

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



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region IV

Subject: POLREP #6
Removal Activities Continue
Ulah Battery Site
04HV
Asheboro, NC
Latitude: 35.6385953 Longitude: -79.8283982

To:
From: Perry Gaughan, OSC
Date: 10/8/2011
Reporting Period: Sept 26 through Oct 08, 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 contaminated soils are present from battery cracking operations previously done by lead reclaimers along Dinah Road in Asheboro, NC. The reclaimers operated from 1965 to 1985. Hundreds of batteries were cracked to remove the lead plates and further melted in drums to be recycled to local vendors. Battery acid (sulfuric acid) was reportedly allowed to spill onto the ground.

EPA and Superfund Technical Assessment Response Team (START) conducted a site assessment on April 1st, 2010 revealing x-ray fluorescence (XRF) detections up to 59,700 ppm lead and up to 3,735 for arsenic. The Site is a one-acre wooded parcel behind 159 Dinah Road and bordered by a private gravel road, Coy 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 indicated 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

Monday, Sept 26 through Saturday, October 1st, 2011

ERRs contractors continued excavating highly contaminated soil and battery casings from the adjacent property at 135 Dinah Road. In addition, ERRs also began disposal and transportation of 170 tons of highly contaminated soil and casings to Environmental Qualities Hazardous Waste Landfill in Canton, Ohio on Wednesday, September 28th. Twelve loads of haz waste soil were loaded and transported over a two day period.

ERRs continued excavating lightly contaminated areas in six inch increments to achieve desired lead levels below 400 ppm. START contractors continued assessing the adjacent property at 135 Dinah Road and continued confirmation x-ray fluorescence (xrf) analysis for lead and arsenic.

On Tuesday, September 27th, EPA Region 4 Section Chief Jim McGuire met with NC DENRs Jim Batteson at the site to review removal progress. Batteson suggested coordinating follow up of possible lead contamination of the Klausner property with the local DENR representative.

Monday, October 3rd through Saturday, October 8th, 2011

ERRs contractors continued excavating contaminated soil and battery casings from the front lawn at 159 Dinah Road and from the treeline along the southern perimeter at 135 Dinah Road. ERRS and Start contractors found additional battery casings on the northeast corner and treeline of the property at 135 Dinah Road and these areas will be excavated. The OSC tasked ERRs to subcontract a local surveyor to pinpoint property lines according to the deed provided by the property owner.

The OSC tasked ERRs to make a minor repair to a waterline at 135 Dinah Road, place silt fence and haybails as needed along both property lines and to properly backfill and grade the southern property line as necessary along Coy Stella Trail to keep runoff from the gravel road. ERRS began backfilling excavated areas to the previous grade levels.

ERRs continued excavating contaminated areas in six inch increments to achieve desired lead levels below 400 ppm. START contractors continued assessing the property at 135 Dinah Road and conducting confirmation x-ray fluorescence (xrf) analysis for lead and arsenic

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>
Lead Contaminated Soil	Soil	170 tons	12	none	EQ Canton, Oh

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

Removal activities are anticipated to take 6-7 weeks including the neighboring properties..

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

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
ERRS - Cleanup Contractor	\$575,000.00	\$290,430.00	\$284,570.00	49.49%
TAT/START	\$35,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$10,000.00	28.57%
Intramural Costs				
USEPA - Direct	\$10,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$4,000.00	40.00%
Total Site Costs	\$620,000.00	\$321,430.00	\$298,570.00	48.16%

* 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

No information available at this time.

3. Participating Entities

No information available at this time.

4. Personnel On Site

Errs Contractors 1-Response manager, 3 laborers, 1 equipment operator, 1 field cost accountant, and 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.