

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Peabody Street Asbestos Site - Polrep/Sitrep
Initial Polrep/Sitrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region I

Subject: SITREP #1
Situation Report (Initial) #1
Peabody Street Asbestos Site
01FR
Salem, MA
Latitude: 42.5186000 Longitude: -70.8925000

To: POLREP addressees, see distribution list

Thru:

From: Richard Haworth, On-Scene Coordinator

Date: 6/22/2009

Reporting Period: 21 May - 21 June 2009

Executive Summary

Asbestos was discovered by the City of Salem during the construction of a park in the downtown area. The City generated an Immediate Response Action (IRA) plan, and promptly took appropriate temporary actions to mitigate the health threat posed by asbestos: park construction was discontinued, polyethylene sheeting installed over exposed soil, and warning signs posted.

EPA's Removal Program management received a request for assistance from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Brownfield's office. The OSC met at the site with the Licensed Site Professional (LSP) representing the City of Salem and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Brownfields/Permits office Section Chief that had requested assistance.

The OSC reviewed the IRA which includes data generated by an accredited laboratory on recently collected samples. Five surface soil samples and three near surface soil samples were determined to contain between 2% and 5% chrysotile or amosite asbestos. Two samples of material from below grade that were suspected to contain asbestos was analyzed, and found to contain 60% chrysotile asbestos.

A Closure Memorandum dated 11 May 2009 formally documents the conclusion of the removal evaluation of this Site. It identifies that a removal action is appropriate because conditions at this Site meet the criteria in the National Contingency Plan for initiating a removal action, specifically because the hazardous substance asbestos is present in surface soil in an urban area. Potentially responsible parties have not been identified at this time.

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	01FR	Contract Number:	EP-W-08-062
D.O. Number:	0008	Action Memo Date:	5/21/2009
Response Authority:	CERCLA	Response Type:	Time-Critical
Response Lead:	EPA	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	5/28/2009	Start Date:	5/28/2009
Demob Date:		Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:	MAD980731822	RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

Onshore, non-transportation, fund-lead, time-critical Superfund Removal Action.

1.2 Incident Objectives

Abate the threats to public health posed by asbestos-containing material.

1.3 Critical Resource Needs

All necessary resources are available at this time.

1.4 Strategic Considerations

Due to the limited size of the parcel, 0.38 acres, and newly installed concrete footings located throughout, access to the adjacent property to store excavated material will expedite removal and backfilling operations. Adjacent property has significantly more open space. It is owned by an electricity provider, National Grid, and is not part of the Peabody Street Asbestos Site.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

The Emergency and Rapid Response Services (ERRS) contractor has used a team subcontractor to supply a response manager, and otherwise provide the support necessary to generate for EPA's contracting officer (CO), a subcontract consent package necessary to award a subcontract to a Massachusetts-licensed, asbestos cleanup contractor. The consent package being in order, the CO gave consent to the subcontract without delay. The asbestos contractor agreed to begin site set up on 24 June 2009, with excavation expected to begin 29 June 2009.

2.1.2 Progress Metrics

21 May 09 - EPA management approved an action memorandum authorizing the expenditure of funds on this removal action.

27 May 09 - EPA's contracting officer issued a task order to the ERRS contractor.

28 May 09 - The OSC met the the ERRS Response Manager at the site to review project requirements and expectations.

Week of 1 Jun 09 - The ERRS contractor determined it needed to subcontract personnel for the project. A request for quotation was issued. The City signed EPA's consent to access property form.

10 Jun 09 - The ERRS contractor held a bid walk at the site with perspective bidders.

11 June 09 - National Grid signed EPA's consent to access property form.

12 June 09 - The City provided a cut and fill depth diagram, the final site information needed to minimize on site assistance from the City.

15 Jun 09 - Interested bidders submitted quotations to the ERRS contractor by this due date. The ERRS contractor reviewed bids and established the winning bidder.

16 Jun 09 - A request-for-consent-to-subcontract package was provided to EPA's contracting officer.

18 Jun 09 - EPA's contracting officer approved the request to subcontract an asbestos cleanup contractor.

19 Jun 09 - The asbestos subcontractor agreed to mobilize on 24 Jun 09 for the purpose of establishing site support equipment and supplies, with excavation to begin on 26 Jun 09.

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

Mobilize on 24 June 09 for the purpose of setting up site support equipment and supplies, and begin excavation on 29 June 09.

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

The removal action will consist of an initial site walk with a cleanup contractor to convey general information on such topics as site conditions, project goals, and schedule. Work will be performed in accordance with a site-specific health and safety plan. Air samples will be collected and analyzed to assure the safety of workers and the surrounding public. Samples of soil and waste will be collected and analyzed as may be necessary to arrange for disposal. A security service, temporary fencing, and/or warning signs, may be employed as temporary measures.

Soil contaminated with asbestos and asbestos-containing materials mixed in with soil will be kept wet and/or covered at all times to minimize or eliminate off-site migration, excavated, and transported off site to a permitted disposal facility. Backfill will be installed and compacted according to specifications provided by the City of Salem. Repair of response-related damage will be performed if necessary, such as replacing a permanent chain link fence running along one side of the site, which may be disrupted or removed.

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

Mobilize to the site.

2.2.2 Issues

None at this time.

2.3 Logistics Section

The On-Scene Coordinator is the Logistics Section Chief, and is working with EPA's contractors to make the logistical arrangements necessary to move this project forward.

2.4 Finance Section

No information available at this time.

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

The On-Scene Coordinator is the Safety Officer for this site, and endeavors to assure compliance with the procedures in the site-specific health and safety plan (HASP) with assistance from the ERRS Response Manager and EPA's Superfund Technical Assistance and Response Team (START) contractor's on-site representative. All persons working at the site are responsible for safety, and are expected to be familiar with and follow the provisions of the HASP.

An air monitoring program will be implemented to assure site work does not result in asbestos migrating off site.

2.6 Liaison Officer

A member of EPA's front office has been Liason Officer with the Mayor of Salem.

2.7 Information Officer

2.7.1 Public Information Officer

A PIO is working with representatives of the City of Salem to develop a press release.

2.7.2 Community Involvement Coordinator

A PIO will assist the On-Scene Coordinator if the need arises.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

The On-Scene Coordinator is responsible for managing this federally-funded removal action, but works closely with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection to meet the goal of project consistency with the Massachusetts Contingency Plan.

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection.
City of Salem
National Grid

4. Personnel On Site

ERRS, ERRS subcontractors, START, EPA On-Scene Coordinator are routinely on site, with DEP, City, and City contractors checking in regularly.

5. Definition of Terms

Defined in text.

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

For additional information please refer to <http://epaosc.net/peabodystreetasbestos>.

6.2 Reporting Schedule

Periodic.

7. Situational Reference Materials

For additional information please refer to <http://epaosc.net/peabodystreetasbestos>.