

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
US Oil Recovery - Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region VI

Subject: POLREP #6
Initial Report- Incident 2
US Oil Recovery
A6X7
Pasadena, TX
Latitude: 29.7177400 Longitude: -95.2210530

To:
From: Adam Adams, OSC
Date: 11/12/2010
Reporting Period: 11/08/2010 - 11/12/2010

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	A6X7	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:	11/8/2010	Start Date:	11/8/2010
Demob Date:		Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:		RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	
FPN#:		Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

Emergency Response/Emergency Removal Action

1.1.2 Site Description

US Oil Recovery is located on approximately 13 acres of land just north of the City of Pasadena, Texas north of Texas Highway 225. US Oil Recovery performed municipal and industrial wastewater pretreatment of Class I and Class II wastewater, characteristically hazardous waste, used oil and oily sludges, and municipal solid waste.

1.1.2.1 Location

US Oil Recovery is located at 400 N. Richey, Pasadena, Harris County, Texas 77506.

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

This and future POLREP's document a separate incident from the response conducted in July 2010.

HCPHES notified the National Response Center (NRC Report No.959001) to report a release of an unknown waste water from an unknown source at the facility impacting Vince Bayou, approximately 100 feet from the property line. Drainage is primarily to the north and to the west, both directly flowing into Vince Bayou. The NRC report also stated there are various hazardous chemicals at the facility. NRC notified the EPA. Upon notification, EPA contacted the local TCEQ representative for confirmation. The TCEQ monitored the facility over the weekend and requested EPA assistance on November 8, 2010. The EPA OSC mobilized to the site and re-activated START-3 and ERRS contractors to be on site on 11/09/2010.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

Due to heavy rains in the area, available freeboard located in the containment areas had become compromised and the contents were overflowing. Initial assessment included the north and south containment areas, truck bay areas, and the retention pond. Several corrosive caustic drums and totes in the warehouse were leaking contents thereby creating a safety concern.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

US Oil Recovery opened for business in May 2002 in Pasadena, Texas to handle used oil. In its proprietary plant, US Oil Recovery performed municipal and industrial wastewater pretreatment of Class I and Class II wastewater, characteristically hazardous waste, used oil and oily sludges, and municipal solid waste. The facility is located on approximately 13 acres located north of the City of Pasadena at 400 N. Richey.

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

On 04 November 2010, HCPHES notified the NRC (NRC#959001) of a release of waste water from an unknown source at the facility that was threatening Vince Bayou. Upon notification by the NRC and request from TCEQ, EPA activated START-3 and ERRS contractors on 11/08/10 to respond to the incident.

During this reporting period ERRS used trash-pumps to control liquid runoff off-site, field tested pH of non-hazardous liquids and began transportation of non-hazardous liquid waste off-site for disposal. Crews commenced with neutralization of on-site corrosive liquids overflowing from secondary containments. Drums and totes located in the warehouse were assessed for stability, leaking containers were secured and spilled contents were recovered.

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

The Potential Responsible Party at this time is US Oil Recovery, LLC.

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

EPA, START-3 and ERRS will continue to stabilize on-site containers and recover liquids currently contained in the secondary containment of the on-site above ground storage tanks. The liquid recovered from the secondary containments will continue to be transported off-site by vacuum trailer to the Intergulf recycling facility in Pasadena, TX for fuels blending. Strong corrosive liquids and sludge will continue to be treated with caustic material to raise the pH.

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

No information available at this time.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and Harris County Public Health and Environmental Services (HCPHES).

4. Personnel On Site

Personnel on-site include EPA, START-3, and ERRS.

Additional personnel on-site at their discretion are representatives from TCEQ and HCPHES.

5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

Additional information can be obtained at www.epaosc.org/usoilrecovery-pasadena.

6.2 Reporting Schedule

7. Situational Reference Materials

Additional information can be obtained at www.epaosc.org/usoilrecovery-pasadena.