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

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region II

Subject: **POLREP #24**
Restoration Work Complete: Final Disposal Pending
R.N.Hitchcock Electroplating Facility
XG
Port Byron, NY
Latitude: 43.0383000 Longitude: -76.6286000

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From: Michael Hoppe, OSC
Date: 5/20/2013
Reporting Period: 1/28/2013 through 5/20/2013

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 23 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.

Recent catastrophic failure of the mill foundation and potential for additional contamination removal under the mill footprint lead to additional removal activities between the Fall 2012 and early Winter 2013.

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

USEPA has completed archiving the information collected regarding the historic Green Street Mill and returned to the Site to complete final restoration and decontamination activities.

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

Refer to POLREP/SITREPSs 1 through 23 for operations prior to this reporting period.

Most Recent Activities:
Between January 28 and January 30, 2013, EPA remobilized to the Site to complete the backfilling of an excavation area that was partially backfilled during December 2012 activities. Snow fence was installed around the perimeter of the excavation to secure the Site until this point, however, snow load and heavy winds lead to the continued failure of the fence. The only alternative was a the completion of the backfill operations during favorable weather conditions experienced during the brief thaw period in January 2013.

The final historical Phase 1A Cultural Resources Survey (Revised and Updated December 2013) was sent to the New York State Archive and Cayuga County Historian's Office, in March 2013. The large format photography was also sent with the report. The NYSHPO assisted in the process of final documentation and report archival.

On May 13, 2013, USEPA, ERRS and RST contractors returned to the Site to complete final restoration. Operations completed between May 13 and May 17, 2013 included filling the low spots of the excavation area with certified backfill, covering the area with certified top soil and hydroseeding the area. Final repairs to the driveway area were completed.

ERRS contractors also completed decontamination of the historic turbines (2) by removing the remaining soils within the turbine wheels and power washing the inside and outside of these devices. One turbine was delivered locally to a representative from the historical society for display at the local Erie Canal museum and the second will be picked up by a third party and delivered to the Ward W. O'Hara Agricultural Museum in Auburn, NY. Both were free of soil and residual contamination as verified by XRF and visual inspection of areas not otherwise accessible. Soils were placed in 55-gallon steel drums and water was collected from the decon pad and pumped into a plastic tote. Associated decon materials were also placed in drums. The liquid material in the tote has been sampled and analytical is expected in 10 business days. Soil waste has been profiled under previous response activities at the Site. Disposal is expected in mid-June 2013.

On May 13, 2013 EPA's Removal Support Team 2 (RST 2) contractor mobilized to the site to layout 15 soil boring locations for the collection of post-excavation soil samples. From May 14 to 15, 2013, EPA's RST 2 contractor collected a total of 16 (including one field duplicate) post-excavation soil samples from the footprint of the former Mill House. RST 2 collected a total of nine post-excavation soil samples: four sidewall samples from the east and south sidewalls at depths ranging from 72 to 144 inches and five base samples at depths ranging from 72 to 144 inches.

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

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

Waste Stream	*Medium*	*Quantity*	*Manifest #*	*Treatment*	*Disposal*
Non-Hazardous C&D	**Debris**	**~11 tons (20-yard)**			

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

Disposal of drums (5) and tote (1) anticipated for June 2013. Final reports to be issued, final public meeting and site closure.

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

EPA will generate and disseminate final fact sheets to inform the public in the Town of Mentz and Village of Port Byron and place appropriate documents on file with both communities.

2.2.2 Issues

Continuation of disposal activities will continue in June 2013, pending laboratory analytical reports.

2.3 Logistics Section

Worked with Village/Town, historian and property owner to assist in relocation of historical mill components.

2.4 Finance Section

2.4.1 Narrative

Final funding totals will be calculated after final invoices are reconciled.

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
ERRS - Cleanup Contractor	$1,075,000.00	$1,057,792.00	$17,208.00	1.60%
RST	$150,000.00	$153,661.00	($3,661.00)	-2.44%
SERAS	$154,000.00	$123,047.00	$30,953.00	20.10%
Intramural Costs				

Total Site Costs	$1,379,000.00	$1,334,500.00	$44,500.00	3.23%

* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

2.5 Other Command Staff

No information available at this time.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

N/A

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

NYSHPO.

4. Personnel On Site

As of May 17, 2013 no personnel are on-site.

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 if on-site, as-needed when other critical decisions are made.

7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.

POLREP #24 Last Updated 5/20/2013