

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 #21  
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:** 9/15/2011

**Reporting Period:** 09/15/2011

**1. Introduction**

**1.1 Background**

<b>Site Number:</b>	<b>Contract Number:</b>
<b>D.O. Number:</b>	<b>Action Memo Date:</b>
<b>Response Authority:</b> Stafford Act	<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>	<b>Start Date:</b> 8/26/2011
<b>Demob Date:</b>	<b>Completion Date:</b>
<b>CERCLIS ID:</b>	<b>RCRIS ID:</b>
<b>ERNS No.:</b>	<b>State Notification:</b>
<b>FPN#:</b>	<b>Reimbursable Account #:</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Activities in New York relating to Tropical Storm Lee continued with the opening of additional household hazardous waste staging areas. Currently, drop-off locations have been established in the municipalities of Binghamton, Owego, Vestal, and Endicott. A Community Involvement Coordinator has been deployed to the area to facilitate a community outreach program regarding EPA's activities. Mobilization of additional contractors to the area has occurred while residential calls into the Regional Public Liaison requesting HHW assistance increased.

Recovery efforts in New Jersey have stabilized with established procedures and relationships between EPA and local governments. The amount of calls for recovery of materials has been steady along with collection of HHW in municipalities in Morris and Passaic Counties.

Operations in NY responding to Irene have stabilized with HHW collection in the impacted areas, however, an increase in orphan container recovery has occurred.

Strategies to move to a normal state of operations are being generated and finalized. A number of communities have HHW collection opportunities as county governments sponsor drop-off events in the fall season. EPA is working with local governments to assess the future needs of HHW collection and disposal in the community.

**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

- Activities coordinated along the Peckman River and McBride areas Woodland Park have been completed. All sorbent materials and orphan containers have been removed. HHW collection will be coordinated with the town of Woodland Park.
- Orphan containers were collected in Lincoln Park along the Passaic River.
- HHW was collected from the municipality of Wayne.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection and Disposal

- Paterson – A HHW staging area was identified and secured along East Main Street. Preparations to make the facility operational for receiving materials commenced.

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.
- 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 1440 on 9/15/2011. The table includes their status and materials involved.

New Jersey Incidents	Incident Status			
	Closed	Managed	Open	Grand Total
Oil	43	4		47
Haz	1	2		3
Grand Total	44	6		50

**NEW YORK RESPONSE ACTIONS**

NYSDEC Region 4 Area

Oil / Hazardous Materials Response and Recovery Actions

- Areas throughout Greene County are stabilized with material received at a slower pace. Several resources are waiting to be delivered that will handle disposal. GIS support has been demobilized from the area.
- Limited HHW was collected from Schoharie and Delaware Counties.
- Orphan container recover operations in Middleburgh continued with numerous containers retrieved.
- Orphan container assessments were conducted in Fort Hunter, Montgomery County.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection and Disposal

- Greene County
  - Hunter – Facility was operational and is scheduled for closure on 09/24/2011.
  - Windham – Facility was operational and is scheduled for closure on 09/24/2011.
  - Catskill – Facility was operational and is scheduled for closure on 09/24/2011.
  - Prattsville – Facility was operational.
- Delaware County
  - Arkville – Facility was operational, and is projected to close on 9/18/2011.
  - Sidney – Facility was operational and is waiting for resources to commence disposal.
- 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

- EPA conducted orphan container recovery and curbside collections of HHW in North Elba, Wilmington, Keene, Keene Valley, Au Sable Chasm, and Lake Champlain.

- River Operations for orphan container reconnaissance will commence in future operational areas.

#### Household Hazardous Waste Collection and Disposal

- Lewis – Facility was operational.

Below is a summary table for NY Incident Reports associated with Irene as of 1440 on 9/15/2011. The table includes their status and materials involved.

New York Incidents	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 – HURRICANE IRENE

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 1440 on 09/15/2011. Container counts may include numbers not previously reported from past operational periods.

Cumulative Hazardous Waste Summary								Operational Period: 09/14/2011	
Location	Drums	Propane Tanks	Cylinders	Other (Large)	Small Containers (<5 gal)	Op-Period Totals	State Cumulative		
New York	13	34	9	3	1574	1633	20131		
New Jersey	6	16	3	6	1443	1474	16382		
Op-Period Totals	19	50	12	9	3017				
Cumulative Totals	111	495	86	169	36489				
Grand Total								<b>3107</b>	
Grand Cumulative								<b>36513</b>	

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

- Rapid Needs Assessments continue with EPA and local officials determining priority areas within Broome and Tioga Counties.
- Reconnaissance of municipalities continued in the area for orphan container locations and determining HHW needs.
- 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.
- A public meeting is scheduled for 09/16/2011 in Owego/Appalachin.

#### Household Hazardous Waste Collection and Disposal

Additional areas for HHW staging and processing are still being identified throughout Broome and Tioga Counties.

- Binghamton – The HHW staging area was operational.
- Owego – The HHW staging area was operational.
- Vestal – A HHW staging area at the corner of Vestal and African Rd was identified and was operational.
- Endicott – A HHW staging area was identified along Scarborough Rd. and was operational.

#### CUMULATIVE HAZARDOUS WASTE SUMMERY TABLE – TROPICAL STORM LEE

Below is a summary table indicating the amount of containers collected through HHW and orphan container recovery efforts in response to Tropical Storm Lee. This data was collected at 1440 on 09/15/2011. Container counts may include numbers not previously reported from past operational periods.

Cumulative Hazardous Waste Summary					Operational Period: 09/14/2011		
Location	Drums	Propane Tanks	Cylinders	Other (Large)	Small Containers (<5 gal)	Op-Period Totals	State Cumulative
New York (Lee)	5	22	0	233	1630	1890	1890
Op-Period Totals	5	22	0	233	1630		
Cumulative Totals	5	22	0	233	1630		
Grand Total	<b>1890</b>						
Grand Cumulative	<b>1890</b>						

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.

## EPA REGION 2 COORDINATION ACTIVITIES

EPA Region 2 is currently manning the following coordination centers;

- **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 09/15/2011 @ 1422;

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	\$233,857	\$16,704	ESF-10 EOC deployment and assessment assistance in NY
Region 2, New Jersey	3332EM-NJ-EPA-01 Expires	8/29/2011	\$10,000	\$10,000	NA	ESF-10 EOC deployment and assessment

	10/27/11					assistance in NJ
Region 2, New Jersey	4021DR-NJ-EPA-01 Expires 10/31/11	9/2/2011	\$250,000	\$72,466	\$5,574	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	\$297,824	\$59,565	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	\$711,531	\$54,733	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	\$618	Conduct assessments of WWTPs
			<b>\$6,923,000</b>	<b>\$1,877,327</b>	<b>\$137,194</b>	

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	\$102,300	\$20,460	NY State Tropical Storm Lee
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$1,000,000</b>	<b>\$102,300</b>	<b>\$20,460</b>	

Mission Assignment Funds Depleted

## 2.5 Other Command Staff

### 2.5.1 Safety Officer

The daily safety message was sent out and is posted on the regional incident website. The site specific HASPs for NJ operations in Dover and Patterson were revised, printed and taken out to the field sites for implementation. All site specific hasps are posted on the incident website. An incident Safety Orientation has been drafted and is being finalized and implemented to brief all incoming EPA staff.

### 2.6 Liaison Officer

Steve Touw has been designated as the Liaison Officer for Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee response efforts.

### 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:

- Larisa Romanowski 515-703-0101, CIC for NYSDEC Region 4
- Natalie Loney, CIC for NYSDEC Region 7 deployed to Binghamton.
- David Kluesner, 908-420-7261 CIC for NJ.

## 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
<b>Region 2</b>			16	24	40
New York	10	97			107
New Jersey	5	32			37
<b>Total</b>	15	132	16	24	184

**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**

A response was requested from NJDEP to conduct a fuel tank pump-out in Monroe Township, NJ in relation to Tropical Storm Lee.

A letter has been drafted to notify municipalities that EPA operations will be finalized for the collection of HHW at municipality operated staging areas. Comments are being received.

A DOT waiver for transporting HHW is needed for TS Lee in New York.

The FEMA debris hotline was contacted to determine if calls are coming in for oil or hazardous materials.

A guidance document for addressing residential properties contaminated with oil at the surface or vegetation has been generated.

General Weather for the next Operational Period:

- In NJ operational areas, weather should be sunny but cold. Temperatures from 35-81.
- In NY operational areas, weather should be sunny with temperatures from 53-70.