

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Ulah Battery Site - Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region IV

Subject: POLREP #3
Removal Activities Begin
Ulah Battery Site

Asheboro, NC
Latitude: 35.6385953 Longitude: -79.8283982

To:
From: Perry Gaughan, OSC
Date: 9/1/2011
Reporting Period: 8/29/2011 through 9/2/2011

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	04HV	Contract Number:	
D.O. Number:		Action Memo Date:	7/28/2011
Response Authority:	CERCLA	Response Type:	Time-Critical
Response Lead:	EPA	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	8/30/2011	Start Date:	8/31/2011
Demob Date:		Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:	NCD981864614	RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	
FPN#:		Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

Time Critical Removal Action

1.1.2 Site Description

Region 4 ERRB received a request from North Carolina Department of Environmental Natural Resources (NC DENR) to perform a Removal Site Evaluation (RSE) at the Ulah Battery Dump along Dinah Road in Asheboro, Randolph County, North Carolina. NC DENR performed an assessment of the site indicating lead concentrations up to 35,600 parts per million (ppm) in some areas. This exceeds EPA residential Removal Action Level (RAL) of 400 ppm for lead.

1.1.2.1 Location

Dinah Road, Asheboro, North Carolina 27203

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

Lead and arsenic are present from battery cracking operations formerly done by lead reclaimers along Dinah Road. The facility was reportedly in operation from 1965 to 1985. Operations included hundreds of batteries being broken to remove the lead plates and further melted in drums to be recycled to local vendors. Battery acid was reportedly allowed to spill onto the ground.

EPA and Superfund Technical Assessment Response Team (START) conducted a site assessment on 04/01/2010 revealing XRF detections up to 59,700 ppm lead and up to 3,735 for arsenic. The Site is a wooded area behind 159 Dinah Road and bordered by a private gravel road, Stella Trail. Battery chips and casings were found to be scattered throughout the property but concentrated in a bermed area along the southern edge adjacent to the private road.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

During the week of July 18th, EPA conducted additional XRF analysis of the property at 159 Dinah Road. This parcel is approximately 140 feet by 280 feet and the front and back yards adjoining the wooded area in the southern half of the property were subdivided into several manageable grids for XRF investigation. In this manner, EPA and Start found that lead levels in two grids of the front yard ranged from 400 - 1450 ppm

lead, and four grids behind the home levels ranged from 397 - 2890 ppm. In addition, two grids in the back yard indicated elevated arsenic levels over 100 ppm arsenic. The driveway leading to the back of the home indicted lead levels approaching 3300 ppm lead.

To confirm these xrf readings, Start was tasked to collect ten samples for analytical analysis and the resulting analytical matched up well with the field results. XRF correlation ranged from 84.7 to 96.8%. As previously indicted, lead levels in the dump area along the southern perimeter of the site range from 41,000 to 59,000 ppm lead.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

Tuesday, August 30th through Thursday, September 1st

During the first few days of the removal, ERRs began clearing the roughly one acre property of debris and small trees to gain access to discarded batteries, auto debris and contaminated areas. The southern 3/4 of the property is heavily wooded and overgrown. Approximately 80 tons of old automotive debris, tires and scrap metal were removed from the southern portion of the property and the area was further cleared for additional assessment and excavation.

Friday, Sept 2nd and Saturday, Sept 3rd.

ERRs continued excavating and stockpiling contaminated soil from the most contaminated areas of the site and the western fenceline. The southern edge had been previously assessed and found to contain lead and arsenic contaminated soils as high as 60,000 ppm lead and 3,500 ppm arsenic. Approximately 150 tons of heavily contaminated soil was stockpiled and covered for composite sampling and disposal profiling.

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

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

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

<i>Waste Stream</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Manifest #</i>	<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Disposal</i>

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

Removal activities are anticipated to take 3-4 weeks.

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

2.2.2 Issues

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

2.7.1 Public Information Officer

2.7.2 Community Involvement Coordinator

3. Participating Entities

No information available at this time.

4. Personnel On Site

Errs Contractors 1-Response manager, 3 laborers, 1 equipment operator.
OSC

5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

Information collected from local residents indicates that several people in the Ulah area cracked batteries to reclaim lead during the 70's and early 80's. Mr Hoskins provided a copy of a license/permit from North Carolina essentially permitting him to operate a lead reclaiming operation.

6.2 Reporting Schedule

7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.