

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region V
POLLUTION REPORT

Date: Monday, June 22, 2009

From: Tom Cook

Subject: Initial Polrep
Rockford CN Train Derailment
CCP railroad, Perryville, IL

POLREP No.:	1	Site #:	
Reporting Period:		D.O. #:	
Start Date:	6/20/2009	Response Authority:	OPA
Mob Date:	6/20/2009	Response Type:	Emergency
Demob Date:		NPL Status:	Non NPL
Completion Date:		Incident Category:	Removal Action
CERCLIS ID #:		Contract #	
RCRIS ID #:		Reimbursable Account #	
FPN#			

Site Description

On June 20, 2009 Approximately 17 denatured ethanol tank cars were involved in a derailment and many were involved in the subsequent fire. At this time, it is estimated that 60k gallons of ethanol was released to an unknown creek, Rock, and Kishwaukee river. The local Rockford Fire, Hazmat team and Winnebago County Emergency Government set up an incident command post and made a tactical decision to allow the fire to burn and the alcohol to be consumed in the fire. The area received 3 inches of rain which caused a wash out of the rail tracks. One fatality was reported and six people went to the hospital with burns. The evacuation has been lifted to a voluntary evacuation and 100% of the residents have returned home. CN rail has hired CTEH to conduct air monitoring, Hulcher to re-rail the train cars and SCS to transfer the remaining liquid. CN rail has also hired ES Enviro Science to perform river assessments on both the Rock and Kishwaukee river. An un-named stream is located on the south side of the crossing and flows to the east. The stream crosses under the tracks approximately 1,800 feet east of the derailment and then flows on the north side of the tracks in a southeasterly direction for approximately 1.5 miles until it reaches the Rock and Kishwaukee River.

There has been a substantial fish kill in the Rock River where hundreds have been reported. CN rail will depoly assests to collect water samples on both rivers with a 24 hour turnaround.

Current Activities

CN railroad has deployed additional personnel to assess and sample the Rock and Kishwaukee river. Analytical samples will be run for TPH, GRO and BTEX. A grid will be established for sampling frequency on both Rivers. Activities at the scene of the derailment consist of tank car removal and product transfer. Impacted soil will be excavated and disposed at a yet to be determined facility.

Planned Removal Actions

CN Rail will continue river assessments and sampling activities on both the Rock and Kishwaukee. Continue soil excavation at or near the derailment scene. C-TECH will continue to perform 24 hour air monitoring throughout the surrounding community.

Next Steps

There is a all hands meeting scheduled for 6/23/09 with all participating organizations to discuss ongoing actions

Key Issues

There is a reported fish kill in the Rock River.

response.epa.gov/rockfordctrainderailment