

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Midville Derailment - Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region IV

Subject: POLREP #2
Derailment assessment
Midville Derailment
B4D4
Midville, GA
Latitude: 32.8170432 Longitude: -82.2183323

To:
From: Randy Nattis, OSC
Date: 11/25/2010
Reporting Period: 1800 NOV 21 - 0800 NOV 22

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	B4D4	Contract Number:	
D.O. Number:		Action Memo Date:	
Response Authority:	CERCLA	Response Type:	Emergency
Response Lead:	PRP	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	11/21/2010	Start Date:	11/21/2010
Demob Date:		Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:		RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	
FPN#:		Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category - Transportation-related emergency response

1.1.2 Site Description - derailment in rural georgia

1.1.2.1 Location - Midville, GA

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat - toxic and corrosive materials in damaged tank cars

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results - visible vapor clouds in close proximity to the wreckage, air monitoring instruments indicating IDLH atmospheres.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative - derailment in rural Georgis loses 38 cars including methyl ethyl ketone and chlorine. Local government evacuated residents from 25 homes nearby. Norfolk Southern mobilized RJ Coreman, Hepaco, and CTEH to conduct response activity. US EPA and GA EPD mobilized to join Unified Command and provide oversight of clean-up effort.

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date - OSC Nattis and OSC Stilman and Tetra Tech (START), working with Norfolk Southern contractors (CTEH, Hepco), made a Level B entry to assess the train derailment for determination of the derailed rail cars, which are leaking. Due to odors in the area and initial air monitoring, it was determined that at least one of the MEK rail cars was leaking in some manner. During the entry, it was determined that 1 of the 5 residue Chlorine rail cars was leaking. Air monitoring results near the Chlorine rail car exceeded 30 ppm for Chlorine and 500 for VOCs (MEK). Due to the nature of the Chlorine release and the known MEK release, 2 operative directives were set by the incident command:

- a) Isolate, patch and transfer the rail car leaking Chlorine
- b) Isolate, patch and transfer the rail car leaking MEK

2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) - NS has accepted responsibility for accident and have begun to remedy the impact.

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 - clear area to enable response actions, remove viable cars and wreckage, off-load damaged cars, repair rail. Return scene to normalcy.

Implementation of 2 objectives:

- a) Isolate, patch and transfer the rail car leaking Chlorine
- b) Isolate, patch and transfer the rail car leaking MEK

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities - Continue to support County EMA director with Air Monitoring efforts as well as technological expertise pertaining to all environmental impacts and health and safety for the workers as well as for the surrounding community.

2.2.1.2 Next Steps - Begin off loading of MEK car while the rest of the damage cars are being removed

2.2.2 Issues - Unstable chemicals leaking from rail cars, uneven terrain and many unknown hazards during the wrecking of damage railcars and rebuilding of new rails

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

2.5.1 Safety Officer

The Midville Fire Department (IC) requested OSC Nattis to review all work plans prior to implementation

2.6 Liaison Officer

2.7 Information Officer

2.7.1 Public Information Officer

2.7.2 Community Involvement Coordinator

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

Midville FD (IC)
 Burke County EMA
 Midville PD
 U.S. EPA OSC
 GA EPD
 Federal Railroad Administration

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

4. Personnel On Site

Midville Fire Department
 Midville Police Department
 Burke County EMA
 Georgia Environmental Protection Agency (GA EPD)
 U.S. EPA Region 4
 Tetra Tech START - EPA Contractor
 Norfolk Southern (NS)
 Center for Toxicology and Environmental Health (CTEH) - Consultant for NS
 Hepaco - Cleanup contractor for NS

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.