

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Elwood Mystery Response - Removal Polrep
Final Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region V

Subject: **POLREP #3**
Final PolRep
Elwood Mystery Response

Summitville, IN
Latitude: 40.3502853 Longitude: -85.6034629

To:
From: Shelly Lam, On-Scene Coordinator
Date: 4/22/2013
Reporting Period: April 13 - 19, 2013

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	Contract Number:
D.O. Number:	Action Memo Date:
Response Authority: CERCLA	Response Type: Emergency
Response Lead: EPA	Incident Category: Removal Assessment
NPL Status: Non NPL	Operable Unit:
Mobilization Date: 4/10/2013	Start Date: 4/10/2013
Demob Date: 4/12/2013	Completion Date: 4/19/2013
CERCLIS ID:	RCRIS ID:
ERNS No.:	State Notification:
FPN#:	Reimbursable Account #:

1.1.1 Incident Category

Emergency Response - Spill or other one time event

1.1.2 Site Description

Information on the site location, description of threat and removal assessment results are provided below.

1.1.2.1 Location

The site is a farm at 3726 West 1700 North in Summitville, Madison County, Indiana. The property is 5.4 acres and contains a burned-out house, four barns, and several silos. The property is in a rural area approximately 5 miles north-northwest of Summitville. Site coordinates are 40.3502853 degrees north latitude and 85.6034629 degrees west longitude.

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

On April 9, 2013, various state and local agencies responded because of reports of dead animals on the property. In the process of assessing and removing animals, the Madison County Hazardous Material (Hazmat) Team reported that their decontamination water had a high pH (alkaline) reading and water from a drinking water well on the property had a pH of 12 standard units (SU).

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

As stated above, the Madison County Hazmat Team reported that drinking water at the site had a high pH (up to 12 SU).

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) responded on April 10-12, 2013 to provide assistance and technical support with highly alkaline drinking water at the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM).

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

EPA received analytical results collected from two drinking water spigots. Samples were analyzed for total metals, mercury, fluoride, pH, total phosphorus, sulfide, sulfate, total cyanide, ammonia, nitrate, nitrite, pesticides, and organophosphates. With the exception of arsenic, all analytes were below EPA's Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL), national secondary drinking water regulations, or other relevant screening levels.

EPA consulted with the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) about arsenic detections. Arsenic concentrations ranged from 11 to 12.8 micrograms per liter (ug/L). The MCL for arsenic is 10 ug/L. After reviewing the data and consulting with the Purdue Extension Service, ATSDR did not find anything in the water analysis that would be of a health concern to either humans or animals. Elevated arsenic levels are likely to be a reflection of background levels. Arsenic is naturally occurring in the area.

EPA and the Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team (START) contractor demobilized from the site on April 12, 2013. EPA concluded response activities after reviewing the analytical data and receiving a consultation from ATSDR.

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

Information on the PRP is in the site file.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

This is an Integrated River Assessment. The numbers should overlap.	Miles of river systems cleaned and/or restored	0
	Cubic yards of contaminated sediments removed and/or capped	0
	Gallons of oil/water recovered	0
	Acres of soil/sediment cleaned up in floodplains and riverbanks	0
Stand Alone Assessment	Acres Protected	0
	Number of contaminated residential yards cleaned up	0
	Human Health Exposures Avoided	4
	Number of workers on site	100
Contaminant(s) of Concern		
Contaminant(s) of Concern	Corrosive materials, arsenic	

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

No additional activities are planned.

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

None

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

None

2.2.2 Issues

None

2.3 Logistics Section

Not applicable (NA)

2.4 Finance Section

No information available at this time.

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

EPA's START contractor prepared a health and safety plan to cover sampling activities.

2.5.2 Liaison Officer

NA

2.5.3 Information Officer

There was extensive media coverage of this site. The Madison County Sheriff's Office provided media interviews for the response.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

NA

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

IDEM

EPA

4. Personnel On Site

None

5. Definition of Terms

ATSDR	Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ERRB	Emergency Response and Removal Branch
Hazmat	Hazardous materials
IDEM	Indiana Department of Environmental Management
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level
NA	Not applicable
OSC	On-Scene Coordinator
PolRep	Pollution Report
PRP	Potentially Responsible Party
START	Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team
SU	Standard units
ug/L	micrograms per liter

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

For additional information, refer to www.epaosc.org/elwoodmystery.

6.2 Reporting Schedule

The OSC will not submit additional PolReps.

7. Situational Reference Materials

NA