August 14, 2006, the EPA OSC prepared a Special Bulletin A documenting the scope of work needed to start a Removal Action at the Site to protect human health and the environment.
- D. A total of eight rounds of air sampling were conducted from October 2006 through September 2007. There were eight air sampling locations along the perimeter of the Site (locations varied with daily wind direction), five fixed locations in the community and a remote location in the nearby town to be used as a background or reference sample. During some of the rounds, activity-based sampling (ABS) was conducted (EPA contractors, with personal air pumps on them, conducted different tasks – walking, raking, soil sampling).
- E. Based on the sampling results from October 2006 through September 2007, EPA concluded that the residents in the vicinity of the BoRit Site are not being currently exposed to asbestos fibers from the Site at levels that pose an unacceptable or significant health risk.
- F. On July 7, 2008, a kick-off meeting was held at the site. EPA, Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team (START), and Emergency and Rapid

Response Services (ERRS) personnel were present on-site. EPA discussed design aspects with START and site working logistics with ERRS.

- G. On April 8, 2009, EPA announced the addition of the BoRit Asbestos Site to the Superfund National Priorities List (NPL).
- H. On July 1, 2010, Weston Solutions, Inc. assumed the role as START for BoRit Asbestos NPL Site.
- I. As of July 31, 2013, we have received approximately 7,480 loads of clean fill (or 112,200 yd³).
- J. As of July 31, 2013, 206 roll-off containers of ACM, with a combined weight of approximately 2,329 tons, have been disposed of at the landfill.
- K. As of August 8, 2013, we have spent approximately \$15,245,222 (Removal contractors' money only – time and material).
- L. For more information, see previous POLREPs.

II. Action Taken

- A. July 1, 2013: Contractors placed and graded topsoil on the slope and bench area from cross section A to A2.
- B. July 3, 2013: Contractors placed and graded topsoil up to cross section C.
- C. July 4, 2013: No site ops in observance of 4th of July holiday.
- D. July 5, 2013: Began covering ACM pile behind EPA trailer with filter fabric. Continued moving clean fill pile to north end of site.
- E. July 8, 2013: Continued covering ACM pile with filter fabric. Fence was repaired near Tannery Run.
- F. July 10, 2013: Slope and bench area along the alley was hydroseeded up to cross section A2. A subcontractor mows grass along the flat areas of the site. Placed and graded topsoil up to cross section B1.
- G. July 12, 2013: Contractors placed and graded topsoil from cross section E to E1. Subcontractor finished mowing grass on flat areas of the site.
- H. July 15, 2013: CDM Smith crew onsite to collect groundwater samples. Contractors spread and graded topsoil from cross section A2 to C2.
- I. July 19, 2013: CDM Smith on-site to wrap up/clean up from groundwater sampling. Topsoil was placed and graded from cross section E through E1. Fence cover was removed near Tannery Run.

- J. July 23, 2013: Swales were filled in on north end of site after rainfall caused minor damage. Straw wattles were placed on north end of site to prevent future damage from rainfall. Hydroseeded from cross section D1 through E. Began placing clean fill along the top of the bank of the sewer road slope.
- K. July 24, 2013: Realized no geotextile fabric was laid down from the retention pond drain area to about 30 feet past cross section H. The area was excavated and geotextile fabric was put in place.
- L. July 29, 2013: Began excavation of new waste cell, by the top of the Phase I slope, where the clean fill was. Continued placing and grading topsoil from cross section F to F1.
- M. July 31, 2013: Placed and graded topsoil around corner by Rose Valley. Hydroseeded and covered with straw mat from cross section F1 to F2. Began ACM relocation.

III. Future Actions

- A. Complete placing and grading topsoil along the slope and bench area by the alley, all the way to Rose Valley.
- B. Relocate ACM by the Phase I slope and cover it with geotextile fabric and clean material.
- C. Dust suppression will be implemented when necessary.
- D. Maintenance for Phases I through V will continue.
- E. Conference calls with CAG members will be held on as-needed basis.
- F. EPA will continue discussions with federal/state/local agencies and property owners about future actions at the site and will continue to keep the community informed of any site activities and progress.

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