

**POLREP # 8**  
**Chem-Fab Site**  
**Doylestown, PA 18901**

**Event: CERCLA Response Activities**

**ATTN: Region III RRC**

**I. Situation (August 1, 2015 – September 30, 2015)**

- A. On November 8, 2012, using authority provided under EPA Delegation 14-2, the On-Scene Coordinator (“OSC”) authorized the expenditure of funds in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 to initiate a removal action intended to reduce VOCs in suites inside an office building located 300-360 North Broad Street (“Property”), which Property is included within the Site. To accomplish this, the OSC installed portable air purifiers into selected suites within the impacted building. The OSC subsequently collected additional data to evaluate the efficacy of such units combined with the existing building vapor mitigation system in reducing VOCs levels within the building.
- B. In January 2012, the Remedial Program completed a Focused Feasibility Study intended to evaluate alternatives to address threats presented by soils located at the Property. In December 2012, the Remedial Program issued a Record of Decision (ROD) selecting remedial action consisting of, among other things, the removal and off-site disposal of certain contaminated soils on the Property outside the footprint of the three commercial buildings on the Property.
- C. Based on the data collected (see Section III of the Original Action Memo), potential future conditions at the Site, the extent of contamination and other reasons (e.g., lack of Remedial and State funding to do the work), the OSC determined that continued Removal Action was necessary to mitigate or prevent a threat to public health and that a change of scope, additional funding, and an exemption to the 12-month limit were required to perform such action.
- D. On September 19, 2013, EPA issued an Action Memorandum approving a scope change, the expenditure of additional funds, and an exemption to the statutory funding and time limits on the Removal Action. The selected Removal Action consisted primarily of the excavation and off-site disposal of certain contaminated soils presently located at the Property.
- E. On May 28, 2014, a Change of Scope was approved to additionally address the threat to public health from groundwater impacted by the contaminated soils on the Property. Hazardous substances in soils at the Property have been determined to be responsible for groundwater contamination that has impacted two private supply wells down gradient from the Property. Under this Change of Scope, bottled water will be provided to one private property where such impacts are significant. The need to connect such property to public water will be decided in

the near future; however, based on the results of the sampling, there is an immediate need to provide the occupants of this property with bottled water.

- F. On January 20, 2015, EPA issued an Action Memorandum approving a scope change on the Removal Action (“Action Memo III”). This change of scope was to install a permanent connection to the affected residence to the Doylestown Township Municipal Authority water supply.
- G. As of August 6, 2015, we have spent approximately \$807,938 that figure is only materials and contractors hours, it does not include EPA personnel.
- H. For more information, see previous POLREPs.

## **II. Action Taken**

- A. Week of August 24<sup>th</sup>: Began work to connect to the public water supply system the house which well had been impacted by the plume from the Site. Extended water main approximately 300 feet on North West Street and installed a fire hydrant. The residents at the home had been receiving bottled water since June 2014.
- B. Week of August 31<sup>st</sup>: Purged new water line through fire hydrant with de-chlorinating unit attached. Confirmed residual chlorine levels and collected water samples to test for bacteria.
- C. Week of September 14<sup>th</sup>: A lateral was connected, from the new length of the water main, to provide water service to a house located on North West Street. The lawn and any disturbed soil was revegetated and restored.

Water valve servicing nearby school was leaking due to recent activity. The Borough water department inspected valve and determined leak was due to failed fasteners; new hardware was installed. No service interruptions were experienced due to the leak or during the maintenance.

- D. Week of September 21<sup>st</sup>: Crew placed PennDOT spec asphalt base materials over the trench where water main was extended, in anticipation of future mill and repaving of the roadway. A plumber connected a residence along North West Street to the newly installed water line to provide potable water to the residence. The well previously servicing the residence, which had been impacted by the contamination from the site, was subsequently taken out of service.
- E. On September 30, 2015, EPA issued an Action Memorandum approving a scope change on the Removal Action (“Action Memo III”). This change of scope was to install a permanent depressurization system to reduce indoor TCE levels in Building A to 8 µg/m<sup>3</sup> or below, which level has been determined in this situation to pose no unacceptable risk to the tenants and their patrons.

### **III. Future Actions**

- A. Install sub-slab ventilation system at the office building at 300 block of North Broad Street. Conduct additional indoor air sampling to confirm effective operation of vapor extraction system.
- B. Mill and repave roadway disturbed from recent water main installation.

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