

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Kleen Energy Plant Explosion - Removal Polrep
Initial and Final Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region I

Subject: POLREP #1
Initial and Final
Kleen Energy Plant Explosion

Middletown, CT
Latitude: 41.5568572 Longitude: -72.5885507

To:
From: Dan Wainberg, On-Scene Coordinator
Date: 2/8/2010
Reporting Period: 2/7/2010

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	Contract Number:
D.O. Number:	Action Memo Date:
Response Authority: CERCLA/OPA	Response Type: Emergency
Response Lead: EPA	Incident Category:
NPL Status: Non NPL	Operable Unit:
Mobilization Date: 2/7/2010	Start Date: 2/7/2010
Demob Date: 2/7/2010	Completion Date: 2/7/2010
CERCLIS ID:	RCRIS ID:
ERNS No.:	State Notification:
FPN#:	Reimbursable Account #:

1.1.1 Incident Category

Emergency Response

1.1.2 Site Description

1.1.2.1 Location

The incident location includes the Kleen Energy natural gas and oil powered electrical generation plant under construction at 1349 River Road in Middletown, Connecticut. The property is located upslope and adjacent to the Connecticut River.

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

At approximately 1130 on 7 February 2010, a large explosion occurred at the power plant. The cause for the explosion, that killed several workers and injured many, is under investigation. At approximately 1400, EPA's Emergency Planning and Response Branch received notification through the National Response Center and the USCG Sector Long Island Sound Duty Officer. At the time of notification, it was unclear if the explosion caused any environmental impacts and the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (CTDEP) was en route and indicated air monitoring assistance may be needed to support search and rescue operations. OSC Dan Wainberg mobilized to the incident scene to assess whether there were any environmental impacts and to support the incident with air monitoring resources if necessary.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

Operations on 7 February focused solely on search and rescue and assessment of the safety of the structure. Incident Command indicated they may need additional air monitoring equipment to ensure the safety of multiple search and rescue entry teams while entering the building area to search for victims. By the time CTDEP and EPA arrived on scene, only one entry with search dogs was planned and the team had adequate air monitoring resources.

While on-scene, EPA and CTDEP determined that the large bulk No. 2 oil storage tanks down slope and approximately 1/3 of a mile away were not compromised. Additionally, EPA and CTDEP confirmed with company representatives that a bulk storage tank for ammonia had never been filled and presented no environmental threat.

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

The cause of the explosion is under investigation

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

No further activities anticipated for EPA.

2.3 Logistics Section

N/A

2.4 Finance Section

No information available at this time.

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

N/A

2.6 Liaison Officer

N/A

2.7 Information Officer

Media Interest was extremely high for this incident.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

N/A

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

N/A

4. Personnel On Site

- CT Task Force 1 (Urban Search and Rescue)
- Massachusetts Task Force 1 (Urban Search and Rescue)
- CT State Police, Middletown Police and many other law enforcement entities
- Middletown Fire Department and many other fire departments
- CTDEP
- EPA
- ATF
- OSHA
- Red Cross
- Kleen Energy Corp and Construction Company Representatives

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

The scene was considered a crime scene while EPA was on site. Therefore, taking pictures was not permitted.