

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Winterville Residential Mercury - Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region IV

Subject: POLREP #3
Continuation of Emergency Action
Winterville Residential Mercury
B453
Winterville, GA
Latitude: 33.9792040 Longitude: -83.2354690

To: Matt Taylor, USEPA R4 ERRB
Shane Hitchcock, USEPA R4 ERRB

From: Terry Stilman, On Scene Coordinator

Date: 12/19/2009

Reporting Period: 12/17 - 12/20

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	B453	Contract Number:	EP-S4-07-03
D.O. Number:	0056	Action Memo Date:	12/15/2009
Response Authority:	CERCLA	Response Type:	Emergency
Response Lead:	EPA	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	12/11/2009	Start Date:	12/15/2009
Demob Date:		Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:	GAN000410513	RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	12/15/2009
FPN#:		Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

Residential mercury release.

1.1.2 Site Description

On December 11, 2009, EPA OSC Hughes mobilized to Ogelthorpe County High School following reports of spilled mercury in the school. EPA assessed the school and provided technical assistance to the school's clean-up contractor. On December 14, EPA screened student personal items and acquired access to the home of the student who brought the mercury to school. Initial measurements at the entrance to the home were in excess of 50,000 ug/m³, well above EPA's Action Levels. EPA OSC Stilman deployed on December 15 to continue assessment of the home where the mercury originated. OSC Stilman determined that a response action was necessary at the home and deployed START TTEMI and ERRS contractor WRS to the site. Clean-up actions continued in the home. The family has relocated during the response. EPA with START have also conducted screening of homes and personal items throughout Oglethorpe County. Students in those homes came in contact with the mercury brought to Oglethorpe County High School. ERRS is assisting with disposal and reimbursement of contaminated personal items.

1.1.2.1 Location

12 Dogwood Way, Winterville, GA and other Residences in Oglethorpe County.

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

Release of elemental mercury to occupied residential homes.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

N/A

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

N/A

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

From 12- 17 to 12 - 19, EPA and START continued to conduct a room-by-room assessment in an effort to determine if additional sources exist within the affected home. ERRS continued removal of contaminated materials within the affected home, including walls, carpeting, flooring and insulation removal. The family has relocated during the response.

OSC Randy Nattis is leading activities at other homes. A total of 14 other homes have been screened to date. 3 other residents denied access. Additional items have been collected from screened homes for personal item clean-up activities. EPA and START have completed itemizing all personal items with elevated screening results. Personal items are considered to be elevated if above 1000 to 10,000 ng/m3 for mercury. Cleared items have been returned to homeowners. Items that do not clear have been inventoried and documented for reimbursement.

EPA and ERRS (WRS) have started the reimbursement process for residents with contaminated items not cleared. To date, EPA has replaced 1 mattress and 1 washing machine and has met with all homeowners affected.

At the source house, OSC Patel was mobilized to assist. By the evening of 12 - 19, mercury clean-up activities in the source home were completed. All potential sources were removed, with a focus on a child's bedroom, the living room and the laundry room.

On 12 -20, EPA Patel and START conducted clearance activities over an 8 hour period using the Lumex mercury detector. No levels above 1,000 ng/m3 were found throughout the house. As such mercury clean-up activities are now complete.

2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)

N/A

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

N/A

<i>Waste Stream</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Manifest #</i>	<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Disposal</i>

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

N/A

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

- Ensure safety of residents and response personnel;
- Work with the homeowner to complete relocation (12-21-09);
- Complete home restoration;
- Complete reimbursement process;
- Dispose of contaminated materials;

2.2.1.2 Nest Steps

N/A

2.2.2 Issues

N/A

2.3 Logistics Section

N/A

2.4 Finance Section

2.4.1 Narrative

ACOE contacted for potential temporary relocation and reimbursement assistance. Until ACOE is available, ERRS will continue to assist EPA with temporary relocation and reimbursement.

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				

ERRS - Cleanup Contractor	\$100,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$65,000.00	65.00%
IAGs	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	\$50,000.00	100.00%
TAT/START	\$40,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$35,000.00	87.50%
Intramural Costs				
USEPA - Direct	\$190,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$150,000.00	78.95%
Total Site Costs	\$380,000.00	\$80,000.00	\$300,000.00	78.95%

* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

N/A

2.6 Liaison Officer

N/A

2.7 Information Officer

2.7.1 Public Information Officer

N/A

2.7.2 Community Involvement Coordinator

CIC Sherryl Carbonaro continues to assist with outreach to residents and assistance with reimbursement activities.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

N/A

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

ATSDR and Ga Div of Public Health continue to provide health advice and assistance.

4. Personnel On Site

EPA OSCs 12/15 (1)
12/16 (1)
12/17 (1)
12/18 (2)
12/19 (3)
12/20 (1)

START contractors (1)

ERRS contractors (6)

5. Definition of Terms

N/A

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

See information related to the Oglethorpe High School Mercury release at www.epaosc.org/OglethorpeHighMercurySpill

6.2 Reporting Schedule

N/A

7. Situational Reference Materials

N/A