

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT  
35th Avenue Site - Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Region IV

**Subject:** POLREP #3  
Initiation of Fund-Lead Sampling  
35th Avenue Site  
B4M3RV00  
Birmingham, AL  
Latitude: 33.5627531 Longitude: -86.7989565

**To:**  
**From:** Jeffery Crowley, On-Scene Coordinator  
**Date:** 10/10/2012  
**Reporting Period:** 7/1/12 - 11/26/12

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Background

<b>Site Number:</b>	B4M3	<b>Contract Number:</b>	
<b>D.O. Number:</b>		<b>Action Memo Date:</b>	
<b>Response Authority:</b>	CERCLA	<b>Response Type:</b>	Time-Critical
<b>Response Lead:</b>	EPA	<b>Incident Category:</b>	Removal Assessment
<b>NPL Status:</b>	Non NPL	<b>Operable Unit:</b>	
<b>Mobilization Date:</b>		<b>Start Date:</b>	
<b>Demob Date:</b>		<b>Completion Date:</b>	
<b>CERCLIS ID:</b>	ALN000410750	<b>RCRIS ID:</b>	
<b>ERNS No.:</b>		<b>State Notification:</b>	
<b>FPN#:</b>		<b>Reimbursable Account #:</b>	

In early September 2012, EPA suspended negotiations with Walter Coke on the AOC for sampling the three communities of Collegeville, Harriman Park and Fairmont and has decided to proceed with sampling using regional Superfund monies. ERRB will now be coordinating the sampling of the 1283 properties in the study area using START resources for the sampling efforts. The contaminants of concern will be metals, SVOCs with PAHs, and PCBs (as needed). In addition, the RCRA division came to terms on a new AOC (3008.h) with Walter Coke that was effective 9/17/2012 to address onsite concerns. On October 1, 2012 RCRA and Superfund held a joint public meeting/press conference to announce the signing of the RCRA order and Superfund's plan to conduct the sampling itself. This meeting also announced the opening of the EPA Community Outreach Office in Birmingham.

## 2. Current Activities

### 2.1 Operations Section

In addition to those activities mentioned above, the following activities occurred:

- Following the public meeting on 10/1, the CIC and OSC held three smaller community meetings to answer questions regarding sampling and access. The meetings were held in Fairmont on Oct 2, Collegeville on Oct 8, and Harriman Park on Oct 11.
- Access Letters with Frequently Asked Questions were sent out to the identified parcels in the study area over three days, Oct 19, 22, and 23. In total, 2700 letters were sent out to owners and tenants of non-industrial properties including churches, daycare centers, parks, and residential lots. The initial phase of obtaining access is 90 days.
- During the week of Nov 6, ERRB and START mobilized to the Site area to set up the technical field office in Tarrant, AL, which is about a mile north of the Site. In addition on Nov 8, the first samples were collected for the Site evaluation.
- To date, 41 properties have been sampled. Results of samples should be available within 4-6 weeks of a sample being collected.
- On November 19, EPA Region 4 Regional Administrator Gwen Keys Fleming, Congresswoman Terri Sewell and US Attorney Joyce Vance visited the Community Outreach Center for a briefing on the Site. Following the briefing, OSC Crowley led a tour of the Site and described the sampling process.

Also during this reporting period the Site Boundary line was expanded in the Collegeville neighborhood. The

boundary extension map is attached to this POLREP. It involves a change to the eastern and southern side of Collegeville. The justification is as follows:

The Eastern Boundary Change:

The three blocks area completely surrounded by current and former industry and lie adjacent to the former Carver High School which exhibited contamination from the 2009 sampling event. Some of the former industry in the area included an underground storage tank fabrication and painting operation where sand blasting took place. This area is also the likely the headwaters of the 34th Street Ditch.

The Southern Boundary Change:

This is a change based on the fact that the sampling from 2009 stopped at the Hudson School where there was contamination. The addition of the housing development and moving the line south to the railroad tracks will do two things, (1) it will allow EPA to sample the area where the proposed vehicle and pedestrian bridges are planned and (2) it will allow sampling to occur in areas adjacent to those known to have contamination based on the 2009 sampling event. The railroad is a high point in the community as well and makes sense from a flooding perspective which may be a source of migration of materials.

## **2.2 Planning Section**

**The following activities are planned at the Site during the next reporting period:**

- EPA continues to receive access agreements to the Community Outreach Office and will continue to schedule sampling at those properties within our study area. Included in the recent access agreements received are the City of Birmingham and Birmingham City Schools owned properties.

**Issues:**

- None at this time.

## **2.3 Logistics Section**

No information available at this time.

## **2.4 Finance Section**

No information available at this time.

## **2.5 Other Command Staff**

### **2.5.1 Safety Officer**

EPA is the Safety Officer for the Site

### **2.6 Liaison Officer**

### **2.7 Information Officer**

#### **2.7.1 Public Information Officer**

Public Information Officer for this Site is James Pinkney

#### **2.7.2 Community Involvement Coordinator**

The CIC for this Site is Stephanie Brown and has an office at 1820 7th Ave. N, Birmingham, AL.  
Phone 205-326-8640

## **3. Participating Entities**

No information available at this time.

## **4. Personnel On Site**

The following represents the typical crew size during sampling events:

EPA (OSC) - 2  
EPA (CIC) - 1  
EPA (PIO) - 1  
START (Otie) - 8  
START (Tetra Tech) - 1 \*Aiding in Community Involvement

## **5. Definition of Terms**

No information available at this time.

## **6. Additional sources of information**

### **6.1 Internet location of additional information/report**

The EPA North Birmingham Collaborative Team maintains a website at: <http://www.epa.gov/northbhamproject>

### **6.2 Reporting Schedule**

## **7. Situational Reference Materials**

No information available at this time.