U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
City Sewer Project Oil Spill, Battle Creek MI - Removal Polrep
Initial Removal Polrep

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region V

Subject: **POLREP #1**
Initial
City Sewer Project Oil Spill, Battle Creek MI
Z5L6
Battle Creek, MI
Latitude: 42.3384005 Longitude: -85.2320968

To:
From: Ramon Mendoza, On-Scene Coordinator
Date: 11/14/2011
Reporting Period: Nov. 11-12, 2011

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	Z5L6	**Contract Number:**	
D.O. Number:		**Action Memo Date:**	
Response Authority:	OPA	**Response Type:**	Emergency
Response Lead:	PRP	**Incident Category:**	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	**Operable Unit:**	
Mobilization Date:	11/11/2011	**Start Date:**	11/11/2011
Demob Date:		**Completion Date:**	
CERCLIS ID:		**RCRIS ID:**	
ERNS No.:		**State Notification:**	
FPN#:	E12505	**Reimbursable Account #:**	

1.1.1 Incident Category
Emergency Removal under the Oil Pollution Act

1.1.2 Site Description
Site is a City Sewer Project to install sewer lines under the Kalamazoo River (River)through the use of a cofferdam. Two diesel powered water pumps were installed, and are operating 24/7 on a wood platform above the River to pump water from the cofferdam to enable pipeline excavation/installation. The water pumps have collapsible plastic secondary containment berms to contain residual oil spilled. Silt screens for the platform and cofferdam surround the Site. The Site is being operated by Hoffman Brothers Inc. who are contractors to the City of Battle Creek.

1.1.2.1 Location
Oil Spill is located on the Kalamazoo River near the intersection of West Jackson St. and Bedford Avenue West in the City of Battle Creek, Michigan.

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

On November 11, 2011, USEPA contractors working on the Enbridge Oil Spill cleanup in the Kalamazoo River observed an oil sheen plume coming from the Site being operated by contractors who were installing sewer pipelines under the River for the City of Battle Creek. The Kalamazoo River is a navigable water of the United States.

USEPA OSC and START team were directed by the USEPA Deputy Incident Commander for Enbridge cleanup to the Site at about 1500 hours to investigate and conduct appropriate response actions.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

USEPA OSC and START contractors initially inspected the Site from the river at about 1500 hours and observed that the source of the sheen on the River appears to be oil being discharged from the cofferdam water pumps which were operating with failed (collapsed) secondary containment. (The snow storm from the previous night appears to have collapsed the secondary containment.) Plastic containment screen under the platform was observed to be stained with oil. OSC inspected the Site on land at about 1600 hours and confirmed the intial findings. Oil sheen plume was observed coming from under platform and escaping

downstream into the Kalamazoo River. OSC estimates that a maximum of about 10 gallons of oil have been released to the Kalamazoo River.

The City contractor indicated that the Sewer project is complete and the cofferdam, silt screens, pump sytem, and platform will be removed the week of 11/14/2011.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

See section 2.1.2

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

Once the source of the oil discharge was determined, OSC immediately ordered the Site operator to remove the two water pumps from the platform and their associated secondary containment system. The oil sheen plume immediately began to reduce in size. Next, OSC ordered the Site operator to install an absorbent boom around the entire platform to remove and contain the oil sheen. Onsite operations ended at about 1900 hours due to darkness.

OSC, START and City contractors regrouped at the Site on 11/12/2011 at 0900. Small amounts of oil sheen were still observed and the OSC ordered addition absorbent booms deployed. Absorbent booms are effective in removing the oil since no oil sheen was observed immediately downstream of the Site. OSC ordered the contractors to maintain the absorbent booms until the cofferdam, silt screens, equipment, and platform are removed

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

OSC issued a Notice of Federal Interest to the City of Battle Creek Representative onsite on 11/11/2011.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

Waste Stream	*Medium*	*Quantity*	*Manifest #*	*Treatment*	*Disposal*

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

See Section 2.2.1.1

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

City contractor is and will maintain the absorbent booms around the Platform until the Platform, silt screens, equipment, and cofferdam have been removed from the river the week of 11/14/2011. USEPA contractors will monitor, observe and report daily to the OSC.

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

See Section 2.2.1.1. Absorbent boom is removing and containing the remaining residual oil sheen which appears to be coming from the impacted silt screen under the platform. OSC will order the City contractors to modify, adjust or improve the absorbent boom system based on daily observations. The Response action will be over once the oil sheen is no longer present at the Site.

2.2.2 Issues

None.

2.3 Logistics Section

Personnel for USEPA: One OSC, One START contractor.

2.4 Finance Section

No information available at this time.

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

START Contractor Weston

2.5.2 Liaison Officer

None

2.5.3 Information Officer

Beverlu Kush is notified in this Polrep. No Media Interest at this time.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

None

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

City of Battle Creek and its Contractor Hoffman Brothers are cooperating with USEPA.

4. Personnel On Site

City Contractor Hoffman Brothers are the operators for the Stie.
USEPA START contractor (WESTON) is conducting daily onsite inspections.

5. Definition of Terms

None

6. Additional sources of information

No information available at this time.

7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.