

EPA Emergency Response Site Update
North Salt Lake Chemicals
June 14, 2023

[Website](#)

Site Description

On May 23, 2023, Davis County Department of Health requested assistance from Utah Department of Environmental Quality (UDEQ) at a private residence in North Salt Lake, Utah. The residence contains numerous containers of hazardous chemicals that were collected by the resident over approximately 30 years. The chemicals include several gallons of elemental mercury. The mercury has escaped containment and is affecting indoor air quality.

UDEQ staff visited the residence and quickly referred the incident to EPA Emergency Response. EPA deployed a Response Team to the residence on June 5, 2023 to secure and dispose of the chemicals as well as address mercury contamination in the home. The majority of the chemicals are in the garage of the residence. Most of the containers are intact and there is significant mercury contamination in the garage.

Site Objectives

- Safety of the public and response personnel is top priority.
- Stabilize the source area to prevent the release of hazardous substances.
- Minimize or eliminate threats to human health posed by the hazardous chemicals.
- Collect, bulk and dispose of hazardous chemicals.
- Provide timely and accurate communication of response information to the public and stakeholders.

Operations Period Objectives

1. Help homeowner organize cleared items so that the family can reoccupy their garage.
2. Dispose of remaining items from the garage that cannot be decontaminated.
3. Demobilize all response resources.

Operations Period Accomplishments

EPA's Response Team moved all the items from the garage that were successfully decontaminated to a secure, dry location. The homeowners' extended family is planning a gathering to reoccupy the garage.

All remaining items that could not be decontaminated were hauled off for disposal.

All response resources were demobilized and EPA left the Site.

The Response Team wishes to thank Utah Department of Environmental Quality, Davis County Department of Health and South Davis Metro Fire HazMat for all of their assistance during this emergency response effort.

The Team also appreciates the patience and friendliness that the neighborhood extended to us during our work. We will miss all the dogs we met.

Tent with decontaminated homeowner belongings.



Cleared garage.

