

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Liberty Fibers - Removal Polrep
Initial Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region IV

Subject: POLREP #1
Initial - Emergency Activation to Contain Friable Asbestos
Liberty Fibers
B457
Morristown, TN
Latitude: 36.1493481 Longitude: -83.2048083

To:
From: Perry Gaughan, On Scene Coordinator
Date: 4/21/2010
Reporting Period: April 21, 2010

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	B457	Contract Number:	
D.O. Number:		Action Memo Date:	
Response Authority:	CERCLA	Response Type:	Emergency
Response Lead:	EPA	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	4/21/2010	Start Date:	4/21/2010
Demob Date:		Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:		RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	
FPN#:		Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

Emergency Response to contain and mitigate asbestos contamination.

1.1.2 Site Description

The Liberty Fibers Site is a former 350 acre rayon production facility previously operated by BASF until the mid 1990's. Since the mid 1990's, this facility operated as Lenzig Fibers and as Liberty Fibers until declaring bankruptcy. The facility was then purchased by Lowland Industries which operated a metal recycling business on site. During this period, several production buildings were demolished resulting in numerous debris piles containing friable asbestos.

1.1.2.1 Location

The site is located along Enka Road approximately one mile south of Interstate 81 in Morristown, Tenn (exit 12).

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

During apparent recycling activities on April 19th, a debris pile along the southern perimeter caught fire resulting in the Morristown Fire Dept responding. In order to minimize such future events, and to minimize the chance of asbestos exposure, the OSC elected to serve the owner with a Notice of Federal Interest in order to initiate site containment and mitigation measures. The site contains numerous construction debris piles with large quantities of friable asbestos.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

Concurrent to the April 19th fire and recent activities on site, the OSC requested that Reg 4 Technical Services Branch evaluate asbestos sampling conducted in Jan 2010 to determine if a threat to human health and the environment existed on site. A draft memo from Technical Services completed on April 21st indicates that such a threat does exist.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

On Wednesday, April 21st, the OSC met with Lowland Industries Mark Sawyer to discuss the fire event on Monday evening and to serve Mr Sawyer with a Notice of Federal Interest. The OSC explained that in order to minimize such future accidents that all recycling and demolition activities must cease and that EPA

would begin containing and making arrangements to properly dispose of all friable asbestos on site.

The fire event was limited to an area approximately 100 by 150 feet along the southern perimeter of the site near two former neutralization pits associated with rayon and cellulose treatment. The fire was accidentally set during metal cutting operations and appeared to be accidental to the responding fire chief.

The vast majority of friable asbestos on site is centered around the former powerhouse and debris piles along the northern third (approx 100 acres) of the site. No known asbestos or asbestos containing debris piles were involved in the fire. However, Start contractors continue to evaluate and sample the involved area for asbestos.

Errs contractors began mobing to the site on Wednesday afternoon and the OSC met with the project manager. Initially Errs were tasked to concentrate on safety related elements of the site including marking and temporarily covering known asbestos containing debris piles and stacked thermal cast insulation from steam piping. Several of the structures associated with the former rayon plant have been demolished. However, several of these structures have basement levels which are not readily visible especially when dressed out in Level C and present a significant safety threat to clean up workers. Errs were instructed to mark and fence off those basement containing structures.

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

ERRs and Start contractors mobed to the site on Wednesday afternoon, April 21st. Initial covering of known asbestos containing debris piles and addressing safety elements on site are currently being addressed.

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

The OSC continues to coordinate enforcement issues with EPA's Kevin Beswick and Enforcements Karen Coleman.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

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

2.2 Planning Section

No information available at this time.

2.3 Logistics Section

No information available at this time.

2.4 Finance Section

No information available at this time.

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

2.6 Liaison Officer

2.7 Information Officer

2.7.1 Public Information Officer

2.7.2 Community Involvement Coordinator

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

The OSC notified Morristown Tenn city officials and TDEC of EPA's planned activities.

4. Personnel On Site

No information available at this time.

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

No information available at this time.