

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT  
Diversified Chemical Technologies - Removal Polrep  
Final Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Region V

**Subject:** POLREP #2  
Emergency Response / PRP Lead - Final  
Diversified Chemical Technologies

Detroit, MI  
Latitude: 42.4068160 Longitude: -83.1161430

**To:**  
**From:** Brian Kelly, OSC  
**Date:** 2/24/2010  
**Reporting Period:**

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Background

|                            |            |                                |                |
|----------------------------|------------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Site Number:</b>        | B5TL       | <b>Contract Number:</b>        |                |
| <b>D.O. Number:</b>        |            | <b>Action Memo Date:</b>       |                |
| <b>Response Authority:</b> | CERCLA/OPA | <b>Response Type:</b>          | Emergency      |
| <b>Response Lead:</b>      | EPA        | <b>Incident Category:</b>      | Removal Action |
| <b>NPL Status:</b>         | Non NPL    | <b>Operable Unit:</b>          |                |
| <b>Mobilization Date:</b>  | 8/24/2009  | <b>Start Date:</b>             | 8/24/2009      |
| <b>Demob Date:</b>         | 10/5/2009  | <b>Completion Date:</b>        | 2/24/2010      |
| <b>CERCLIS ID:</b>         |            | <b>RCRIS ID:</b>               |                |
| <b>ERNS No.:</b>           |            | <b>State Notification:</b>     | YES            |
| <b>FPN#:</b>               |            | <b>Reimbursable Account #:</b> |                |

On August 24, 2009, a fire occurred at the Diversified Chemical Technology Company located at 15477 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan. The building where the fire started spans 17,000 square feet and is one of eight buildings the company operates. The affected building produced petroleum-based products for the auto industry. The Detroit Fire Department (DFD) declared the fire a Level 1 HAZMAT.

U.S. EPA was requested to assist with air monitoring and sampling activities. U.S. EPA mobilized its Superfund Technical Assistance and Response Team (START) contractor and responded to the scene.

Following the fire, U.S. EPA issued a General Notice Letter to Diversified to remove several hundred fire-damaged drums and tanks.

## 2. Current Activities

### 2.1 Operations Section

From August 26 to August 29, 2009, CTEH continued to conduct 24-hour air monitoring of the area immediately surrounding the Diversified Chemical Technologies (DCT) building that caught fire (Building 4) and of the neighborhoods in the vicinity of the DCT facility. CTEH also deployed a total of four minicans (one minican for each AreaRAE perimeter point) which were analyzed for VOC content. Aside from momentary VOC readings of 0.5 to 1.0 ppm (which CTEH attributes to vehicle exhaust), all AreaRAE readings have been 0.0 ppm.

Also on August 28, 2009, an investigator from EFI Global, Inc. began an initial investigation of the origin and cause of the fire, in Building 4, and assessed the general condition of the room in which the fire began (Oven Room). EQ began vacuuming oil from the exterior foundation of Building 4 (Note: EQ took this operation over from Marine Pollution Control, which had been onsite since August 24, 2009), and vacuumed approximately 1,000 gallons of liquid from the floor of Building 4.

Also on August 29, 2009, CTEH and EQ began removing building and steel debris from Building 4; began to segregate this debris into piles that are staged in the parking lot of Building 4; and continued to vacuum liquid from the floor of Building 4 and from the exterior foundation of Building 4.

During the week ending September 5, 2009, CTEH continued its air monitoring activities with its AreaRAE

units and its air sampling activities with the minicans (Note: CTEH deployed the last of its minicans on September 1, 2009, and removed these minicans on September 2, 2009). Also, CTEH and EQ continued its activities related to the removal of the debris from Building 4 (EQ placed the debris in rolloff boxes that are staged in an area approximately 100 feet south of Building 4).

Also during this week, investigators continued their assessment of the Oven Room in Building 4, the oven in this room, and the five drums that were in the oven at the time of the fire. EFI Global removed these five drums from the site for further investigative assessment.

On October 26, 2009, the company Huron Environmental, LLC (Huron), on behalf of DCT, collected a total of ten soil samples and three groundwater samples from beneath the concrete slab of Building 4. DCT directed Huron to collect these samples to determine if contamination existed beneath the slab which would require DCT to remove the concrete slab.

Huron analyzed these samples for volatile organic compounds and polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons. The analytical results for these samples indicated that only one compound, 1,2,4-trimethylbenzene, exceeded the standard present in the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality's Part 201 Generic Cleanup Criteria and Screening Levels for Groundwater/Surfacewater Interface Protection. The result for this chemical was 8,700 ppb, while the established groundwater/surfacewater Interface Protection standard for this chemical is 570 ppb.

Based on the fact that no analytical result exceeded the standards present for direct contact, no further removal actions, on the part of DCT, were deemed necessary.

On February 25, 2010, U.S. EPA accepted DCT's final report (2/4/2010).

#### Waste Summary:

1,850 cubic yards of fire damaged debris - EQ - 1923 Frederick Street, Detroit

16,200 gallons fire water mixed with oil - EQ - 1923 Frederick Street, Detroit

622 fire-damaged drums of oil, acetone, grease, lab chemicals, and solvents - EQ - 1923 Frederick Street, Detroit

## 2.2 Planning Section

### Anticipated Activities

None

## 2.3 Logistics Section

No information available at this time.

## 2.4 Finance Section

No information available at this time.

## 2.5 Other Command Staff

No information available at this time.

## 3. Participating Entities

No information available at this time.

## 4. Personnel On Site

No information available at this time.

## 5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

## 6. Additional sources of information

No information available at this time.

## 7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.