

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT  
Chicago Sanitary and Shipping Canal Oil Spil - Removal Polrep  
Initial and Final Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Region V

**Subject:** POLREP #1  
Initial and Final PolRep - Chicago Sanitary and Shipping Canal Oil Spill  
Chicago Sanitary and Shipping Canal Oil Spil  
Z5KE  
Forest View, IL  
Latitude: 41.8050032 Longitude: -87.8019053

**To:**  
**From:** Sam Borries, OSC  
**Date:** 2/23/2011  
**Reporting Period:** 2/22/2011 - 2/23/2011

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Background

<b>Site Number:</b>	Z5KE	<b>Contract Number:</b>	Environmental Restoration
<b>D.O. Number:</b>	58	<b>Action Memo Date:</b>	
<b>Response Authority:</b>	OPA	<b>Response Type:</b>	Emergency
<b>Response Lead:</b>	EPA	<b>Incident Category:</b>	Removal Action
<b>NPL Status:</b>	Non NPL	<b>Operable Unit:</b>	
<b>Mobilization Date:</b>	2/22/2011	<b>Start Date:</b>	2/22/2011
<b>Demob Date:</b>	2/23/2011	<b>Completion Date:</b>	2/23/2011
<b>CERCLIS ID:</b>		<b>RCRIS ID:</b>	
<b>ERNS No.:</b>		<b>State Notification:</b>	
<b>FPN#:</b>	E11512	<b>Reimbursable Account #:</b>	

#### 1.1.1 Incident Category

Oil Spill

#### 1.1.2 Site Description

##### 1.1.2.1 Location

The site is located at mile post 314.7 on the Chicago Sanitary and Shipping Canal. The spilled oil accumulated around two barges located at a Petroleum Fuel & Terminal Company, 4805 South Harlem Avenue, Forest View, Illinois 60402. Site coordinates are latitude 41.8050032 north and longitude 87.8019053 west.

##### 1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

At approximately 1330hrs on February 21, 2011, black oil was discovered floating along the north bank of the Canal. The spill was reported to the National Response Center and the United States Coast Guard (USCG) deployed to investigate and assist the operator of the terminal in deploying boom to contain the floating oil. The USCG returned to the scene on February 22, 2011 and contacted the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to conduct an emergency response. The heavy oil was floating on the surface of the water in the canal and discharging a rainbow sheen around the temporary boom placed to contain it.

##### 1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

EPA On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs) Sam Borries and Paul Ruesch responded to investigate and conduct response activities. A preliminary meeting was held with the terminal manager to gain access to the impacted area and the facility personnel were fully cooperative with the response efforts.

The volume and source of the oil spill was unknown, but approximately 300 gallons were recovered based on a measured estimated recovery volume. The oil was held around two docked barges within containment boom placed by the terminal operator. A light sheen was witnessed downstream of the containment boom which appeared to be from entrained oil passing below the boom and migrating downstream. In addition, shoreline vegetation, dock pilings, and litter debris with coated oil accumulated around the barges.

The mystery oil appeared to have originated upstream (east of collection area), and a visual inspection of the canal was conducted by EPA OSCs to attempt to identify the source. A partially submerged Sanitary District of Chicago outfall was identified approximately 0.25 miles upstream with a rainbow sheen emerging from one of the outlets. The outfall is located along the property of ConGlobal Industries, 6401 W. 46th Street, Forest View, Illinois 60402. It is located directly south of a Mainstream System Dropshaft (#DS-MU9) operated by the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago.

On February 23, 2011, OSCs Borries and Ruesch inspected the outfall from the waterway via boat and confirmed no additional oil was discharging from the outfall.

## 2. Current Activities

### 2.1 Operations Section

#### 2.1.1 Narrative

#### 2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

During the reporting period, EPA and the Emergency and Rapid Service (ERRS) contractor deployed a vac truck and sorbent materials in the area within the containment boom placed by the terminal operator. EPA conducted response activities to mitigate the spilled oil and clean-up the spill area, specifically the barges, pilings and containment boom.

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

No PRP was identified but information about the potential source of the mystery oil is found in Section 1.

#### 2.1.4 Progress Metrics

<b>Waste Stream</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Manifest #</b>	<b>Treatment</b>	<b>*Planned Disposal</b>
Oil/Water Mixture	liquid	2735 gal	004354405	disposal	Liquid Environmental Solutions, Chicago, IL*
Solid Waste	debris	20 yards		disposal	Countryside Landfill, Grayslake, IL*

## 2.2 Planning Section

### 2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

#### 2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

EPA conducted emergency response activities to mitigate all oil and contaminated debris on February 22-23, 2011. The ERRS contractor sampled the floating oil. A vacuum truck was utilized to remove the floating oil within the containment boom. Approximately 2735 gallons of oil/water mixture were collected in one vacuum truck. Oil sorbent materials were deployed to collect remaining oil on the water surface as well as along the shoreline, around pilings, and sides of the barges. Approximately 20 cubic yards of contaminated debris and absorbents were collected in plastic bags and containerized in a lined and covered roll-off box.

The terminal facility containment boom was removed and cleaned for reuse. The two barges and surrounding pilings were pressure washed with hot water. All site cleanup activities have been completed on February 23, 2011 and no further cleanup activities are anticipated at this time.

#### 2.2.1.2 Next Steps

Complete planned disposal activities of oil/water mixture on February 24, 2011. Solid debris disposal will occur after waste profile approval into Countryside Landfill. Anticipate debris disposal to occur within the next 1-2 weeks.

#### 2.2.2 Issues

None.

## 2.3 Logistics Section

Not applicable.

## 2.4 Finance Section

No information available at this time.

## **2.5 Other Command Staff**

### **2.5.1 Safety Officer**

OSC Borries is the safety officer for the emergency response.

### **2.6 Liaison Officer**

None

### **2.7 Information Officer**

#### **2.7.1 Public Information Officer**

None

#### **2.7.2 Community Involvement Coordinator**

None

## **3. Participating Entities**

### **3.1 Unified Command**

None

### **3.2 Cooperating Agencies**

Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago  
United States Coast Guard, Chicago Marine Safety Unit  
Apex Petroleum Fuel & Terminal Company

## **4. Personnel On Site**

2 EPA OSC

6 ERRS contractor

## **5. Definition of Terms**

EPA Environmental Protection Agency  
USCG United States Coast Guard  
OSC On-Scene Coordinator  
ERRS Emergency and Rapid Response Services

## **6. Additional sources of information**

### **6.1 Internet location of additional information/report**

For additional information, refer to [www.epaosc.org/chicagocanalspill](http://www.epaosc.org/chicagocanalspill)

### **6.2 Reporting Schedule**

There are no planned future POLREPs, this report serves as both the initial and final reports.

## **7. Situational Reference Materials**

None