

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Mount Holly Road Explosives - Removal Polrep
Initial and Final Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region IV

Subject: POLREP #1
Initial and Final POLREP
Mount Holly Road Explosives

Charlotte, NC
Latitude: 35.2933917 Longitude: -80.9650023

To:
From: Kenneth Rhame, On Scene Coordinator
Date: 10/19/2010
Reporting Period: 10/19/2010

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	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: 10/19/2010	Start Date: 10/19/2010
Demob Date: 10/19/2010	Completion Date: 10/19/2010
CERCLIS ID:	RCRIS ID:
ERNS No.:	State Notification:
FPN#:	Reimbursable Account #:

1.1.1 Incident Category

Emergency Response

1.1.2 Site Description

On October 18, a student was injured at Turning Point Academy in Charlotte, North Carolina, in an incident involving an exploding pen. Authorities inspected the home of the individual suspected in making the device, and discovered several other potential explosive materials. On the afternoon of October 18, three local responders were injured from an inadvertent explosion during hazard categorization activities. EPA contacted officials at Charlotte-Mecklenburg County to offer assistance; responders had identified several containers of potentially hazardous substances: acetone (1 gallon), hydrochloric acid / muriatic acid (1 gallon), hydrogen peroxide (1 quart) and requested EPA assistance if disposal was needed. EPA OSC North Carolina Outpost K. Rhame mobilized to the site and will coordinate into response efforts with local and state agencies.

1.1.2.1 Location

The impacted location is at 10606 Mount Holly Road, Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

The impacted location contained sensitive explosive materials, as well as hazardous chemicals that were used to manufacture the explosives (acetone, hydrochloric acid (muriatic acid) and hydrogen peroxide). ATF and Bomb Squad rendered the home "clear of explosives on Oct. 19th. Charlotte Haz-Mat conducted air monitoring using a photo-ionization detector (PID) with results of non-detect for volatile organic compounds (VOCs), these were the contaminants of concern, after consultation with Dr. Keener, it was determined that it was not necessary for EPA to collect samples for laboratory analysis. The home was deemed "Unsafe" for reoccupancy due to structural damage.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

Charlotte Fire / Haz-Mat, Charlotte Bomb Squad and ATF successfully destroyed the residual explosive materials. The hazardous chemicals on-site consisted of small quantities of acetone, hydrochloric acid, and hydrogen peroxide. Charlotte Haz-Mat sampled the containers for evidence collection purposes. These chemicals were still in their original containers. EPA placed the three containers in individual 5 gallon overpacks and transported them off-site to Shamrock Environmental for recycling/reuse. The acetone is used in their laboratory. The muriatic acid (HCl) will be used to clean the concrete of their shop and work areas. The peroxide will be used for cleaning. All of these are legitimate uses for these chemicals intended

purposes. This material was not determined to be a hazardous waste since it was "household exempt" and was in relatively small quantities.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

N/A

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

EPA will transport the hazardous chemicals to an off-site facility (Shamrock Environmental) for recycling/reuse.

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

Responders have been unable to contact the homeowners.

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

N/A

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

N/A

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

N/A

2.2.2 Issues

N/A

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

N/A

2.7 Information Officer

2.7.1 Public Information Officer

EPA has briefed the regional PIO of the situation and will address any media inquiries regarding EPA's participation in the response, should the need arise.

2.7.2 Community Involvement Coordinator

N/A

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

N/A

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

N/A

4. Personnel On Site

N/A

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

N/A