

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT  
Pike County Flood - Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Region IV

**Subject:** POLREP #2  
Completing Assessments  
Pike County Flood

Pikeville, KY  
Latitude: 37.4792672 Longitude: -82.5187629

**To:**  
**From:** Matthew Huyser, On-Scene Coordinator  
**Date:** 7/22/2010  
**Reporting Period:** 0800 7/21/2010 to 1700 7/21/2010

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Background

<b>Site Number:</b>	B4A9	<b>Contract Number:</b>	
<b>D.O. Number:</b>		<b>Action Memo Date:</b>	
<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>	7/19/2010	<b>Start Date:</b>	7/20/2010
<b>Demob Date:</b>		<b>Completion Date:</b>	
<b>CERCLIS ID:</b>		<b>RCRIS ID:</b>	
<b>ERNS No.:</b>		<b>State Notification:</b>	
<b>FPN#:</b>		<b>Reimbursable Account #:</b>	

#### 1.1.1 Incident Category

Disaster Response

#### 1.1.2 Site Description

On 7/17/2010, a heavy rainstorm caused localized flooding in Pike County, Kentucky, five miles east of Pikeville, Kentucky. Four fatalities were linked to the floods. By 7/20/2010 the Red Cross estimated that 79 homes had been completely destroyed, 86 received major damage, and 44 had received minor damage. By 7/18/2010 the local and state agencies began disaster recovery operations, and by 7/19/2010 federal agencies arrived for disaster assessment and recovery. On 7/19/2010, KYDEP requested EPA assistance in addressing various hazardous materials containers that had been spotted in debris piles along the washout corridor(s).

##### 1.1.2.1 Location

The flooding encompasses several localities east of Pikeville within Pike County, Kentucky: Meta, Bent Branch, Zebulon, Raccoon, Justiceville, Millard, and Manowbone.

##### 1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

The flood has washed away several hazardous materials containers and oil containers from residences and small commercial facilities. Materials within these containers present a threat of release or exposure to residents/responders if they are mishandled with other debris or if they are left unattended.

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

Containers that have been spotted by KYDEP and EPA assessment teams include: oil storage tanks (5-1000 gallon capacity), drums, totes, saddle tanks, and compressed gas cylinders. Also, several large propane tanks have been spotted and may present a fire or explosion hazard if they contain product under pressure.

## 2. Current Activities

### 2.1 Operations Section

#### 2.1.1 Narrative

KYDEP requested EPA assistance on 7/19/2010; TEL dispatched R1 OSC Huyser, who arrived with START on 7/20/2010 and ERRS crews who arrived on 7/21/2010. START and KYDEP assembled three assessment teams and each proceeded to collect GIS data on hazmat containers using the Disaster

Assessment tool on the Trimble GeoXT. ERRS crews are prepared to collect items that have been identified and tagged, then transport them to a staging area for processing.

Pike County Solid Waste Management agreed to allocate space for a staging area behind the county recycling center, within 1 mile of the county landfill. On 7/20/2010, KYDEP contacted the State EOC and submitted a Mission Assignment requests for Federal technical assistance and for direct Federal assistance. By 7/21/2010 the NRCS, FEMA, Pike County Solid Waste Management, and Pike County Road Department were all been informed of KYDEP and EPA's activities and had notified their field personnel to report any hazardous material issues or orphaned containers.

EPA prepared an ESF 10 Operational Period Plan (OPP) for 7/21/2010 that includes, among other things, ICS 204s for various KYDEP/EPA field teams, an ICS 205 communications plan, and an ICS 207 organization chart. The OPP was provided to the Pike County Emergency Operations Center.

#### **2.1.2 Response Actions to Date**

Three assessment teams (Alpha, Bravo, and Charlie) conducted roadside and walking assessments that included DRAG data gathering with Trimble GeoXTs. The teams covered Biggs Branch, Powells, Creek, Daniels Branch, Fishtrap Road, Raccoon Road, Frozen Creek, Grassy Branch, Ridgeline Road, Hurricane Creek, Sunshine Lane, Burning Fork, and Pompey Road. Several of these areas had been previously covered on 7/20/2010 and 7/19/2010 and within the areas that were reassessed, no new items were discovered. During the afternoon debriefing, it was determined that teams Alpha and Bravo could demobilize from the response and that team Charlie would remain to provide assessment support to recovery teams.

Assessment crews reported that several items which were spotted on 7/20/2010 were no longer present. This included some residential-sized propane tanks and vehicles in the creek. Pike County Road Department crews are also working heavily in some areas and moving items that could be considered hazardous material orphaned containers. KYDEP contacted the lead official for Pike County Road Department to stress coordination efforts in addressing removal of such items.

ERRS completed construction of a lined and bermed staging area at the Pike County recycling center. Recovery equipment had mobilized to the site by the afternoon of 7/21/2010 but there was no time to conduct actual recovery operations.

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

Owner permission is being sought before treading on private property. When available, commercial property owners are being encouraged to provide information on hazardous materials that may have been washed away from their facilities. Owners of containers will be sought prior to removing the container.

## **2.2 Planning Section**

### **2.2.1 Anticipated Activities**

Recovery teams will deploy from the staging area beginning on 7/22/2010. Pike County and NRCS reported that Harless Creek would be the first area addressed for debris removal and reconstruction, so recovery teams will target items tagged in this area first on 7/22/2010 and continue to move ahead of reconstruction efforts.

#### **2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities**

- Assessments of hazardous material threats in the community; (ONGOING)
- Coordinate response efforts with participating local/state/federal agencies; (ONGOING)
- Removal of hazardous materials;
- Disposal, treatment, and/or recycling of hazardous materials and/or containers.

#### **2.2.1.2 Next Steps**

Begin collection of identified containers and continue to coordinate with responding agencies on addressing hazardous materials or oil before reconstruction crews enter an area.

#### **2.2.2 Issues**

The necessity and/or scope of weekend operations will be determined by the afternoon debriefing on 7/22/2010.

## **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**

By 7/21/2010 the NRCS, FEMA, Pike County SolidWaste Management, and Pike County Road Department were all been informed of KYDEP and EPA's activities and had notified their field personnel to

report any hazardous material issues or orphaned containers.

## **2.7 Information Officer**

### **2.7.1 Public Information Officer**

Pike County Fiscal Court requested information from EPA for a press release to announce the presence of EPA and KYDEP assessing and removing hazardous materials and orphaned containers. Language was prepared by EPA R4 Duty Officer and was approved by the EPA R4 External Affairs Office. KYDEP approved of the press release language as well and it was submitted to the Pike County Fiscal Court Media Relations Specialist at 1300hrs on 7/21/2010. The release informs the public of the types of containers that EPA will address (not to include HHW) and requests that reports of containers be made to the National Response Center (NRC reports will be fed to the field from telephone duty officer).

### **2.7.2 Community Involvement Coordinator**

N/A

## **3. Participating Entities**

### **3.1 Unified Command**

N/A

### **3.2 Cooperating Agencies**

KYDEP

EPA

Pike County

## **4. Personnel On Site**

KYDEP (6) - Five KYDEP personnel will demobilize on 7/21/2010 and one will return for operations on 7/20/2010

EPA (2) - OSC Hughes arrived on 7/21/2010

START (2)

ERRS (6) - Recovery crews arrived by mid-afternoon on 7/21/2010

## **5. Definition of Terms**

N/A

## **6. Additional sources of information**

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

N/A

### **6.2 Reporting Schedule**

N/A

## **7. Situational Reference Materials**

An ESF 10 Operational Period Plan has been posted for 7/22/2010