

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Alcoa Oil Spill - Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region V

Subject: POLREP #5
Progress POLREP
Alcoa Oil Spill
Z5K9
Lafayette, IN
Latitude: 40.4033776 Longitude: -86.8613812

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From: Shelly Lam, On-Scene Coordinator
Date: 1/19/2011
Reporting Period: January 19, 2011

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	Z5K9	Contract Number:	
D.O. Number:		Action Memo Date:	
Response Authority:	OPA	Response Type:	Emergency
Response Lead:	PRP	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	1/14/2011	Start Date:	1/14/2011
Demob Date:		Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:		RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	
FPN#:	E11507	Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

Active production facility - oil spill

1.1.2 Site Description

1.1.2.1 Location

Alcoa is a producer of primary aluminum, fabricated aluminum, and alumina, located at 3131 Main Street in Lafayette, Tippecanoe County, Indiana. Site coordinates are 40.4033776 north latitude and 86.8613812 west longitude. The Site is a 172-acre facility located in an industrial and commercial area in Lafayette.

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

On January 14, 2011, Alcoa reported to the National Response Center (NRC # 964751) a discharge of approximately 1,600 gallons of oily press water from their facility in Lafayette, Indiana. The discharge was due to a pipe failure and hose malfunction. Oil/water mixture discharged to the storm sewer and then flowed for approximately one mile to an outfall on Elliott Ditch. Elliott Ditch is a perennial stream that

discharges into Wea Creek before flowing to the Wabash River.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Shelly Lam and Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) OSC Greg Carter responded to the spill on January 14th. Both OSCs observed oil flowing from the outfall into Elliott Ditch. Oil flowed approximately one mile downstream to the 18th Street Bridge, where it has been contained and recovered.

Twenty-two residences on private drinking water wells were identified within 200 feet of the impacted section of the ditch. The residents were notified of the spill and were provided temporary drinking water by Alcoa. Samples were collected from 21 residential wells.

Prior ecological assessments conducted by the EPA identified six endangered species in Elliott Ditch and Wea Creek. These species include the fanshell, ring pink, rough pigtoe, pyramid pigtoe, rabbitsfoot, and bluebreast darter. EPA has notified the State Trustee and Department of the Interior.

Alcoa entered into a Consent Decree in 2002 with the EPA regarding historical releases of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB). The consent decree required investigations of Elliott Ditch and Wea Creek. PCBs were detected in surface water, sediment, and fish tissue samples. The presence of elevated levels of PCBs in fish tissues prompted a Fish Advisory for these waterways.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

The Alcoa facility reported a spill of approximately 1,600 gallons of oily press water on January 14, 2011. The discharge was due to a pipe failure and hose malfunction. Oil/water mixture discharged to the storm sewer and then flowed for approximately one mile to an outfall on Elliott Ditch. Elliott Ditch is a perennial stream that discharges into Wea Creek before flowing to the Wabash River. EPA and IDEM observed oil flowing from the outfall into Elliott Ditch. The oil was emulsified and appeared milky white in color.

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

During this operational period, the following activities were conducted:

- Completed recovery operations;
- Provided analytical results to residents;
- Demobilized personnel; and
- Referred future oversight of residential well sampling to IDEM's Office of Water Quality, Drinking Water Branch.

Residential well sample results from 15 properties were available. All analytes were below detection limits. EPA is reviewing Alcoa's sampling and analysis plan for the creek.

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

On January 14, 2011, OSC Lam issued a Notice of Federal Interest to Alcoa representatives. Alcoa agreed to take voluntary action to contain the spill and conduct cleanup. Alcoa entered into a Consent Decree in 2002 with EPA to conduct investigations along Elliott Ditch and Wea Creek related to historical PCB releases.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

<i>Waste Stream</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Manifest #</i>	<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Disposal</i>
Oil/water mixture	Liquid	174,500 gallons	Not applicable (NA)	Returned to on-site treatment system	NA

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

Within two weeks, Alcoa will conduct confirmation sampling of surface water and sediment on Elliott Ditch. Additionally, EPA will host a meeting with the residents on Saturday, January 22nd.

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

Residential well sampling oversight has been referred to IDEM's Office of Water Quality, Drinking Water Branch.

2.2.2 Issues

Alcoa had previously entered into a Consent Decree with EPA regarding historical releases of PCBs to Elliott Ditch. Additionally, endangered species were previously identified in Elliott Ditch and the downstream Wea Creek.

2.3 Logistics Section

NA

2.4 Finance Section

2.4.1 Narrative

OSC Lam requested \$25,000 from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund on January 14, 2011. OSC Thomas increased the funding to \$50,000 from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund on January 15, 2011. An additional \$25,000 was approved on January 18th, bring the total to \$75,000.

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
TAT/START	\$40,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$15,000.00	37.50%
USCG MSL	\$5,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$3,000.00	60.00%
Intramural Costs				
USEPA - Direct	\$20,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$14,000.00	70.00%
USEPA - InDirect	\$10,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$8,000.00	80.00%
Total Site Costs	\$75,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$40,000.00	53.33%

* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

OSC Lam is acting as overall safety officer for the response. In addition, environmental safety and health representatives from Alcoa are on-site at each recovery location.

2.6 Liaison Officer

NA

2.7 Information Officer

2.7.1 Public Information Officer

On January 15, 2011, OSC Thomas and the Tippecanoe Health Department conducted a media availability session. OSC Lam and CIC Dave Novak provided a phone interview to the Lafayette Journal & Courier on January 17th, and provided an update to the paper on January 18th and 19th. Links to related articles are posted at www.epaosc.org/alcoaoilspill.

2.7.2 Community Involvement Coordinator

EPA Community Involvement Coordinator (CIC) Dave Novak is on-site. EPA discussed results with residents individually and will conduct a group meeting for affected residents.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

NA

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
Department of Interior
IDEM
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Tippecanoe County Emergency Management Agency
Tippecanoe County Health Department
U.S. Fish & Wildlife

4. Personnel On Site

1 EPA OSC

1 EPA CIC
1 EPA ERT
4 Alcoa personnel

5. Definition of Terms

ATSDR	Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
CIC	Community Involvement Coordinator
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
IDEM	Indiana Department of Environmental Management
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level
NA	Not applicable
NRC	National Response Center
OSC	On-Scene Coordinator
PCB	Polychlorinated Biphenyls
PRP	Potentially Responsible Party
START	Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team
SVOC	Semivolatile Organic Compounds
VOC	Volatile Organic Compounds

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

For additional information, refer to www.epaosc.org/alcoaoilspill.

6.2 Reporting Schedule

The next POLREP will be submitted once confirmation sampling is complete.

7. Situational Reference Materials

NA

POLREP #5 Last Updated 1/19/2011