

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT  
Holcomb Creosote - Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Region IV

**Subject:** POLREP #4  
Progress  
Holcomb Creosote  
B4E6  
Yadkinville, NC  
Latitude: 36.1622924 Longitude: -80.6771124

**To:** Jim McGuire, USEPA R4 ERRB

**From:** Karen Buerki, OSC

**Date:** 6/22/2011

**Reporting Period:** 4/06/2011 - 4/21/2011

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Background

<b>Site Number:</b>	B4E6	<b>Contract Number:</b>	EP-S4-07-04
<b>D.O. Number:</b>	117	<b>Action Memo Date:</b>	3/17/2011
<b>Response Authority:</b>	CERCLA	<b>Response Type:</b>	Time-Critical
<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>	1/20/2011	<b>Start Date:</b>	1/21/2011
<b>Demob Date:</b>		<b>Completion Date:</b>	
<b>CERCLIS ID:</b>	NCD024900987	<b>RCRIS ID:</b>	
<b>ERNS No.:</b>	965285	<b>State Notification:</b>	1/20/2011
<b>FPN#:</b>		<b>Reimbursable Account #:</b>	

## 2. Current Activities

### 2.1 Operations Section

#### 2.1.1 Narrative

The site was remobilized on April 5, 2011. Removal commenced on April 6, 2011.

#### 2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

The debarker sheds and hopper were removed and disposed of with other non-hazardous debris. An office trailer was set up with electric, water, and phone lines.

ERRS continued to clear tree limbs left by the logging company during recent logging activities by the PRP. Clean limbs were chipped for use as mulch during restoration activities. Silt fence was installed along the downgradient (eastern) side of the site. Creosote lumber, debris, and scrap metal were staged separately. Four loads of debris were removed from the site. Two loads of scrap metal were removed from the site by the PRP during this reporting period. Sorbent boom, strung across the creek to capture sheen, was changed out as it became saturated.

Friable asbestos insulation on the boiler was removed from within constructed negative air encapsulation. Friable asbestos on the end of the pressure cylinder was glove-bagged. The warehouse, office, and boiler room were HEPA vacuumed from ceiling to floor.

Additional stabilization of the creosote sludge that had been staged in the containment area was begun. Drip pad soil was mixed in to achieve a 50% soil mixture required by disposal facilities.

Additional mercury contaminated soil was removed from the boiler room and the decommissioning of the creosote plant began. Numerous mercury switches were discovered and removed. An electrical contractor was brought in to de-energize pumps and other equipment in the plant. Process piping was disconnected, drained, and removed and the vacuum tower was taken down.

The boom truck used to take down the vacuum tower inadvertently cracked the septic tank lid. When the broken concrete lid was removed, a thin layer of creosote was discovered. The septic tank was shocked with 27% hydrogen peroxide and sampled for fecal coliform. When results came back the contents were pumped into concrete pit for mixing with the other creosote wastes.

Excavation began on the northern end of the property on April 19, 2011.

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

The PRP is Holcomb Creosote Company. Access was granted verbally in a meeting at the Law Offices of Lee Zachary on January 20, 2011. The remaining assets of the company are tied up in real estate, rendering the company not viable to perform a Removal Action.

### 2.1.4 Progress Metrics

<b>Waste Stream</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Manifest #</b>	<b>Treatment</b>	<b>Disposal</b>
F034/K001 Sludge/Soil	Solid	est. 1500 tons			
Asbestos/ACM	Solid	10 cy	61083	Subtitle D Landfill	Republic Services, Inc. Foothills Environmental Lenoir, NC
PAH Soil	Solid	est. 2000 tons			
F034 Debris	Solid	20 tons			
Creosote	Liquid	14,100 gallons			
Lab Pack/HHW	Solid and Liquid	6 Drums			
PPE/Debris/Creosote Lumber	Solid	110 cy	155777, 155778, 155779, 155781	Subtitle D Landfill	Republic Services, Inc. Foothills Environmental Lenoir, NC
Diesel	Liquid	730 gallons			
Mercury	Liquid	4 pounds			
Mercury Debris/Soil	Solid	4 drums			
Refrigerant Oil - Halogenated	Liquid	1 drum			

## 2.2 Planning Section

### 2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

#### 2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

Remove visual contamination from the North lot and South lot, stockpile, dispose. Backfill and seed excavated areas.

Dispose of debris/trash/PPE/ACM.

Complete mercury removal and dispose of drummed wastes.

Blend stabilized sludge with remaining F034 waste associated with the drip pad and process area (up to two feet). Place notification barrier in areas with contamination remaining at two feet. Dispose of stabilized F034 sludge.

Dispose of creosote and sludge remaining in the pressure vessel and two large tanks and scrap them.

Pump out and remove sludge from the three horizontal creosote tanks and scrap tanks.

Pump around and remove up to 6" sediment in approximately 400' of the creek and place a barrier to control creosote seeps.

Provide fencing and signage for the land farm and RCRA impoundment.

#### 2.2.1.2 Next Steps

Take down tanks, remove sludge, and scrap.

## 2.2.2 Issues

## 2.3 Logistics Section

No information available at this time.

## 2.4 Finance Section

### 2.4.1 Narrative

An emergency response was initiated under the OSC's warrant authority to stabilize the site. Task Order No. 117 was issued to Environmental Restoration, LLC, in the amount of \$200,000 and TDD No. TTEMI-05-001-0145 was issued to Tetra Tech in the amount of \$50,000.

A Ceiling Increase and Emergency Exemption Action Memo was signed on March 17, 2011. The new site ceiling is \$3,530,000. The new ERRS ceiling is \$2,440,000 and the new START ceiling is \$500,000.

Totals reflect costs through April 21, 2011, and do not account for disposal of contaminated soil, creosote, and F034 sludge/debris.

### Estimated Costs \*

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
<b>Extramural Costs</b>				
ERRS - ER, LLC	\$950,000.00	\$364,603.43	\$585,396.57	61.62%
START - Tetra Tech	\$150,000.00	\$85,454.17	\$64,545.83	43.03%
<b>Intramural Costs</b>				
<b>Total Site Costs</b>	<b>\$1,100,000.00</b>	<b>\$450,057.60</b>	<b>\$649,942.40</b>	<b>59.09%</b>

\* 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

### 2.6 Liaison Officer

### 2.7 Information Officer

#### 2.7.1 Public Information Officer

#### 2.7.2 Community Involvement Coordinator

The Community Involvement Coordinator assigned to the site is Sheryl Carbonaro.

## 3. Participating Entities

### 3.1 Unified Command

### 3.2 Cooperating Agencies

NCDENR is providing support in the response.

## 4. Personnel On Site

1 EPA OSC

1 START

12 ERRS - 1 Project Manager, 1 Field Clerk, 1 Foreman, 1 Health and Safety Officer, 3 Equipment Operators, and 5 Technicians

**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.

POLREP #4 Last Updated 8/12/2011