U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
R.N.Hitchcock Electroplating Facility - Removal Polrep

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region II

Subject: **POLREP #20**
Progress: Removal Remobilization
R.N.Hitchcock Electroplating Facility
XG
Port Byron, NY
Latitude: 43.0383000 Longitude: -76.6286000

To:
From: Michael Hoppe OSC
Date: 10/10/2012
Reporting Period: 6/9/2012 through 10/10/2012

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	XG	**Contract Number:**	EP-S2-10-03
D.O. Number:	0037	**Action Memo Date:**	7/15/2011
Response Authority:	CERCLA	**Response Type:**	Time-Critical
Response Lead:	EPA	**Incident Category:**	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	**Operable Unit:**	
Mobilization Date:	8/22/2011	**Start Date:**	8/22/2011
Demob Date:		**Completion Date:**	
CERCLIS ID:	NYN000205895	**RCRIS ID:**	
ERNS No.:		**State Notification:**	
FPN#:		**Reimbursable Account #:**	

1.1.1 Incident Category

Removal Action

1.1.2 Site Description

See POLREP/SITREPSs 1 through 19 for more complete Site description.

The former R.N. Hitchcock Electroplating Facility (Site) is located at 58 Green Street in Port Byron, New York. The Site conducted electroplating and metal-finishing activities at the facility from 1946 until 2003.

1.1.2.1 Location

The Site is located in a residential neighborhood at 58 Green Street in the Village of Port Byron, Cayuga County, New York 13140. The former metals plating and finishing facility is currently separated from the owner's personal home by a paved driveway.

The Site is bounded to the north, west and east by private residences, to the south and east (250 feet) by the Port Byron public school grounds, Port Byron/Town of Mentz Library and administrative buildings, and immediately adjacent to the Owasco Lake Outlet to the east (15 feet). To the southeast is the Village of Port Byron. The New York State Throughway is less than 250 yards to the north. The Port Byron Middle School and the AA Gates Elementary School are located less than one half mile to the east of the Site.

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

Between October 2006 and February 2007, EPA conducted a removal of plating materials from the facility including vats and drums containing corrosive plating solutions, acids, cyanides, and heavy metals including cadmium, chromium, copper, lead, nickel and zinc.

In September, 2010, EPA conducted a comprehensive site assessment at the Site to assess the remaining potential contamination at the Site. This assessment focused on the building materials and the soil, groundwater and sediment in the vicinity of the building.

Sampling revealed the presence of elevated levels of trichloroethylene (TCE) and its degrading byproducts in groundwater near the facility. This chemical was typically used for metal degreasing. The results also indicated the building materials are contaminated with heavy metals including chromium, hexavalent chromium, and cadmium. These metals were used in the electroplating process.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

The EPA conducted site assessment activities between September 20 and September 24, 2010. Site activities included soil/dust/sweep sampling, surface and subsurface soil sampling (soil borings), sub-slab soil sampling, groundwater sampling, concrete core sampling, sediment sampling, asbestos sampling, wipe and wood core sampling.

Results from all media show total chromium and cadmium detected, with maximum concentrations occurring within the building and elevated levels outside of the building. Migration of these contaminants was traced to surface and sub-surface soils, groundwater and sediment samples within the Owasco Lake Outlet.

Samples of the concrete in the process area on the first floor (floors and walls) revealed elevated levels of hexavalent chromium, chromium, cadmium and lead. Three of these samples failed Toxic Characteristic Leaching Procedure test (TCLP) for chromium and six failed for cadmium, displaying the characteristic of Toxicity as defined in 40 CFR, Subpart C, 261.24 of RCRA. Soil sweep/dust throughout the building is contaminated with chromium, cadmium and lead. Exterior structure sampling revealed the presence of metals, including hexavalent chromium and total chromium in wall concrete.

Samples at the Site revealed the presence of metals in soils immediately adjacent to the plating section of the building. These metals included hexavalent chromium, total chromium, total cadmium and lead. Additionally, sediment samples in the Owasco Lake Outlet revealed detected levels of chromium, cadmium and lead.

Metals were also detected in groundwater samples collected between the plating section of the building and the outlet, including chromium and cadmium.

Samples collected between the plating section of the building and the outlet, as well as those collected from under the building show elevated levels for chlorinated solvents including cis-1,2 DCE, trans-1,2 dichloroethene (trans-1,2 DCE), 1,1 dichloroethene (DCE), vinyl chloride, TCE, and tetrachloroethene (PCE). Groundwater samples collected revealed the presence of cis-1,2 DCE, TCE, vinyl chloride, trans-1,2 DCE and 1,1 DCE at elevated levels. Soil samples collected below the concrete structure, in exterior surface soils and in soil borings also detected TCE. Water collected from the settling tank and sump that feeds the tank inside the building revealed cis-1,2 DCE, TCE and vinyl chloride.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

After removal activities in May 2012 were completed, it was discovered that the historic mill had developed potentially catastrophic structural damage. During the week of May 21, 2012, EPA and contractors discovered a significant drop in the Southwest floor of the mill. Upon inspection, the pier and beam support structure below failed at multiple points. The failure included breakage of beams and separation from the exterior concrete foundation. Dry rot and smaller historical breaks were discovered by creating access holes in the sub-floor. Additionally, the second floor supports in the Southwest corner have separated from the main south wall beam. The floor is constructed of notched lumber hung on a notched section of the main south support. There are no pins, nails or similar holding these together. As a result, the first floor failure and subsequent shifting of the second floor likely happened concurrently.

EPA has consulted with engineers, construction specialists and NY State Historic Preservation Office personnel to determine the future of the mill. Although EPA made efforts to save and repair the building during the removal action, the decision to raze the mill has been made. The mill will be further documented using archival standards established by the National Park Service for submission with National Register of Historic Places nominations. An oral history of the mill will be documented through conversations with the owner of the mill, Mr. Wilt.

Razing the mill will prevent any potential complete failure during heavy snow load that could lead to personal injury and allow for a comprehensive evaluation of the soils under the mill to determine if additional contamination remains in soils. EPA will screen and remove any contamination that remains, including the contaminated foundation on the Southwest side (which was encapsulated during previous removal activities) and soils (as necessary), backfill and mitigate any threat to human health and the environment.

The activities at the mill have commenced during the week of October 8, 2012 and likely continue into early November 2012.

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

Refer to POLREP/SITREPSs 1 through 19 for operations prior to this reporting period.

<u>Most Recent Activities:</u>

The EPA removal action activities at the Site resumed on May 21, 2012, in efforts to complete what was anticipated to be the final mobilization. The Site was graded, covered with topsoil and hydro seeded. Areas showing signs of poor drainage were addressed to ensure water moves away from the mill area. Additional rip-rap was placed on the Owasco Lake Outlet to stabilize the bank areas not addressed during previous activities. The damage to the common driveway between the mill and residential home was repaired.

A stream survey was performed by ERT and SERAS on the Owasco Lake Outlet. Sampling of the water and sediment was performed. EPA is reviewing the results and anticipating a final report to be published during the next reporting period.

EPA and contractors returned to site in April 2012 to meet with historical restoration contractors to see if the mill could be repaired or needed to be razed, based current condition.

EPA met with NYSHPO to evaluate the historical value of the mill and discuss proper recordation in April 2012. An Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the NYSHPO is in draft form and expected to become final during then next reporting period.

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

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

Waste Stream	*Medium*	*Quantity*	*Manifest #*	*Treatment*	*Disposal*
Hazardous Soil (Cd, Cr)	**Soil**	**~2200 Tons**	**007675406, 007675407, 007675408,007675409,007675410, 007675411, 007675412, 007675413, 007675414, 007675415, 007675416, 007675417, 007675418, 007675419, 007675420 007675421, 007675422, 007675423, 007675424, 007675425, 007675426, 007675427, 007675428, 007675429, 007675430, 007675431, 007675432, 007675433, 007675434, 007675435, 007675436, 007675437, 007675438, 007675439, 007675440, 009321501, 009321502, 009321503, 009321504, 009321505, 009321506, 009321507, 009321508, 009321509, 009321510, 009321511, 009321512, 009321513, 009321514, 009321515, 009321516, 009321517, 009321518, 009321519, 009321520, 009321521, 009321522, 009321523, 009321524, 009321525, 009321526, 009321527, 009321528, 009321543, 009321530, 009321531, 009321532, 009321533, 009321534, 009321544, 009321545, 009321546, 009321547, 009321548, 009321549, 009321550, 009321554, 009321555, 009321556, 009321557, 009321558, 009321559,009321560, 009321561, 009321563, 009321773, 009321539, 009321538, 009321537, 009321536, 009321535, 009321762, 009321540, 009321541, 009321542, 009321765, 009321766, 009321767, 009321768, 009321769**		
Hazardous Soil (TCE, Cd)	**Soil**	**22 Tons**	**009321935**	**Chemical/Thermal**	
Hazardous Concrete/C&D	**Debris**	**~210 Tons**	**007675325, 007675326, 007675327, 007675328, 007675329, 007675330, 007675331, 007675332, 00767533, 00767534, 009321774(30-yd roll off)**		
Asbestos (ACM)	**Debris**	**<70 cubic yards**	**(40yd) 001352417 (30yd) 002818306**	**Wrapped**	

Non-Haz	**Debris**	**280 cubic yards**			
Recycled Metals	**Metals**	**20 cubic yard**			
Drum	**Fuel Oil Waste**	**165 gallons**			
Drums (2)	**Hazardous Material**	**<400 pounds Caustic/ <85 Gallons Chlorinated Waste**	**003548457**	**Overpacked**	
Electronics Waste	**Electronics**	**1 cubic yard**	**Load #: 100285548**		

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

Further cultural resource documentation (HABS/HAER photography), oral history documentation, demolition of the mill and removal of contaminated building material and potentially soils at the Site will performed beginning October 9, 2012, based on current structural issues on the Southwest corner of the mill.

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

EPA will attend public meetings at the Town of Mentz and Village of Port Byron to discuss the Site. The documentation and removal activities will continue through November 2012 at the Site. The documentation will be sent to the New York State Archive and Cayuga County Historian's Office (as well as local historical repositories, as requested).

2.2.2 Issues

Continue removal activities and complete razing the mill prior to weather conditions that might compromise the structure further.

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

No information available at this time.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

City of Auburn, NYSHPO.

4. Personnel On Site

4 ERRS
1 EPA OSC

5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

6.2 Reporting Schedule

Weekly or as critical site decisions are made.

7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.