

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



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Region IV

**Subject:** POLREP #4  
FINAL POLREP  
Winterville Residential Mercury  
B453  
Winterville, GA  
Latitude: 33.9792040 Longitude: -83.2354690

**To:**  
**From:** Terry Stilman, On Scene Coordinator  
**Date:** 3/10/2010  
**Reporting Period:** 12/20/09 - 01/14/10

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

<b>Site Number:</b>	B453	<b>Contract Number:</b>	EP-S4-07-03
<b>D.O. Number:</b>	0056	<b>Action Memo Date:</b>	12/15/2009
<b>Response Authority:</b>	CERCLA	<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>	12/11/2009	<b>Start Date:</b>	12/15/2009
<b>Demob Date:</b>	1/14/2010	<b>Completion Date:</b>	1/14/2010
<b>CERCLIS ID:</b>	GAN000410513	<b>RCRIS ID:</b>	
<b>ERNS No.:</b>		<b>State Notification:</b>	12/15/2009
<b>FPN#:</b>		<b>Reimbursable Account #:</b>	

1.1.1 Incident Category

Residential mercury release.

1.1.2 Site Description

On December 11, 2009, EPA OSC Hughes mobilized to Oglethorpe 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 TTEM and ERRS contractor WRS to the site. Clean-up actions continued in the home. The family 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 also assisted 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 conducted a room-by-room assessment to determine if additional sources exist within the affected home and conducted clean-up where needed. On 12/19/09 ERRS completed removal of contaminated materials within the affected home, including walls, carpeting, flooring and insulation removal. The family relocated during the response.

OSC Randy Nattis led 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 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 did not clear have been inventoried, documented and disposed of. Homeowners have been reimbursed for disposed items.

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. By the end of 12-20 the affected residence was cleared for reoccupancy.

During the week of 12/21/09, the residence was restored to allow for return of the residents.

On 01/14/10, mercury contaminated debris was transported off-site for disposal.

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

N/A

#### 2.1.4 Progress Metrics

N/A

<i><b>Waste Stream</b></i>	<i><b>Medium</b></i>	<i><b>Quantity</b></i>	<i><b>Manifest #</b></i>	<i><b>Treatment</b></i>	<i><b>Disposal</b></i>
mercury contaminated debris		20 Cu Yds			Landfill
mercury		2 lbs			Recycling

## 2.2 Planning Section

#### 2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

N/A

##### 2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

- All response actions are complete

##### 2.2.1.2 Nest Steps

N/A

#### 2.2.2 Issues

N/A

## 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

##### 2.7.1 Public Information Officer

N/A

##### 2.7.2 Community Involvement Coordinator

CIC Sherry Carbonaro completed 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 provided health advice and assistance.

### **4. Personnel On Site**

All personnel demobed.

### **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](http://www.epaosc.org/OglethorpeHighMercurySpill)

#### **6.2 Reporting Schedule**

N/A

### **7. Situational Reference Materials**

N/A