

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region V
POLLUTION REPORT

Date: Monday, November 30, 2009
From: Ramon Mendoza, On-Scene Coordinator

Subject: Cleanup Inside Building Completed
Economy Plating Inc. (Chicago)
2348-52 North Elston Avenue, Chicago, IL
Latitude: 41.9242500
Longitude: -87.6765300

POLREP No.:	6	Site #:	B5RT
Reporting Period:	10/22 to 11/19/2009	D.O. #:	
Start Date:	8/31/2009	Response Authority:	CERCLA
Mob Date:	8/31/2009	Response Type:	Time-Critical
Demob Date:		NPL Status:	Non NPL
Completion Date:		Incident Category:	Removal Action
CERCLIS ID #:	ILN000510347	Contract #	
RCRIS ID #:			

Site Description

Economy Plating Inc. is an former plating shop which operated for approximately 70 years. The site was discovered vacant and abandoned by the Chicago Department of the Environment (DOE) in January 2009. DOE's inspection indicated the presence of numerous drums and containers which were filled with unknown liquids and solids. Markings on the drums/containers include chromic acid, hydrochloric acid, methyl acetate, and oxidizer. DOE ordered the owner/operator to clean up the site. However, the owner/operator was unable to pay for the cleanup. The site was referred to USEPA for cleanup in May 2009.

USEPA conducted a site assessment on June 5, 2009 and found evidence of breakins & trespassers plus holes in the building where weather can enter the facility. Approximately 195 containers(open & closed, 5 gallons and greater)plus 12 vats were found containing old chromic acid solutions, other acids, and unknown solids. Several containers were found to be leaking in the basement. Results received on June 12, 2009 indicated open containers of solids contained up to 350,000 mg/kg of total cyanide. An emergency removal action was conducted from June 13-17, 2009 which collected, packaged, and properly disposed two drums of the high level cyanide materials. In addition, 18 leaking containers were repacked and a drum of nitric acid was repacked. The building was resecured and signs put up to discourage trespassing. This completed Phase I of the cleanup.

An Action Memorandum to fund and authorize a time critical removal action was approved and signed on August 4, 2009. A site walk through was conducted on August 18, 2009 with EPA contractors and the Chicago Fire Department (CFD). ERRS contractor acquired unpaid permit from the City to close sidewalk and street portion. OSC Mendoza notified the Chicago FD, Chicago DOE, and Alderman's office of upcoming work. A health and safety plan (HASP) was drafted for review, by EPA ERRS contractor on August 28, 2009. Phase II of the cleanup is defined as the removal of hazardous substances/material inside the building to the extent practical.

Current Activities

On-site work to remove hazardous substances inside the building has been completed to the extent practical. Site was secured and EPA personnel have temporarily demobilized from the site. 32nd Ward Alderman's Office and Chicago DOE representatives were notified by phone. The following activities were completed during this period 10/22 to 11/19/2009:

- Cleanup in the main plating shop and old plating shop areas have been completed. Work involved removal and cleaning of metal vats, and removal of solid and hazardous debris and sludge. Pit walls and floors were power-washed.
- Controls to block exposure pathways from building's contaminated outside walls to surrounding residents have been installed including epoxy sealant, plywood boards, and metal fencing.
- EPA initiated discussions with the City of Chicago regarding the feasibility of demolishing/disposing the building.
- Accessible windows and doors have been boarded up and locked and back parking lot fenced off to

deter trespassers.

- Signs have been posted to deter people from touching contaminated walls and to deter trespasses.
- An additional 16.455 tons of scrap metal (Total 17.555 tons) was recovered, decontaminated, and recycled resulting in about \$2,240 savings to the cleanup.
- An additional 25 cubic yards of hazardous waste (solid, Chromium) was collected disposed. (total of 55 cubic yards).
- An additional 128 Drums of Chromium contaminated hazardous waste were packed, staged and shipped offsite this period (total is 223 Drums). The drums contained chromic acid solution, chromic acid solid flakes, Waste codes include D007, D010, D008, D004, D002, D006.
- 26 drums of miscellaneous hazard substances including cyanide, nitric acid, hydrochloric acid, Sodium hydroxide, mercury (switches), PCB light ballast, fluorescent lamps, and flammables were collected and disposed.
- A total of 160 cubic yards of solid waste was removed and disposed for the purpose of clearing work areas (H&S) and fire safety.
- Samples were collected and results indicate that there is contaminated soil beneath the main plating shop pit.

Planned Removal Actions

- Conduct planning activities with City of Chicago to determine the steps necessary to demolish and dispose of the building to removed health risk to the community. The Goal is to implement demolition and disposal by Spring 2010.
- Maintain Site controls to prevent exposure of hazardous substances to the community and prevent trespassing.

Next Steps

- Conduct weekly inspections of the Site to ensure that controls (epoxy sealant, boards, fencing, locks), and boarded up doors/windows remain in place and intact and repair/replace as necessary.
- Conduct community relations activities as needed to keep community informed and local authorities.
- Continue work with the City of Chicago and EPA enforcement team to pursue demolition alternative.
- Scope out and draft a Demolition/Disposal Work Plan

Key Issues

Site is closely surrounded by residents and businesses. Close coordinated is needed with local authorities and community to ensure success with the removal action.

Hexavalent chromium contamination on the outside walls of the building presents an unacceptable long-term health risk to residents.

Disposition of Wastes

Waste Stream: RQ, Waste Cyanides, Inorganic, Solid, n.o.s. (Sodium Cyanide), 6.1, UN1588, PGII, (F008)

Quantity: Two Drums

Manifest #: 001344657 FLE

Disposal Facility: Envirite of IL. Harvey IL.

Waste Stream	Quantity	Manifest #	Disposal Facility
Class A non-hazardous waste Empty containers	20 cubic yards	006038438JJK	Countryside Landfill Grayslake, IL
Class A non-hazardous waste Empty containers	30 cubic yards	006038462JJK	Countryside Landfill Grayslake, IL
Class A non-hazardous waste Empty containers	30 cubic yards	006038461JJK	Countryside Landfill Grayslake, IL
Class A non-hazardous waste Empty containers	30 Cubic yards	006038460JJK	Countryside Landfill Grayslake, IL

RQ, Hazardous Waste Solid n.o.s. (Chromium). 9, NA3077, D007	30 cubic yards	002500713FLE	Envirite of Illinois Harvey, IL
Chromic acid solution, D002,D004, D006, D007, D008, D010	21 Drums	002500727FLE	Envirite of Illinois Harvey, IL
Chromium Waste Solids, D007	3 Drums	002500727FLE	Envirite of Illinois Harvey, IL
Chromic acid Solution,D002, D004, D006, D007, D008, D010	18 Drums	002500728FLE	Envirite of Illinois Harvey, IL
Chromium Waste Solids, D007	12 Drums	002500728FLE	Envirite of Illinois Harvey, IL
Chromic acid Solution,D002, D004, D006, D007, D008, D010	27 Drums	002500729FLE	Envirite of Illinois Harvey, IL
Chromium Waste Solids, D007	14	002500729FLE	Envirite of Illinois Harvey, IL
Class A non-hazardous waste Empty containers	20 cubic yards	006038459JJK	Countryside Landfill Grayslake, IL
RQ,Waste Chromic acid solution,	23 Drums	002500730FLE	Envirite of Illinois, Harley, IL
RQ, Hazardous waste, solid, n.o.s. (Chromium), (D007	2 Drums overpack	002500730FLE	Envirite of Illinois, Harley, IL
RQ, Hazardous waste, solid, n.o.s. (Chromium), 9, NA3077, PG III (D007)	16 Drums	002500730FLE	Envirite of Illinois, Harley, IL
RQ, Waste Nitric acid (other than red fuming with not more than 70% Nitric Acid), 8, UN2031, PG II	1 Drum Overpack	002828221FLE	Envirite of Illinois, Harley, IL
RQ, Waste Corrosive Liquid, Acidic, Inorganic, n.o.s. (Hydrochloric, Sulfuric), 8, UN3264, PG III (D002)	1 Drum Overpack	002828221FLE	Envirite of Illinois, Harley, IL
RQ, Waste Corrosive Liquid, Basic, Inorganic, (Sodium Hydroxide), 8, UN3266, PG III (D002)	2 Drums overpack	002828221FLE	Envirite of Illinois, Harley, IL
RQ, Waste Chromic acid solution, 8, UN1755, PG II (Chromium)	20 Drums	002828222FLE	Envirite of Illinois, Harley, IL
RQ, Hazardous waste, solid, n.o.s. (Chromium), 9, NA3077, PG III (D007)	11 Drums	002828222FLE	Envirite of Illinois, Harley, IL
RQ, Hazardous waste, solid, n.o.s. (Chromium), 9, NA3077, PG III (D007)	1 drum overpack	002828222FLE	Envirite of Illinois, Harley, IL
RQ, Hazardous waste, solid, n.o.s. (Chromium), 9, NA3077, D007	25 cubic yards	002500897FLE	Envirite of Illinois, Harley, IL
RQ, Waste Chromic acid solution, 8, UN1755, PG II (Chromium	27 Drums	002828224FLE	Envirite of Illinois, Harley, IL
RQ, Hazardous waste, solid, n.o.s. (Chromium), 9, NA3077, PG III (D007)	10 Drums	002828224FLE	Envirite of Illinois, Harley,

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RQ, Hazardous waste, solid, n.o.s. (Chromium), 9, NA3077, PG III (D007)	2 Drums Overpack, 400 pounds	002828224FLE	Envirite of Illinois, Harley, IL
UN1993, Waste Flammable Liquids, n.o.s., 3, II	1 drum overpack , 120 pounds	001594315FLE	Chemtron Corp; Avon, OH
UN1950, Waste Aerosols, Flammable, 2.1	1 drum overpack, 50 pounds	001594315FLE	Chemtron Corp; Avon, OH
UN281, Waste Toxic Liquid, Organic, n.o.s., 6.1, III	1 drum overpack, 55 pounds	001594315FLE	Chemtron Corp; Avon, OH
Non-hazardous Liquid (Latex	1 drum overpack, 90 pounds	001594315FLE	Chemtron Corp; Avon, OH
UN2789, Waste acetic acid, Glacial, 8 (3), II	1 drum overpack, 35 pounds	001594315FLE	Chemtron Corp; Avon, OH
UN1823, Waste sodium ydroxide, Solid, 8, III	1 overpack drum, 50 pounds	001594315FLE	Chemtron Corp; Avon, OH
UN3139, Waste Oxidizing Liquid, n.o.s., 5.1, II	1 drum overpack, 8 pounds	001594315FLE	Chemtron Corp; Avon, OH
UN2364, Waste corrosive liquid, acidic, inorganic, n.o.s., 8, II	1 drum overpack, 10 pounds	001594315FLE	Chemtron Corp; Avon, OH
UN2478, Waste isocyanate solution, flammable, n.o.s., 3 (6.1), II	1 drum overpack, 5 pounds	001594315FLE	Chemtron Corp; Avon, OH
UN2735, Waste amines, liquid, corrosive, n.o.s., 8, III	1 drum overpack, 5 pounds	001594315FLE	Chemtron Corp; Avon, OH
Mercury contained in manufactured articles, 8, UN2809, PGIII, Universal Waste Electrical Devices	1 drum overpack, 5 pounds	20026	Clean Lites; Mason, MI
Non-RCRA, Non-DOT Regulated Material Per 40 CFR 761.b.2(i) (PCB) Light Ballast	1 drum overpack, 50 pounds	20026	Clean Lites; Mason, MI
Universal Waste Electric Lamps (85 4-ft fluorescent, 127 8-ft fluorescent, 7 HID)	5 drum overpacks, 220 pounds	20026	Clean Lites; Mason, MI
RQ, Waste flammable liquids, n.o.s., (Mineral spirits, kerosene, gasoline), 3, UN1993, PGII (D001)	3 drum overpacks, 165 gallons	002828235FLE	Safety Kleen Systems, Inc.; Dolton, IL
RQ, Waste Chromic acid solution, 8, UN1755, PG II (Chromium)	6 drum overpacks, 330 gallons	002828237FLE	Envirite of Illinois, Harley, IL
RQ, Hazardous waste, solid, n.o.s. (Chromium), 9, NA3077, PG III (D007)	8 drums, 3200 pounds	002828237FLE	Envirite of Illinois, Harley, IL
RQ, Hazardous waste, solid, n.o.s. (Chromium), 9, NA3077, PG III (D007)	2 drum overpacks, 800 pounds	002828237FLE	Envirite of Illinois, Harley, IL
Class A non-hazardous special waste Profile # 107827IL, Empty Containers	1 container, 30 cubic yards	006038439JJK	Countryside Landfill, Grayslake, IL

response.epa.gov/economyplatinginc