

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

Date: Friday, May 14, 2004

From: Robert Kelly

Subject: Activation of OPA Funds

Walker Creek Well Site

Walker Creek, Wood County, Parkersburg, WV

Latitude: 39.2378000

Longitude: -81.3156000

POLREP No.:	1	Site #:	848
Reporting Period:		D.O. #:	
Start Date:		Response Authority:	OPA
Mob Date:		Response Type:	Emergency
Demob Date:		NPL Status:	
Completion Date:		Incident Category:	
CERCLIS ID #:		Contract #	
RCRIS ID #:		Reimbursable Account #	
FPN#	E04314		

Site Description

There are four abandoned oil wells and one tank located on Mountwood Park in Parkersburg, WV. These wells have been leaking into the Walker Creek which is a tributary to the Ohio River.

Current Activities

- A. On 5/13/04, Mr. David Belcher of the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP) Office of Oil and Gas called the NRC to report 4 abandoned wells that were discovered leaking into Walker Creek.
- B. OSC Bob Kelly and NPFC Chief Mike Steele were meeting with Mr. Belcher on another well site and was told by him of the leaking wells.
- C. The OSC and the NPFC Case Officer, along with Mr. Belcher, visited the location of the leaking wells.
- D. The OSC, after visiting wells, determined that an actual release had occurred into Walker Creek from one of the wells and that the other three were in the flood plain thereby creating a substantial threat to the Ohio River.
- E. The OSC questioned Mr. Belcher on ownership of the wells and was told that the initial investigation showed that there was no potential responsible parties as these wells are pre-1929. Mr. Belcher also stated that the WVDEP Office of Oil and Gas did not have the funds to address the containment and plugging of these wells.
- F. Mr. Belcher provided OSC Kelly with a cost estimate of \$104,000 to plug these wells.
- G. On 5/14/04, OSC Kelly, using CANAPS, opened the OPA90 Fund in the amount of \$50,000 (ceiling limit for OSCs) for this Site. The FPN number for the site is E04314.
- H. The OSC issued the WVDEP Office of Oil and Gas a PRFA in the amount of \$40,000 to take immediate actions such as containment either by installing booms in the Creek or digging a ditch around the wells that are in the flood plain.

Planned Removal Actions

WVDEP Office of Oil and Gas, through a PRFA, will begin plugging operations on the wells.

Next Steps

- A. The OSC will issue a TDD to START contractor to conduct a title search and to provide oversight at the Site as well as gather documentation for reimbursement.
- B. By this Pollution Report, the OSC is requesting the NPFC increase the PRFA to \$115,000 to address all actions associated with the plugging of these wells.

Key Issues

Four wells leaking into the Walker Creek which leads into the navigable waters of the Ohio River.

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
ERRS - Cleanup Contractor	\$40,000.00	\$0.00	\$40,000.00	100.00%
RST/START	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	100.00%
Intramural Costs				
USEPA - Direct (Region, HQ)	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	100.00%
Total Site Costs	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	\$50,000.00	100.00%

* 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.

response.epa.gov/walkercreek

POLREP #1 Last Updated 5/14/2004