

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT  
SIMS CHAPEL WOOD TREATMENT SITE - Removal Polrep  
Initial Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Region IV

**Subject:** POLREP #1  
INITIAL-REMOVAL SITE EVALUATION  
SIMS CHAPEL WOOD TREATMENT SITE  
B446  
Sims Chapel (Washington Co.), AL  
Latitude: 31.2253530 Longitude: -88.1478490

**To:**  
**From:** Dean Ullock, On-Scene Coordinator  
**Date:** 6/9/2010  
**Reporting Period:** March 30, 2010 thru June 9, 2010

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Background

<b>Site Number:</b>	B446	<b>Contract Number:</b>	
<b>D.O. Number:</b>		<b>Action Memo Date:</b>	
<b>Response Authority:</b>	CERCLA	<b>Response Type:</b>	Time-Critical
<b>Response Lead:</b>	EPA	<b>Incident Category:</b>	Removal Assessment
<b>NPL Status:</b>	Non NPL	<b>Operable Unit:</b>	
<b>Mobilization Date:</b>	3/29/2010	<b>Start Date:</b>	3/30/2010
<b>Demob Date:</b>	3/30/2010	<b>Completion Date:</b>	
<b>CERCLIS ID:</b>	AL 000140843	<b>RCRIS ID:</b>	
<b>ERNS No.:</b>		<b>State Notification:</b>	ADEM-Yes
<b>FPN#:</b>		<b>Reimbursable Account #:</b>	

#### 1.1.1 Incident Category

Inactive wood treatment facility.

#### 1.1.2 Site Description

According to documents provided by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) and a preliminary site visit conducted by START on October 8, 2009, the site consists of an approximate 0.5 acre inactive wood treating facility located in a rural area.

##### 1.1.2.1 Location

The Site is located west of an abandoned residence at 8501 John Johnston Road in the town of Sims Chapel, Washington County, Alabama. The geographic coordinates for the center are latitude 33 13' 30.9714" north and longitude 88 08' 51.7" west. The heavily wooded site lies on a peninsula shaped parcel of land surrounded by wetlands and is within a larger 50 acre parcel.

##### 1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

Potential ongoing release of residual wood treatment chemicals into the surrounding environment from a small, 3x15x7 open pit containing residual Creosote and water.

##### 1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

Surface and sub-surface soil analytical results above the residential RALs/RSLs included arsenic, benzo(a)anthracene, benzo(a)pyrene, benzo(b)fluoranthene, benzo(k)fluoranthene, dibenzo(a,h)anthracene, and indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene. The areas of concern at the site, based on sample results, are the soils immediately surrounding the open-pit and the contents of the open-pit itself. The location of these samples indicate that site-attributable contamination is migrating toward the surrounding, downgradient wetlands, therefore a **TIME CRITICAL CERCLA REMOVAL ACTION** is deemed necessary at this site location.

## 2. Current Activities

### 2.1 Operations Section

#### 2.1.1 Narrative

Removal Site Evaluation conducted at this location on March 30, 2010.

#### 2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

At the request of the Alabama Department of Environmental Management's (ADEM), Site Assessment

Coordinator, and through the ADEM Waste Division Director, this site was formally referred to ERRB on October 8, 2009.

In 1996, the ADEM performed a CERCLA Preliminary Assessment to collect information concerning conditions at the site sufficient to assess the threat posed to human health and the environment and to determine the need for additional investigation under CERCLA. Due to the rural nature of the area and lack of targets at the time, no further action at the federal level was recommended by the ADEM. The site was recommended for cleanup under the Alabama Hazardous Substances Cleanup Fund.

In 2009, the ADEM performed a Site Reassessment to verify the location, status, ownership of the site and to identify the potential sources of contamination. Due to the rural nature low population of the area, ADEM concluded that no further remedial action was necessary under CERCLA for the site.

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

As required, the current property owner has been identified and has allowed US EPA ERRB site access for the purpose of conducting the Removal Site Evaluation. It should be noted that the currently assigned Region IV, US EPA Site Attorney has discovered and determined, that based on law, the current property owner "inherited" the property from the previous and deceased property owner and therefore is not considered a viable Responsible Party or liable under the current provisions of CERCLA.

#### 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>

## 2.2 Planning Section

### 2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

It is anticipated that a Time-Critical Removal Action will be conducted at this site and that the small, open pit and any affected, surrounding soils will be further delineated and removed where necessary.

#### .1.1 Planned Response Activities

Conduct removal of open pit and all impacted soils.

#### 2.2.1.2 Next Steps

Assign OSC and prepare Action Memorandum for approval and funding.

#### 2.2.2 Issues

None.

## 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

OSC served as Safety Officer during the Removal Site Evaluation.

### 2.6 Liaison Officer

N/A

### 2.7 Information Officer

#### 2.7.1 Public Information Officer

N/A

#### 2.7.2 Community Involvement Coordinator

N/A

## 3. Participating Entities

### 3.1 Unified Command

N/A

### 3.2 Cooperating Agencies

ADEM's Site Assessment Section-Montgomery, Alabama  
US EPA-ERRB

**4. Personnel On Site**

US EPA x 1  
START x 3

**5. Definition of Terms**

N/A

**6. Additional sources of information**

**6.1 Internet location of additional information/report**

Please refer to website contents.

**6.2 Reporting Schedule**

N/A

**7. Situational Reference Materials**

N/A