

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 #20
Progress Continues
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: 9/14/2011

Reporting Period: 09/14/2011

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

EPA efforts in New York affiliated with damage caused by Tropical Storm Lee have intensified as additional resources and assets arrive in Broome and Tioga Counties. A community outreach program has been initiated and a Community Involvement Coordinator will be deployed to the area. EPA representatives continue to work with NYSDEC personnel on identifying additional HHW collection and staging areas as calls for HHW assistance into the EPA Public Liaison continue to increase. Two staging areas are currently operational, however additional sites will be finalized. EPA has deployed an additional OSC to coordinate activities at the Binghamton EOC.

Operations in New Jersey continued as previously identified, with a focus of actions taking place at the Dover HHW staging area and Paterson locations. Activities in the Saddle River located in South Hackensack have been completed.

Activities in NY associated with Irene continued as planned. HHW staging areas continue to receive materials as preparations are being made for disposal. EPA is reviewing the amount of materials being received to determine the length of time for operations to continue.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

HURRICANE IRENE OPERATIONS (NJ/NY)

Emergency Response Task Force

- The Task Force was not activated.

NEW JERSEY RESPONSE ACTIONS

Passaic County

Oil / Hazardous Materials Response and Recovery Actions

- Orphan containers were collected from Woodland Park, Little Falls, Wayne, Clifton, and Pompton Lakes.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection and Disposal

- EPA continued to coordinate with DPW on the potential use of a facility in Paterson for staging HHW.

Bergen County

Oil / Hazardous Materials Response and Recovery Actions

- The recovery of sorbent materials in the Saddle River in South Hackensack has been retrieved and moved to the Dover HHW area.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection and Disposal

- No HHW staging areas have been established by EPA in Bergen County.

Morris County

Oil / Hazardous Materials Response and Recovery Actions

- No response or recovery actions taken.

Household Hazardous Waste / Bulk Liquid Collection and Disposal

- Dover - The HHW staging and processing facility continued to receive materials from the tri-county area. Segregation and categorization of materials continued as materials were bulked and hazcatted. Preparations for the shipment of non-regulated paint have commenced.
- Lake Hiawatha – Materials were moved to the Dover HHW staging area.
- Denville – Materials were moved to the Dover HHW staging area.
- Riverdale – No activities occurred at this bulk waste storage area.
- Whippany – No activities occurred at this bulk waste storage area.

Below is a summary table for NJ Incident Reports associated with Irene as of 1422 on 9/14/2011. The table includes their status and materials involved.

New Jersey Incidents	Incident Status			
	Closed	Managed	Open	Grand Total
Oil	41	4		45
Haz	1	2		3
Grand Total	42	6		48

NEW YORK RESPONSE ACTIONS

NYSDEC Region 4 Area

Oil / Hazardous Materials Response and Recovery Actions

- EPA conducted orphan container assessments in Middleburgh. An assessment of the Delaware Valley Propane Company was also conducted.
- The 1500 pound propane tank found in the Hudson River in Catskill (Holcim Facility) was removed by a fishing vessel.
- Ammunition was found in the Arkville staging area. The police was called in to have it removed.
- Crews removed HHW dropped off at the Unadilla municipality operated staging area.
- Curbside collection of HHW and orphan recovery efforts continued in Gallupville, Esperance, Middleburgh, Schoharie (all in Schoharie County), Arkville (Delaware County), and areas around Oak Hill and Prattsville (Greene County). Of significance, six 55-gallon drums were removed from a residential yard in Middleburgh while 275 gallon tanks were found in numerous fields in Esperance.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection and Disposal

- Greene County
 - Hunter – Facility was operational.
 - Windham – Facility was operational.
 - Catskill – Facility was operational.
 - Prattsville – Facility was operational.
- Delaware County
 - Arkville – Facility was operational, however it is projected to close on 9/18/2011.
 - Sidney – No information was made available.
- Schoharie County
 - Howes Cave – This central HHW staging area for the NYSDEC Region 4 area was operational and receiving materials. Preparations have commenced for the transport and disposal of bulk

material.

- Schoharie Debris Pile – Crews continued to segregate and containerize HHW that was received.

NYSDEC Region 5 Area

Oil / Hazardous Materials Response and Recovery Actions

- No information was available at time of reporting.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection and Disposal

- Lewis – No information was available at time of reporting..

Below is a summary table for NY Incident Reports associated with Irene as of 1422 on 9/14/2011. The table includes their status and materials involved.

New York Incidents Material Type	Incident Status			
	Closed	Managed	Open	Grand Total
Oil	7	5		12
Haz	12	2	1	15
Grand Total	19	7	1	27

CUMULATIVE HAZARDOUS WASTE SUMMERY TABLE

Below is a summery table indicating the amount of containers collected through HHW and orphan container recovery efforts in response to Hurricane Irene. This data was collected at 1422 on 09/14/2011. Container counts may include numbers not previously reported from past operational periods.

Cumulative Hazardous Waste Summary						Operational Period: 09/13/2011	
Location	Drums	Propane Tanks	Cylinders	Other (Large)	Small Containers (<5 gal)	Op-Period Totals	State Cumulative
New York	14	22	11	9	1964	2020	18498
New Jersey	0	0	3	3	252	258	14908
Op-Period Totals	14	22	14	12	2216		
Cumulative Totals	90	445	74	156	32641		
Grand Total	2278						
Grand Cumulative	33406						

Note: Numbers listed in the table are accurate at the time of delivery of this report. Field crews sometimes transfer numbers following the end of the reporting period due to communication issues. As a result, daily totals may change in future reports to capture all containers collected for that operational period. Because of this, operational period totals do not reflect true count numbers due to late reporting. However, the grand cumulative numbers are accurate at the time this report.

TROPICAL STORM LEE (NY ONLY)

NYSDEC Region 7 Area

- EPA continues to coordinate with NYSDEC and other officials in Broome and Tioga Counties to determine locations of HHW and orphan container processing areas.
- The Ombudsman and REOC continue to receive calls from residents requesting HHW curbside assistance.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection and Disposal

Areas for HHW staging and processing are still being identified. Collection pads in Vestal and Endicott are currently in development.

- Binghamton – An HHW collection area has been established and was operational.
- Owego – Located at the Owego Gravel Pit, this HHW staging area commenced operations the evening of 09/13/2011.

EPA REGION 2 COORDINATION ACTIVITIES

EPA Region 2 is currently manning the following coordination centers;

- **NYSDEC Region 7 Office (Kirkwood, NY)** – (2) EPA representatives deployed to the NYSDEC Sub-Office to coordinate activities relating to TS Lee.
- **Binghamton EOC (Binghamton, NY)** – (1) OSC coordinating with local and federal officials on TS Lee operations.
- **FEMA IMAT (Albany, NY)** – (1) OSC coordinating with the State and FEMA on increases to existing Mission Assignments and processing of Mission Assignments for TS Lee NY.
- **EPA Region 2 REOC (Edison, NJ)**
 - Coordinating efforts related to operations, planning, resources, and logistics from the REOC. The REOC is staging and coordinating the deployment of operational resources including EPA ERRS and RST contractor support.
 - 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.

2.2 Planning Section

The Region 2 Regional Emergency Operations Center (REOC) has generated a draft letter to submit to municipalities where HHW collection has become slow. The letter is in the review process. A plan was generated to maintain Day-Time Response operations while efforts in support of TS Lee activities increase and resources become stretched.

2.3 Logistics Section

Additional resources have been ordered and deployed to the Binghamton area to assist with initial reconnaissance missions, recovery of oil/hazardous materials, and orphan containers. Additional assets were requested by the Dover staging area manager for chemical technicians.

2.4 Finance Section

EPA continues to track costs and monitor funding levels against FEMA Mission Assignments. Current Mission Assignments and Estimated Expenditures and Daily Cost Burn as of 09/14/2011 @ 1425;

HURRICANE IRENE						
Region, State	Agreement #	Agreement Date	Agreement Amount	Costs Incurred To Date	Estimated Burn Rate (\$/day)	Purpose
Region 2, New York	3328EM-NY-EPA-01 Expires 9/1/11	8/28/2011	\$35,000	\$35,000	NA	ESF-10 EOC deployment and assessment assistance in NY
Region 2, New York	4020DR-NY-EPA-03 expires 10/31/11	9/2/2011	\$750,000	\$220,357	\$16,951	ESF-10 EOC deployment and assessment assistance in NY
Region 2, New Jersey	3332EM-NJ-EPA-01 Expires 10/27/11	8/29/2011	\$10,000	\$10,000	NA	ESF-10 EOC deployment and assessment assistance in NJ
Region 2, New Jersey	4021DR-NJ-EPA-01 Expires 10/31/11	9/2/2011	\$250,000	\$70,593	\$5,883	ESF-10 EOC deployment and assessment assistance in NJ
Region 2 New Jersey	3332EM-NJ-EPA-02 Expires 10/29/11	8/30/2011	\$508,000	\$508,000	NA	Conduct oil and hazmat field operations, response to orphan containers and HHW in NJ
Region 2 New Jersey	4021DR-NJ-EPA-02 Expires 10/29/11	8/31/2011	\$2,000,000	\$253,950	\$63,488	Conduct oil and hazmat field operations, response to orphan containers and HHW in NJ
Region 2 New York	4020DR-NY-EPA-02 Expires 11/1/11	9/2/2011	\$3,070,000	\$646,830	\$53,903	Conduct oil and hazmat field operations, response to orphan containers and HHW in NY
Region 2 New York	4020DR-NY-EPA-01 Expires 10/31/11	9/1/2011	\$300,000	\$8,650	\$665	Conduct assessments of WWTPs

			\$6,923,000	\$1,753,380	\$140,889	
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Tropical Storm Lee (New York Only)						
Region, State	Agreement #	Agreement Date	Agreement Amount	Costs Incurred To Date	Estimated Burn Rate (\$/day)	Purpose
Region 2 New York	3341EM-NY-EPA-02 Expires 11/9/11	9/10/2011	\$1,000,000	\$61,800	\$15,450	NY State Tropical Storm Lee
Total			\$1,000,000	\$61,800	\$15,450	

Mission Assignment Funds Depleted
 Sudden increase in costs due to recently acquired RST and REOC support cost estimates 8/29/2011

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

The daily safety message is posted on the regional incident website:

<http://www.epaosc.org/R2HurricaneIreneResponse>. EPA Safety Officers conducted safety visits at the Catskill, Hunter, Windham, Prattsville, Sidney and Owego HHW sites on 9/13/11. Site specific HASP development is continues for specific work locations as new locations are identified.

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

Pat Seppi is the Public Information Officer and can be reached at 646-369-0068. The PIO worked on the following:

- Generated information regarding HHW for broadcasting on radio throughout Broome and Tioga Counties.
- Addressed Mission Assignment questions from Congressman Hinchey's office.
- Larisa Romanowski 515-703-0101, CIC for NYSDEC Region 4
 - Generated PSA for Schoharie HHW.
 - Generated messaging for the ending of HHW pickup in Greene County.
 - Posted information on the EPA facebook page.
- Natalie Loney, CIC for NYSDEC Region 7 will deploy to Binghamton on 09/15/2011.
- David Kluesner, 908-420-7261 CIC for NJ, will be deployed to Paterson on 09/15/2011.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

Unified Command is currently not activated at this level.

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

EPA is currently coordinating with FEMA, NYS DEC, NYS DOH, NJ DEP, NYSEMO, NJOEM.

4. Personnel On Site

Region/State	Current EPA Personnel In Field (All Venues other than EPA Offices)	Current EPA Contractor Personnel In Field	EPA Personnel in REOC	Contractor Personnel in REOC	Total
Region 2			16	27	42
New York	8	86			94
New Jersey	4	31			35
Total	12	117	10	27	171

5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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

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

EPA Edison REOC	732-906-6850
Afterhours Notifications, National Response Center (NRC)	800-424-8802
Regional Incident Commander (RIC) for NY, James Daloia	908-420-4505
Regional Incident Commander (RIC) for NJ, Christopher Jimenez	908-420-4484
FEMA IMAT (Albany), Dwayne Harrington, OSC	908-420-4492
Binghamton EOC, Ellen Banner, OSC	908-420-4462

6.2 Reporting Schedule

Starting September 16, 2011 Situation Reports will be released twice a week. Generation of the report will be on Sunday and Wednesday evenings.

7. Situational Reference Materials

Looting and civil unrest in Owego, NY has become a concern. A heavy police presence has been activated.

The REOC coordinated responses in Westampton and Edison, NJ, however these were not related to Irene or Lee.

General Weather for the next Operational Period:

- In NJ operational areas, thunderstorms and rain is expected. Temperatures from 64-81.
- In NY operational areas, thunderstorms are expected with temperatures from 53-70.