

POLREP # 79

BoRit Asbestos NPL Site

Ambler, PA 19002

Event: CERCLA Response Activities

ATTN: Region III RRC

I. Situation (From August 1, 2013 through August 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 August 31, 2013, we have received approximately 7,480 loads of clean fill (or 112,200 yd³).
- J. As of August 31, 2013, 207 roll-off containers of ACM, with a combined weight of approximately 2,333 tons, have been disposed of at the landfill.
- K. As of September 19, 2013, we have spent approximately \$15,650,270 (Removal contractors' money only – time and material).
- L. For more information, see previous POLREPs.

II. Action Taken

- A. August 1, 2013: There were no site ops due to rain.
- B. August 2, 2013: Continued relocating ACM to waste cell. Hydroseeded west of north roadway and installed straw mats over area.
- C. August 5, 2013: Conducted weed control activities along Maple Street. Graded waste cell and decontaminated equipment used for ACM relocation. Implemented E&S control along north roadway.
- D. August 6, 2013: Laid filter fabric, then clean fill over waste cell. Street sweeper was on-site to clean surrounding roadways. OSC and START inspected new topsoil from Hartman Road and Enclave Blvd. in Montgomeryville.
- E. August 7, 2013: Continued placing clean fill over waste cell. Hydroseeded and placed straw mat around the bend on the east side of the sewer road slope.
- F. August 9, 2013: Rolled clean fill on waste cell. Placed clean fill around spillway from retention pond to RVC. Site ops ended at 1330 due to storms.
- G. August 12, 2013: Assisted Whitpain Township with sewer line installation and backfilled area when installation was complete. Watered seeded areas. Placed top soil along RVC top of bank.
- H. August 13, 2013: There were no site ops due to rain.

- I. August 14, 2013: Site restored after 3 inches of rain on 8/13/13, rills filled in and sedimentation on roadways was cleared. Placed more straw wattles around site for E&S control in the future.
- J. August 15, 2013: Vibra Tech was on-site to monitor vibrations near 103 Oak Street. Continued backfill ops along/around sewer line installation and placed topsoil along the top of the bank of the sewer road slope.
- K. August 19, 2013: Placed topsoil south of the main gate and along the top of the bank of the sewer road slope.
- L. August 20, 2013: Finished grading south of main gate to cross section D1. Roadways and other loose areas around site were rolled for compaction. Continued placing top soil to grade a along the top of the bank of the sewer road slope.
- M. August 21, 2013: Began excavation of main gate area to allow for 2 feet of clean fill cover. Fixed areas disturbed by rain fall.
- N. August 23, 2013: Clean fill was placed and rolled at main gate area. Hydroseeded Chestnut Street slope south of the main gate and along the top of the bank of the sewer road slope up to approximately cross section I.
- O. August 28, 2013: Placed straw mats over swales on east site of north roadway. Hydroseeded along the top of the bank of the sewer road slope.
- P. August 29, 2013: START collect 8 samples and one duplicate sample from reservoir and makes one field blank.
- Q. August 30, 2012: Laid filter fabric south of new clean fill stockpile at cross section D and covered with clean fill.

III. Future Actions

- A. Continue backfill with topsoil along top of bank of Wissahickon Creek and hydroseed.
- B. Cut trees around reservoir to prepare for dewatering work.
- C. Continue moving clean fill pile.
- D. Dust suppression will be implemented when necessary.
- E. Maintenance for Phases I through V will continue.
- F. Conference calls with CAG members will be held on as-needed basis.

- G. 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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