

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Louisa Acme Well Site - Removal Polrep
Initial Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region III

Subject: POLREP #1
Emergency Sampling Event
Louisa Acme Well Site

Louisa, VA
Latitude: 38.0129580 Longitude: -77.9855590

To: Mr. Jeff Lake, Virginia Department of Health
Mr. Dean Rodgers, Louisa County Water Authority

From: Christine Wagner, OSC

Date: 11/23/2010

Reporting Period: 11/18/10-11/22/10

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 Assessment
NPL Status: Non NPL	Operable Unit:
Mobilization Date:	Start Date:
Demob Date:	Completion Date:
CERCLIS ID:	RCRIS ID:
ERNS No.:	State Notification:
FPN#:	Reimbursable Account #:

1.1.1 Incident Category

Emergency sampling event to be followed by Removal Assessment

1.1.2 Site Description

Louisa Acme Well and surrounding residents

1.1.2.1 Location

38 degrees 00.571'
-77 degrees 59.480'

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

Tetrachloroethylene (perchloroethylene)

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

The Louisa Acme Well is owned by the Town of Louisa. This well has been inactive for approximately 20 years. The Town was investigating the possibility of reactivating this well for use. As part of the feasibility study, the Town arranged to have the well sampled.

The well sample indicated a high level of tetrachloroethylene, also known as perchloroethylene, "PCE", or "perc". Perc was formerly widely used in the dry-cleaning business. The chemical is also used as an industrial solvent.

The well was re-tested again in late October, and the results were similar. Based on a level of PCE which greatly exceeds EPA drinking water standards, the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) requested assistance.

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

VDH reached out to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) for assistance. During the week of 11/15/10 to 11/18/10, several conference calls were held to formulate a strategy to ensure that public health is protected.

VDH identified 4 potential residences with drinking water wells in the area and a fifth well which serves a small mobile home park.

VDEQ requested EPA assistance in sampling these wells. VDEQ Site Assessment Manager Harris and EPA OSC Wagner planned a windshield reconnaissance for Monday 11/22/10.

On Friday, 11/19/10, OSC Wagner was contacted directly by VDH. VDH requested emergency sampling be performed at the residences described above. VDH worked on a list of questions and answers to be handed out to the residences. ATSDR provided a Fact Sheet on tetrachloroethylene to VDH.

OSC Wagner, VDH, and the Virginia Department of Consolidated Laboratories (DCLS) worked on a sampling plan and laboratory capabilities. VDH stressed the need to have verbal (non-verified) results by close of business on Wednesday (Thanksgiving on Thursday). OSC Wagner picked up sampling equipment from DCLS. However, DCLS informed EPA that they would not be able to run the samples unless they had them by Monday morning.

EPA Office of Drinking Water V. Binnetti contacted EPA's Fort Meade Laboratory to request their assistance. The EPA Fort Meade Lab agreed to run the samples provided they were also delivered by Monday.

VDH requested EPA contact the residents after the Q&A and Fact Sheets were prepared. VDH contacted the OSC after close of business on Friday to request EPA begin contacting residences to be sampled. Over the weekend, OSC Wagner attempted to contact the residences identified by VDH and VDEQ. However, none of the residents called back with their approval to sample.

Also on Friday 11/19/10, OSC Wagner requested the support of an EPA Community Involvement Coordinator.

On Monday, 11/22/10, EPA, VDH and EPA's START Contractor met and began going door-to-door. EPA and VDH explained the need for sampling and requested access to sample the residential drinking water wells.

EPA and VDH were able to successfully obtain permission from 3 of the residences. EPA also collected another sample from the Louisa Acme Town Well. EPA was unable to obtain access for two other residential wells.

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

The source, nature, and extent of contamination have not yet been identified. EPA will continue to work on enforcement issues as the assessment progresses.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

<i>Waste Stream</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Manifest #</i>	<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Disposal</i>

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

The OSC will await the analytical results from the residential wells. EPA will contact the property owners by telephone to provide their results.

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

2.2.2 Issues

At this time, VDH has advised residents in the area who have drinking water wells not to drink the water until test results are received.

Most of the residents in the area, including the residence closest to the Site, are already using public drinking water.

This emergency sampling event will be followed by a more complete removal assessment to try and determine source, nature, and extent of contamination.

2.3 Logistics Section

START provided logistics for samples being delivered to the EPA Fort Meade Laboratory. DCLS provided logistics for additional samples which may be analyzed by the state lab.

2.4 Finance Section

No information available at this time.

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

2.6 Liaison Officer

2.7 Information Officer

2.7.1 Public Information Officer

Dr. Maureen Dempsey - VDH

2.7.2 Community Involvement Coordinator

Francisco Cruz - EPA

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

Town of Louisa

Brad Humphrey - Asst Town Mgr

VDEQ

Devlin Harris

Richard Doucette

VDH

Steven Kvech

G. Steven Rice

Jeff McDaniel

Dr. Lillian Peake

James Moore

Doug Caldwell

Wes Kleene

EPA

Chris Wagner, OSC

Francisco Cruz, CIC

Victoria Binetti, Water Protection Division

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

4. Personnel On Site

G. Steven Rice - VDH

Chris Wagner - EPA

Francisco Cruz - EPA

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5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

6. Additional sources of information

No information available at this time.

7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.

