



ABRACHEM CHEMICAL DRUM REMOVAL TO BEGIN ON MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2009

Community Notice

JANUARY 2009

QUESTIONS? Please Contact

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The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will be removing approximately 1,500 drums containing both known and unknown chemicals from the Abrachem Chemical facility located at 2 Peekay Drive in Clifton, NJ. Abrachem operated a bulk chemical repackaging and storage facility, and on October 29, 2008, EPA was informed by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) that chemicals were released at the Abrachem Chemical facility. The removal of the drums will begin on Monday, January 26, 2009, and is expected to take about 4-6 months.

HISTORY/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

After receiving a request from DEP, EPA contacted both the operator and the owner of the facility, but they denied access. EPA pursued the matter and referred the case to the U.S. Department of Justice. On January 8, 2009, a federal Magistrate issued an access warrant to EPA to perform the removal action.

After an initial investigation, the company was found to be improperly storing drums and bulk containers of known and unknown chemicals in seventeen, 43-foot long shipping containers. EPA observed that at least one drum was leaking onto a wooden pallet; and a strong chemical odor emanated from the partially opened door. Since gaining access to the facility, EPA and its contractor, Earth Tech Inc., have deployed personnel to stabilize the Site and staged supplies and air monitoring equipment in preparation for Monday's initial removal.