

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

**Date:** Friday, December 4, 2009

**From:** Deborah Lindsey

**Subject:** Ravine - On-Going Removal Actions  
WRG4 Vermiculite Site  
1210 Factory Street, Ellwood City, PA  
Latitude: 40.8595660  
Longitude: -80.3000080

<b>POLREP No.:</b>	23	<b>Site #:</b>	E358
<b>Reporting Period:</b>	11/07/09 - 11/20/09	<b>D.O. #:</b>	0703-03-009
<b>Start Date:</b>	7/16/2008	<b>Response Authority:</b>	CERCLA
<b>Mob Date:</b>	4/17/2008	<b>Response Type:</b>	Time-Critical
<b>Demob Date:</b>		<b>NPL Status:</b>	Non NPL
<b>Completion Date:</b>		<b>Incident Category:</b>	Removal Action
<b>CERCLIS ID #:</b>	PAN000305592	<b>Contract #</b>	EP-S3-07-03
<b>RCRIS ID #:</b>			

**Site Description**

See POLREP 21 for Site Description information.

**Current Activities**

For the period of November 7 through November 13

ERRS completed moving the stockpiled soil from the ravine to the soil staging area in the parking lot and completed hand digging soils from around trees and tree roots. ERRS also completed final excavation of the access road into the ravine and started to excavate areas around the decon pad. All material was moved up to the soil staging area for disposal. The plastic collection tub at the culvert discharge pipe was removed and concrete pieces/large riprap were placed around the drainage pipe and down the slope into the bottom of the ravine. Backfill was being delivered and ERRS started to move the backfill down to the ravine area placing 2 feet of the clean soil on all areas where excavation of contaminated soils took place.

START conducted air monitoring/air sampling at up to 4 onsite stations in the ravine area during three days of operations for the work period, weather permitting. START collected the remaining three soil samples from the area where the stockpile was located and from the northwest slope. No visual vermiculite was noted in these areas being sampled. START packaged and shipped confirmation soil samples to DAS R33182 Laboratory for analysis by CARB 435.

For the week of November 14 through November 20

On or about November 18, 2009, ERRS completed placing at a minimum 2 feet of clean backfill on areas in and around the ravine that were excavated. All areas were compacted using the skidsteer. ERRS was able to place, on average, a foot of clean material on the northwest slope of the ravine and feathering the soil up the slope. Once backfilling and compaction were completed, ERRS seeded the ravine with a winter grass seed mix and placed erosion control matting on the slopes of the ravine (total of 10 rolls of matting installed). ERRS began to pressure wash gravel from the decon area and determined that the process was not effective. The decision was then made to excavate the material from the decon pad and move it to the staging area for off-site disposal. ERRS will excavate the decon area when they return for disposal activities. Concrete debris and rock initially staged by the gabion baskets was moved back over to the crest of the ravine to form a wall in an attempt to limit ATVs from riding on the slope. On November 19, ERRS prepared the Site for a twelve day demobe period. Equipment was deconned and demobed. The soil staging area was further secured and 24 hour security was provided during the demobe period.

ERRS RM continued to coordinate with the two disposal facilities for approval of T&D of contaminated soils. At the end of this reporting period, no approvals had been received.

START conducting air monitoring/air sampling at up to 4 onsite stations in the ravine area during three days of operations for the work period. No air monitoring/air sampling was conducted on November 19 due to rain. START observed field operations and worked with the OSC on evaluating decon measures of the decon pad.

The START air sampling/monitoring program includes collecting high volume air sampling with an Aircon II sampling pump and co-located low flow air sampling as a backup sample. Air monitoring is being conducted utilizing a Dataram 4000 particulate monitoring units. A meteorological weather station is used to monitor on-site conditions and data used to generate daily wind roses.

#### **Planned Removal Actions**

Complete excavation of decon pad and backfill.  
Transportation and disposal of asbestos contaminated soils.  
Transportation and disposal of potentially asbestos contaminated tree debris.  
Transportation and disposal of two drums discovered during removal activities.  
Complete shutdown of Site for completion of removal action.

#### **Key Issues**

The OSC is working with HSCD Supervisor, the Office of Regional Counsel and EPA Headquarters on review and approval of an Action Memorandum

The OSC continues to work with ERRS RM and PADEP offices on acceptance of wastes at proposed disposal facilities.

[response.epa.gov/WRG4Vermiculite](https://response.epa.gov/WRG4Vermiculite)