

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Pleasant Street Site - Removal Polrep
Initial Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region V

Subject: POLREP #1
Initial
Pleasant Street Site
C505
Detroit, MI
Latitude: 42.2821985 Longitude: -83.1463766

To: Don Deblasio, U.S. EPA
Joseph DeGrazia, MDEQ
Scott Raymond, City of Detroit
Paul Max, City of Detroit Health and Wellness

From: Brian Kelly, OSC

Date: 1/31/2011

Reporting Period:

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	WQWQ	Contract Number:	
D.O. Number:		Action Memo Date:	
Response Authority:	CERCLA	Response Type:	Time-Critical
Response Lead:	EPA	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	1/19/2011	Start Date:	1/19/2011
Demob Date:		Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:		RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	Yes
FPN#:		Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

Removal

1.1.2 Site Description

The Site is a residential area located in Southwest Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan. The Site's meridian coordinates are 42.28 North and -83.14 West. The Site is located 0.4 miles from the Detroit Marathon refinery's wastewater outfall.

The Site was referred to U.S. EPA Emergency Response Branch after residents in the community collected air samples that showed volatile organic compounds.

1.1.2.1 Description of Threat

On January 21, 2011, U.S. EPA conducted a sewer trap inspection of a house on Pleasant Street, which determined the home did not have a functioning trap. The lack of a trap allows sewer gases to enter the home.

During the investigation of manholes surrounding the home, benzene levels of 2-6 ppm were found at the surface of the manholes. With assistance from Detroit Sewer and Water Division, the source of the benzene was traced to the Marathon refinery. Marathon initially believed the benzene levels were a onetime event,

but following a review of system processes and corrective actions, once Marathon started discharging wastewater, benzene levels at the surface of the manholes returned to 1-2 ppm.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

To determine whether an exposure pathway existed away from the surface of the manholes, on January 22, 2011, U.S. EPA collected four 24-hour Summa canisters outside the home on Pleasant Street and on January 25, collected two Summa canisters inside the home. In addition to U.S. EPA collected samples, Marathon collected a similar number of samples inside and outside the home.

Results from this sampling showed <1 ppb benzene in the four canisters collected outdoor; however, the samples were collected on a day when wind speeds averaged between 6-16 miles per hour. The samples inside the home showed benzene between at 8 and 9 ppb (the chronic action level for benzene is 3 ppb).

On January 27, U.S. EPA, Michigan Department of Community Health, Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry (ATSDR), Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), and City of Detroit met to discuss the results of the testing. The agencies agreed the benzene levels were of concern and steps needed to be take to insure residents were protected.

On January 28, U.S. EPA, DEQ, and City of Detroit met with Marathon. Marathon will develop a plan to assess the area impacted, identify potential pathways of exposure, interrupt those pathways, and collected air samples. The work plan will be submitted to the agencies by February 4, 2011.

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

Marathon is performing the assessment and response voluntarily. While residential plumbing is the responsibility of homeowners, Marathon will work with homeowners to repair broken traps.

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

In addition to Marathon developing a work plan for agency review, U.S. EPA is collecting indoor air samples in a home located on Liebold Street that was identified by the Sierra Club.

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

2.6 Liaison Officer

2.7 Information Officer

2.7.2 Community Involvement Coordinator

Don de Blasio has been assigned by U.S. EPA as the community involvement coordinator (CIC).

On January 31, the CIC and OSC contacted Sierra Club representative Rhonda Anderson to discuss a community meeting. Following this call, the CIC and OSC contacted community organizer and member Ms. Adrienne Crawford who will arrange the community meeting.

3. Participating Entities

No information available at this time.

4. Personnel On Site

No information available at this time.

5. Definition of Terms

CERCLA - Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CIC - Community Involvement Coordinator
DWSD - Detroit Water and Sewerage Department
MDCH - Michigan Department of Community Health
MDNRE / DEQ - Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment / Department of Environmental Quality
NCP - National Contingency Plan
OSC - On Scene Coordinator
OTIE - Oneida Total Integrated Enterprises
ppb - parts per billion
ppm - parts per million
RCRA - Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
START - Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team
U.S. EPA - United States Environmental Protection Agency
VOC - Volatile organic compound
WESTON - Weston Solutions, Inc.
WW - Wastewater

6. Additional sources of information

No information available at this time.

7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.