

U. S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION REPORT

DATE: May 13, 2003

SUBJECT: Skybel Tissue Site, Greenwich, Washington County, NY

FROM: Paul L. Kahn
On-Scene Coordinator
Response and Prevention Branch

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POLREP No.: Nine (9) & Final

I. BACKGROUND:

SITE NO:	SZ
Delivery Order No:	067
Response Authority:	CERCLA
NPL Status:	Non-NPL
Action Memo Approval Date	12/17/02
Start Date:	10/21/02
Mobilization Date :	1/17/03
Demobilization Date:	3/22/03
Remobilization Date	3/31/03
Completion Date:	5/9/03

II. SITE INFORMATION:

A. Incident Category: CERCLA Emergency Removal Action

1. Site Description

The Site is a defunct paper mill that processed scrap paper into consumer products. It consists of a main paper processing building, a boiler room, an office building, and warehouses. A fire occurred at the Site in 1984. It destroyed approximately 25% of the main processing building (Building #7). A more recent arson fire in Building #28 occurred in August 2002, which brought the Site to the attention of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). The DEC notified EPA about site conditions and requested that EPA conduct an assessment to determine if the Site was eligible for a Superfund removal action. As a result of the situation observed by OSCs during the removal assessment, EPA determined that a release had occurred, and an emergency removal action was initiated to stabilize the situation.

2. Description of Threat

EPA OSCs observed leaking containers of very strong acid, oil, and unknown chemicals, and observed tens of deteriorated drums of unknown chemicals that were stored in a small building on the Site. In addition to the containers of chemicals, there was what was thought to be a full 5,000 gallon #6 fuel oil underground storage tank within 50 feet of the Batten Kill, as well as six electrical transformers.

III. RESPONSE INFORMATION:

A. Current Situation

All drummed wastes and PPE, comprising 12 distinct waste streams, shipped off-site for disposal.

As part of post-removal site control activities, all roadways that were improved to accommodate trucks and emergency vehicles were graded to smooth away ruts and areas where clean back-fill that was deposited.

Small shrubs were planted along the common boundary between site and adjacent property owner to act as a visual barrier.

An estimated 400 tons of scrap metal from the remains of Building 28 was sent to local recycler.

All buildings on-site were secured with plywood sheets and placarded with warning signs.

Scrap wood and cleared brush was chipped and spread as mulch.

EPA 2CD issued press release announcing completion of removal action.

Local Fire Department contacted and offered close-out tour of site.

All on-site removal activities were completed on May 9, 2003.

B. Actions Taken

October 2002 - Site Assessment. Emergency Removal requested due to vandalism (acid container spill).

October 2002 - Emergency Removal Action-approximately 65 drums haz-cated.
Drums/containers secured in Buildings #9 & #13.

January 2003 - Site Mobilization for Removal Action. Remainder of haz-cating performed.

February 2003 - RST prepared Administrative Record and published same in newspaper of general circulation in Greenwich, NY.

February 2003 -UST #6 Oil heated, emptied, and removed off-site for recycling. The ground cleared from UST for removal. Composite sampling nearly completed.

February 2003- Water tower demolished; six transformers removed, drained, and transported for disposal; 1,765 gallons of PCB fluids transported for disposal.

March 2003- ERRS crew down-sized as site activities were completed.

March 2003- Piping, pumps and oil residue removed from former Powerhouse removed and staged for disposal. Waste profiling for T & D started.

April 2003- All waste streams prepared for disposal. In-site roadways improved for truck access; scrap metal and empty drums bulked off-site for recycling. Draft press release announcing the completion of removal action prepared by 2CD, with comments from OSC.

May 2003- All waste streams shipped off-site for disposal. ERRS secured/placarded all buildings, planted shrubbery. ERRS graded all on-Site roadways, chipped scrap wood and brush, and completed recycling scrap metal from the remains of collapsed Building 28. Press release announcing completion of the removal action issued by 2CD.

C. Key Issues

There are no key issues.

D. Next Steps

None.

IV. COST INFORMATION

The following table presents information on estimated costs for the removal action:

<u>Project Funds</u>	<u>Ceiling</u>	<u>Costs to Date</u>	<u>Remaining</u>
ERRS	\$450,000	\$425,000	\$ 25,000
RST	40,000	40,000	- 0 -
EPA	----	----	
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TOTAL	\$490,000	\$465,000	\$ 25,000

Percent of Ceiling Utilized to Date: 95%

Note: The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The costs provided in this report are an estimate and do not reflect a monetary figure that EPA may include in any claims for cost recovery.

V. DISPOSITION OF WASTES:

Transformer carcasses:	shipped to G & S Motor Equipment, Kearny, NJ for disassembly
PCB Fluids:	shipped to Clean Harbors, Tucker, GA for dechlorination
#6 Fuel Oil:	shipped to Recycle Oil Co., Easton, PA for recycling
Scrap Metal:	shipped to local scrap metal dealer for recycling
Oil-contaminated soil:	shipped to EMSI, Latham, NY for incineration
Drummed chemicals:	12 different waste streams shipped various facilities for
incineration,	land filling, or neutralization
Empty drums:	shipped to local scrap metal dealer for recycling

Final POLREP XX Further POLREPS Forthcoming ____