

**Ogden Swift Building Site Update**  
USEPA Region 8 Response Unit  
April 5, 2019

**WEBSITE**

<https://response.epa.gov/OgdenSwiftBuilding>

**SITE DESCRIPTION**

The Ogden Swift Building sits on the banks of the Weber River in Ogden, Utah. The facility was formerly a meat packing plant. It was eventually sold to a private business which used it to store surplus military items (including chemicals). A portion of the building was also leased to a chemical manufacturer which went bankrupt, leaving its inventory behind. The Site is currently owned by the City of Ogden and is being considered for re-development into a recreational resource.

In 2018, an EPA Targeted Brownfields Assessment was conducted on behalf of the City of Ogden at the Site. This assessment documented more than 40,000 abandoned containers of chemicals including flammables, corrosives, toxic substances, water reactives, potential explosives and other dangerous chemicals.

The Site was referred to EPA's Emergency Response Unit.

**INITIAL RESPONSE**

EPA's Emergency Response Unit determined that a cleanup was warranted and the City of Ogden granted EPA access to the property on March 19, 2019. On March 29, 2019, EPA initiated response operations, began mobilizing equipment and established the following goals:

- Keep Stakeholders Informed
- Mobilize Resources and Establish Work Zones
- Collect and Bulk Hazardous Substances
- Treat and Dispose of Hazardous Substances
- Demobilize Resources.

**CURRENT ACTIVITIES**

Operational Period

March 29 – April 5, 2019

Response Objectives

1. Establish process to provide updates to stakeholders.
2. Establish air monitoring at perimeter and in work zones.
3. Remove debris and clear safe pathways throughout the facility.

4. Develop procedures to label, stage and categorize containers.
5. Identify priorities and address the most urgent situations.

#### Response Operations

1. EPA's On-Scene Coordinator conducted a kickoff meeting on Monday April 1st, 2019 with the local Fire Chief and other Public Safety officials as well as city and state officials. EPA established a website (<https://response.epa.gov/OgdenSwiftBuilding>) and distributed a Site Update to keep stakeholders and the public informed of EPA's response effort.
2. EPA conducted air monitoring at the perimeter and in various work zones. No concerning results were reported at the perimeter and no unexpected results were reported in the work zones.
3. EPA's crews began to clear pathways and debris from the work zones.
4. EPA established staging areas and developed a protocol to label, stage and categorize containers.
5. EPA has identified an area of the building containing calcium hydride, an extremely water reactive chemical. EPA plans to address this area of the building once debris has been removed and a clear pathway has been established.

#### Planned Activities

- Finalize communication pathways with stakeholders.
- Continue conducting air monitoring at the perimeter and in work zones.
- Continue clearing safe pathways throughout the facility and establishing work zones.
- Prioritize the removal of hazardous substances and begin to address the most urgent situations.