

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Lovers Lane Lead - Removal Polrep
Initial Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region V

Subject: POLREP #1
Removal Begins
Lovers Lane Lead
C5A8
Plainfield Township, MI
Latitude: 43.0438290 Longitude: -85.6552600

To: Mark Johnson, ATSDR
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Nathan Ertle, Kent County Sheriff Dept

From: Jeffrey Lippert, On-Scene Coordinator
Date: 5/15/2012
Reporting Period: 5/7/2012 - 7/11/2012

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	C5A8	Contract Number:	EP-S5-08-04
D.O. Number:	046	Action Memo Date:	4/13/2012
Response Authority:	CERCLA	Response Type:	Time-Critical
Response Lead:	EPA	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	5/7/2012	Start Date:	5/7/2012
Demob Date:		Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:	MIN000510664	RCRIS ID:	N/A
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	Yes
FPN#:		Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

Time-Critical Removal

1.1.2 Site Description

During the excavation for the installation of a water main, contractors for Plainfield Township encountered a large quantity of buried, crushed, lead-acid battery casing fragments (battery casings) in the right-of-way (ROW) adjacent to the site. Plainfield Township contacted the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) who oversaw the excavation, removal, and proper disposal of the battery casings in the ROW. Based on MDEQ's observations, the battery casings extended beyond the ROW and onto the residential property. MDEQ contacted EPA in a letter dated November 4, 2011, and requested assistance with the site.

EPA met MDEQ on site on November 22, 2011, to conduct a walk-through of the site. EPA observed numerous pieces of battery casings throughout the residential property that had made their way to the surface from below. The owner of the home was in ill-health and going through cancer treatment. She was unable to speak and has since died. Her son informed both MDEQ and EPA Staff that he had observed pieces of battery casings throughout the property his whole life and had encountered them when digging a fire pit in the back yard. The son, his pregnant wife, and two small children have inherited the home and are

in the process of moving in.

1.1.2.1 Location

The site is located at 4407 Lovers Lane, Plainfield Township, Kent County, Michigan. It is in a residential neighborhood.

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

The MDEQ Direct Contact Criteria (DCC) for lead in residential soil is 400 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg) and surface soils at the site are as high as 7,100 mg/kg. The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) fact sheet for lead states that "Children are more vulnerable to lead poisoning than adults.

A child who swallows large amounts of lead may develop blood anemia, severe stomachache, muscle weakness, and brain damage." With the new occupants of the residence on site, including a pregnant woman and two small children, the high level of lead in surface soils has the potential to be ingested by the children and their pregnant mother.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

EPA conducted an assessment of the site on December 20, 2011 and documented the presence of a seam of crushed lead-acid battery casings one inch to three feet below the ground surface. The seam was one foot to two feet thick throughout the 0.39-acre property. Pieces of battery casings were also observed in the spoils from a newly drilled drinking water well and on the surface throughout the front and back yard.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

During the excavation for the installation of a water main, contractors for Plainfield Township encountered a large quantity of buried, crushed, lead-acid battery casing fragments (battery casings) in the right-of-way (ROW) adjacent to the site. Plainfield Township contacted the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) who oversaw the excavation, removal, and proper disposal of the battery casings in the ROW. Based on MDEQ Staff observations, the battery casings extended beyond the ROW and onto the residential property. MDEQ contacted EPA in a letter dated November 4, 2011, and requested assistance with the site.

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2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

On 5/7/2012, EPA mobilized equipment to the site and began site set-up.

On 5/8/2012, EPA conducted test pitting in the backyard to assess extent of contamination. EPA also collected air samples for background lead levels for laboratory analysis - the results were non-detect for lead. EPA conducted air monitoring for particulates during site activities.

On 5/9/2012, EPA began excavating contaminated soil and battery casings from the backyard. Excavated material was stockpiled on the staging pad, loaded into lined trucks, and transported for disposal at EQ Detroit, Inc. EPA collected air samples during site activities for laboratory analysis for lead - the results were non-detect for lead. EPA conducted air monitoring for particulates during site activities.

On 5/10/2012, EPA continued excavating contaminated soil and battery casings from the site. Excavated material was stockpiled on the staging pad, loaded into lined trucks, and transported for disposal at EQ Detroit, Inc. EPA conducted air monitoring for particulates during site activities.

On 5/11/2012, EPA continued excavating contaminated soil and battery casings from the site. Excavated material was stockpiled on the staging pad, loaded into lined trucks, and transported for disposal at EQ Detroit, Inc. EPA conducted air monitoring for particulates during site activities. EPA distributed fact sheets to the residents in the neighborhood. The site was secured for the weekend.

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

PRP search is on-going.

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 Solids	Solid	50 Tons	009077001JJK		EQ Detroit
Lead Contaminated Solids	Solid	50 Tons	009077002JJK		EQ Detroit
Lead Contaminated Solids	Solid	50 Tons	009077004JJK		EQ Detroit
Lead Contaminated Solids	Solid	50 Tons	009077005JJK		EQ Detroit
Lead Contaminated Solids	Solid	50 Tons	009077006JJK		EQ Detroit
Lead Contaminated Solids	Solid	50 Tons	009077007JJK		EQ Detroit

Lead Contaminated Solids	Solid	50 Tons	009077008JJK		EQ Detroit
Lead Contaminated Solids	Solid	50 Tons	009077009JJK		EQ Detroit
Lead Contaminated Solids	Solid	50 Tons	009077010JJK		EQ Detroit
Lead Contaminated Solids	Solid	50 Tons	009077011JJK		EQ Detroit
Lead Contaminated Solids	Solid	50 Tons	009077012JJK		EQ Detroit
Lead Contaminated Solids	Solid	50 Tons	009077013JJK		EQ Detroit
Lead Contaminated Solids	Solid	50 Tons	009077014JJK		EQ Detroit
Lead Contaminated Solids	Solid	50 Tons	009077015JJK		EQ Detroit
Lead Contaminated Solids	Solid	50 Tons	009077016JJK		EQ Detroit

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

Continue collecting information on PRPs.

Resume work on 5/14/2012

Present the project at the Plainfield Township Downtown Development Authority meeting on 5/16/2012.

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

Excavate battery casings and contaminated soil

Connect home to municipal water supply

Abandon the well

Restore the site

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

Continue excavation and disposal.

2.2.2 Issues

N/A

2.3 Logistics Section

N/A

2.4 Finance Section

No information available at this time.

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

Bryan Mullins

2.5.2 Liaison Officer

N/A

2.5.3 Information Officer

Francisco Arcaute

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

N/A

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

MDEQ

4. Personnel On Site

EPA - 2

START - 1

ERRS - 6

5. Definition of Terms

EPA - United States Environmental Protection Agency

START - Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team

ERRS - Emergency and Rapid Response Service

ppm - Parts Per Million

mg/kg - Milligrams Per Kilogram

pb - Lead

NCP - National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan

CERCLA - Comprehensive Environmental Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

www.epaosc.org/loverslanelead

6.2 Reporting Schedule

PolReps will be issued weekly or as necessary.

7. Situational Reference Materials

NCP