

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
R2 Hurricane Irene/TS Lee (NY) Response - Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region II

Subject: POLREP #4
R2 Hurricane Irene/TS Lee (NY) Response
Edison, NJ
Latitude: 40.5159553 Longitude: -74.3550459

To: Lisa Plevin, US EPA
Judith Enck, US EPA

From: Eric Mosher, Regional Incident Coordinator

Date: 8/29/2011

Reporting Period:

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	Contract Number:
D.O. Number:	Action Memo Date:
Response Authority:	Response Type: Emergency
Response Lead: EPA	Incident Category:
NPL Status:	Operable Unit:
Mobilization Date:	Start Date: 8/26/2011
Demob Date:	Completion Date:
CERCLIS ID:	RCRIS ID:
ERNS No.:	State Notification:
FPN#:	Reimbursable Account #:

INCIDENT CATEGORY

EPA Region 2 is currently responding to threats and actual spills/releases of oil and hazardous substances caused by the impacts of Hurricane Irene which moved through the NJ and NY area on Sunday, August 28, 2011. EPA Region 2 was also activated as part of the Stafford Act Response and is coordinating Emergency Support Function 10 (ESF-10). EPA is responding under its authorities provided by CERCLA and OPA as well as authorized Mission Assignments under the Stafford Act.

INCIDENT LOCATIONS

With the passing of Hurricane/Tropical Storm Irene, high winds and significant rainfalls have caused widespread infrastructure damage throughout the NJ and NY areas. EPA is currently coordinating and collecting data on the hardest hit impact areas with respect to environmental threats. Tropical storm force winds extended outward up to 320 miles from the storm center and record rainfalls have and are expected to cause significant flooding throughout the Region 2 area.

DESCRIPTION OF THREAT

Environmental threats at this point in time include possible point-source oil/chemical spills/releases from flooding events and failed infrastructure (power, transportation, etc.). Threats also include possible impacts to drinking water systems due to biological and/or oil/chemical hazards from flood waters.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

OPERATIONS

EPA Region 2 is currently manning several coordination centers including;

- FEMA R2 RRCC (NYC) – (1) OSC coordinating Mission Assignments and assisting with the Planning efforts in the overall Stafford Act Response.
- NY State EOC (Albany, NY) – (1) OSC coordinating and assisting with State “Requests for Assistance” (RFAs) and updating State elements on EPA Planning and Response Actions.
- NJ State EOC (Trenton, NJ) – (1) OSC coordinating and assisting with State “Requests for Assistance” (RFAs) and updating State elements on EPA Planning and Response Actions.

- USCG Sector Philadelphia – (1) OSC coordinating and Planning efforts related pollution events, both related and unrelated to the impacts of Hurricane Irene
- EPA Region 2 REOC (Edison, NJ)
 - (6) OSCs and (4) Response / Removal Program Managers are coordinating efforts related to operations, planning, resources, and logistics from the REOC.
 - The REOC is manning the Regional Hotline phone and addressing follow-up and response actions to incidents both related and unrelated to the impacts of Hurricane Irene.
 - The REOC is tracking situational information related to RFAs and changing conditions on the ground.

EPA Site Assessment Activities

- NPL sites are being evaluated and assessed for any significant impacts related to Hurricane Irene. Region 2 Remedial Program is in the process of coordinating with all RPMs on assessment(s) of NPL sites.
- REOC is coordinating with OSCs and active sites are being assessed for any significant impacts related to Hurricane Irene.
- RMP Facilities are being assessed for any significant impacts related to Hurricane Irene.
- FRP Facilities are being assessed for any significant impacts related to Hurricane Irene.

2.2 Planning Section

- REOC is currently working on resource plans to include personnel and contractor resources.
- Response Program is contacting all response personal to obtain status and availability.
- Response Program is coordinating / contacting additional Region 2 Programs for support related assessment of other program facilities (drinking water, waste water, RCRA TSDs, etc.)

2.3 Logistics Section

Major impacts to property and infrastructure throughout the region may cause impacts to response actions and or response personnel availability.

The RECO in Edison, NJ is fully operational and at this point in time, no forward command posts have been established.

FEMA has not yet established a Joint Field Operations (JFO) Office in NJ and/or NY

2.4 Finance Section

EPA currently has 2 Mission Assignments from FEMA to address;

- 1) NY – Deploy resources to coordination centers and assessment of EPA regulated sites/facilities (\$35,000)
- 2) NJ – Deploy resources to coordination centers and assessment of EPA regulated sites/facilities (\$10,000)

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

An Incident Safety Officer has not yet been established however all response actions will address safety in its planning and initial phases. Safety will currently be handled by Response OSCs and support contractors. Depending on resource needs, an Incident Safety Officer could be designated in the future.

2.6 Liaison Officer

A Liaison Officer has not yet been assigned however coordination activities are being done at several locations and with multiple Federal and State Agencies.

2.7 Information Officer

Response operations and planning information are being provided to the EPA Public Affairs Division. Patricia (Pat) Seppi has been identified as the Incident Information Officer. Pat Seppi can be reached at **646-369-0068**. Discussions are occurring related the establishment of hotlines / call center if/when the need arises.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

EPA currently coordinating with FEMA, NYS DEC, NYC DEP, NJ DEP, NYSEMO, NJOEM

4. Personnel On Site

No.	Resource	Function	Location
1	OSC	Coordination	FEMA RRCC, NYC
1	OSC	Coordination	NYS EOC, Albany, NY
1	OSC	Coordination	NJ EOC, Trenton, NJ
4	Response/Removal Managers	Coordination and Planning	REOC, Edison, NJ
6	OSCs	Coordination, Planning, and Response	REOC, Edison, NJ
4	OSCs	Response / Site Assessment	NJ and Staten Island
2	RST II Contractors	Coordination and Assessment	REOC, Edison, NJ
1	EPA CIC / PA	Information Officer	REOC, Edison, NJ

5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

WEBSITE: <http://www.epaosc.org/R2HurricaneIreneResponse>

INSTRUCTIONS FOR EPAOSC.NET:

If you do not have a password or have never used the EPAOSC.net website before, you will need to click the login button on the top right of the web page. Once on the login page, you will need to click on REGISTER HERE, provide the information requested and submit. This submits your request to ERT, and they will generate a user ID and password for you to enter the private side of the Website. In less than 10 minutes after registering, you should receive an e-mail from ERT SUPPORT providing the information (login and password). At this point you can then enter the website: www.epaosc.net, click on log in, then enter your information. Once logged in, click on websites, then click on Region 2. The Hurricane Irene website should be one of the first ten websites that pop up, if not, you can scroll down to find the site. Click on R2 Hurricane Irene. Once on the site, you can navigate to the documents that will be stored there.

If you find that you are having trouble viewing the website, please give the EPA duty officer a call at (732) 906-6850

EPA Edison REOC:	732-906-6850
Afterhours Notifications, National Response Center (NRC):	800-424-8802
Regional Incident Commander (RIC), James Daloia	908-420-4505
NYC EOC (Albany), Michael Solecki, OSC	908-420-4501
NJ EOC (Trenton), Carl Pellegrino, OSC	908-420-4491
FEMA District 1 RRCC (NYC), Steve Touw, OSC	908-420-4458
NYC EOC - EPA not requested at this time	

6.2 Reporting Schedule

Situation Reports are planned for release at 1630 on a daily basis.

7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.