

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
ST Clair Shores PCB Drain #2 - Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region V

Subject: POLREP #3
ST Clair Shores PCB Drain #2
B5VE
St Clair Shores, MI
Latitude: 42.4867400 Longitude: -82.8986700

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From: Jeffrey Kimble, OSC
Date: 4/13/2010
Reporting Period: March 29, 2010 - April 12, 2010

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	B5VE	Contract Number:	
D.O. Number:		Action Memo Date:	
Response Authority:	CERCLA	Response Type:	Time-Critical
Response Lead:	EPA	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	12/30/2009	Start Date:	12/30/2009
Demob Date:		Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:		RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	
FPN#:		Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

ER/Time-Critical, Fund Lead

1.1.2 Site Description

The St. Clair Shores PCB Drain #2 Site is located in St Clair Shores, Michigan. Several studies and two removal actions have been conducted in the area for PCB contamination. A source of PCBs still exists at the site and may encompass a several block area where PCBs have been documented to be present in significant quantities in an underground storm drain and utility corridor.

1.1.2.1 Location

The site is generally located near the intersection of Bon Brae and Harper Avenue in St Clair Shores,

Michigan. PCBs are bleeding into the sewer from an unknown source are. One source are was discovered and cut off from the sewer during a previous removal action.

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

Uncontrolled PCBs, as high as 800,000 parts per million, are entering in the sewer and threatening to contaminate 2 canals and Lake St Clair.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

For previous information on past removal actions, follow the link below.

http://www.epaosc.org/site/site_profile.aspx?site_id=2082

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

On December 09, 2009, EPA ER Branch and Remedial Branch attended several meetings to discuss current and new findings of high level PCBs in the 10 Mile Road Sewer Drain system. The first two meetings were with agency officials and city political leaders and were held to inform the stakeholders of the new information. In attendance were with U.S. EPA were St Clair Shores City officials, Macomb County Sewer District officials, environmental consulting firm ECT, MDEQ, and several political aides.

In those meetings, we discussed the City of St Clair Shores/Macomb County/ECT plans and current action to clean the sewer manholes and ECT's desire to place a series of weirs in the sewers (after cleaning) to allow places for sediments to build up and allow for collection. The City and ECT expressed their desire for EPA assistance to remove the approximate 1 gallon of 820,000-ppm PCB oil currently in the drain system. ECT and the City both expressed fears that if they conducted this work it would use up the remainder of the budget they have for the overall project and they would not be able to complete the work they have planned. The group feels this needs to be conducted ASAP to eliminate the potential for it to migrate down the sewer and threaten the canals. This also has to be done to allow the remainder of the manholes to be cleaned out and the weir system to be installed.

EPA and the other stakeholders then attended a public meeting with the residents. The original intent of this meeting, which had been previously planned, was to inform the residents of the progress from MDEQ and EPA remedial program on the scoring of the site. Discussions were held about the future of the site, as well as the new findings.

Subsequent meetings by U.S. EPA and ECT identified immediate concerns and time-critical concerns at the site. ECT shared current info with U.S. EPA, and this information was used to plan subsequent activities.

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

From March 1, 2010, through March 26, 2010, EPA and its contractors established the Site command post, installed a weir plate at the outfall of the 10 Mile Drain system, initiated drain dewatering, and initiated jet-vac cleaning of the sediments from the sewer system. START delivered the Emergency Contingency Plan to local police, fire, hospital and the city manager.

From March 29, 2010 through April 12, 2010 dewatering activities and jet vacuuming the drain along Bon Brae, Harper Road and Jefferson Road continued. The line is being cleaned so that weirs can be installed to act as sediment traps in the sewer and to help identify the area PCBs are entering the sewer. To date, 4 of 15 proposed weirs are in place. The crews also began solidifying the sediment that was off-loaded from the vac truck into the roll-off box. A sample of this wastestream was collected and submitted for disposal analysis. Crews installed weirs in manholes along Bon Brae west of Harper Road. Jet vacuuming activities were completed on April 09, 2010.

EPA and its contractors also secured access to 93 properties to conduct magnetic resonance (MR) and ground penetrating radar (GPR) surveys. Based on these surveys, locations were selected for collection of soil samples utilizing geoprobe technology. Six properties showed some type of anomaly and will be further investigated with geoprobe borings.

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

Ongoing, numerous leads have been pursued in the past by multiple agencies. One reported dump area directly coincides with an MR and GPR anomaly and will be the first area to be investigated with geoprobe cores collected.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

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

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2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

This Time-Critical Action will stabilize conditions at the site temporarily. Further thorough assessment is planned to better determine the location and source of the contamination and to provide a long-term remediation.

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

After completion of the action memorandum with approval from ERB management, the following actions will be undertaken.

- Complete installation of in-sewer weirs to act as a sediment traps to allow for more effective sampling of the sediments and also help to pinpoint the location PCBs are entering the sewer,
- Dispose of all collected PCB waste sediments,
- Conduct sampling activities in several distinct areas where current City contractors believe PCBs may be entering the drain,

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

Complete time-critical removal.

2.2.2 Issues

There exists both known and unknown sources of PCBs in this area. Specifically for this reason, the site is being studied for the potential to become a remedial action. Further thorough assessment is planned to better determine the location and source of the contamination and to provide a long-term remediation.

2.3 Logistics Section

ERRS contractors, START contractors, and EPA Region 5 FIELDS Team will provide logistical support.

2.4 Finance Section

No information available at this time.

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

Each agency/contractor will provide their own site supervisor, but all groups will conduct the activities under 1 approved U.S. EPA Site Safety Plan. Considerations will include hazardous levels of PCBs, heavy equipment safety, confined space entry, entrapment, and hazardous road work.

The site-specific emergency contingency plan was distributed to police, fire and the hospital on 3/26/2010.

2.6 Liaison Officer

The OSC.

2.7 Information Officer

2.7.1 Public Information Officer

The OSC

2.7.2 Community Involvement Coordinator

Robert Paulson will be the Community Involvement Coordinator for this site.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

The OSC is IC.

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

MDEQ
City of St Clair Shores
Macomb County

4. Personnel On Site

TBD

5. Definition of Terms

OSC = On-Scene Coordinator
U.S. EPA = United States Environmental Protection Agency
MDEQ = Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

PCB = Polychlorinated biphenyls

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

6.2 Reporting Schedule

Periodic

7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.