

**United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Region II  
POLLUTION REPORT**

**Date:** Tuesday, October 4, 2011

**From:** Jack D. Harmon

**To:** Jack Harmon, USEPA, 2ERRD-RAB                      Mike Basile, USEPA Region II

**Subject:** FINAL

Buckbee-Mears  
30 Kellogg Road, Cortland, NY  
Latitude: 42.5920000  
Longitude: -76.1581800

<b>POLREP No.:</b>	26	<b>Site #:</b>	YH
<b>Reporting Period:</b>	6/01/2009 - 9/14/2009	<b>D.O. #:</b>	044
<b>Start Date:</b>	1/10/2007	<b>Response Authority:</b>	CERCLA
<b>Mob Date:</b>	1/10/2007	<b>Response Type:</b>	Time-Critical
<b>Demob Date:</b>	5/27/2009	<b>NPL Status:</b>	Non NPL
<b>Completion Date:</b>	5/27/2009	<b>Incident Category:</b>	Removal Action
<b>CERCLIS ID #:</b>	NYN000205908	<b>Contract #</b>	EP-W-04-054
<b>RCRIS ID #:</b>			

**Site Description**

The facility is located at 30 Kellogg Road, City of Cortland, Cortland County, New York. The property is approximately 50 acres in size and contained a large main production building, interconnected with several smaller production buildings, an office building and several support buildings, including a flammable storage building and a hazardous waste storage garage (buildings one through five). The total size of the facility buildings was estimated at 367,000 ft before buildings one and two were razed in 2008.

The Buckbee-Mears facility was purchased by International Electron Devices (IED) on October 26, 2004. IED operated the facility until May, 2005, when they closed due to a lack of funding. A large number of the bulk chemicals used in production and the chemical wastes from past operations were abandoned on Site. These materials included: strong acids and caustics in large tanks, drums, process piping and numerous small containers throughout the facility. Approximately seven cylinders of chlorine gas were also abandoned on Site.

During the summer of 2006, the Cortland Police Department responded to a report of vandalism and became concerned when they discovered the large amount of chemicals which had been abandoned at the Site. The Cortland Police subsequently notified the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) of their findings. On July 27, 2006, representatives from the NYSDEC, the Cortland Police and Fire Departments and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conducted a Site visit. The visit confirmed the presence of numerous hazardous substances in drums, tanks and cylinders throughout the facility. The potential for a chemical release was deemed serious because the facility was idle with no security and all utilities had been terminated. On August 1, 2006, the NYSDEC formally requested the EPA to conduct a removal action under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) at this Site.

Negotiations with the PRP to perform the required clean up actions resulted in EPA issuing an Administrative Order on September 29, 2006. The PRP initially complied with the Order, but ceased correspondence with EPA in early November, 2006. Following several acts of vandalism at the facility, EPA initiated a Removal Action on January 10, 2007.

**Current Activities**

On May 27, 2009, the ERRS contractor demobilized from the Site. Since all work specified in the action memorandum had been completed, this serves as the completion date for the removal action. However, occasional site visits occurred in order to check the conditions of the remaining buildings. After security was terminated, the Cortland City Police Department increased patrols until the State Bank of India re-established 24/7 security to protect remaining assets.

**Planned Removal Actions**

None

### Next Steps

None. The removal action is complete.

### Key Issues

None

### Disposition of Wastes

Type of Material Quantity Facility Name Treatment

7-150 # cylinders of 1,050 lbs JCI Recycle and/or  
Chlorine Gas Caledonia, NY Reuse

14-33.5# cylinders of 469 lbs Suburban Propane Recycle and/or  
Propane Cortland, NY Reuse

Refrigerant 8,000 lbs Hudson Technologies Recycle and/or  
Pearl River, NY Reuse

Anhydrous Ammonia 1,300 gals Airgas Recycle and/or  
Donora, PA Reuse

3-150 # Cylinders 450 lbs Airgas Recycle and/or  
Anhydrous Ammonia Donora, PA Reuse

7-30# Freon Cylinders 210 lbs Airgas East, Inc. Recycle and/or  
Syracuse, NY Reuse

Miscellaneous 22 Total Haun Welding Recycle and/or  
Compressed Gas (3 acetylene, Syracuse, NY Reuse  
Cylinders 3 argon, &  
11 oxygen)

Sulfuric Acid, 93% 5,900 gals Bradford Dyes Reuse  
Bradford, RI

Hydrochloric Acid 4,220 gals Advanced Recycling Recycle  
Chambersburg, PA

Miscellaneous 45 units Interstate Refrigerant Recycle  
Compressed Gas Recovery  
Cylinders Foxboro, MA

Waste Nitric 4,800 gals Reserve Environ. Waste Water  
Acid Ashtabula, OH Treatment

Waste Ferric 1,475 gals EQ Detroit, Inc. Waste Water  
Chloride Detroit, MI Treatment

Waste Sodium 17 tons Clean Harbors Waste Water  
Hydroxide Bristol, CT Treatment

F006 Sludge 52 CY Envirite of PA Treatment/  
York, PA Landfill

Hazardous C&D 180 CY Michigan Disposal Landfill  
Belleville, MI

Non-Haz 210 CY Seneca Meadows Landfill  
(ferric chloride debris Waterloo, NY

Non-Haz C&D 810 CY Waste Management Landfill  
Fairport, NY

Non-Haz C&D 1,040 CY Seneca Meadows Landfill Waterloo, NY

Non-Haz Sludge 40 CY Seneca Meadows Landfill  
Waterloo, NY

Non-Haz Sludge 60 CY Pine Grove Landfill Landfill  
Amanda, OH

[response.epa.gov/BuckbeeMears](https://response.epa.gov/BuckbeeMears)