

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Witherell Mercury Site - Removal Polrep
Initial and Final Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region V

Subject: POLREP #1
Initial/Final
Witherell Mercury Site
C5Z9
St Clair, MI
Latitude: 42.800000 Longitude: -82.400000

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From: Brian Kelly, OSC

Date: 12/19/2013

Reporting Period:

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	C5Z9	Contract Number:	
D.O. Number:	0141	Action Memo Date:	
Response Authority:	CERCLA	Response Type:	Emergency
Response Lead:	EPA	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:		Start Date:	12/5/2013
Demob Date:		Completion Date:	12/19/2013
CERCLIS ID:		RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	Yes
FPN#:		Reimbursable Account #:	

Incident Category

CERCLA Emergency Response

Site Description

On December 2, 2013, a resident was cleaning the drain of his 100-year old home. When he removed the "snake," approximately 1 lb of mercury spilled to the floor. The affected area was contained to an are of 4 feet (ft) by 5 ft. The resident attempted to vacuum areas of mercury with a shop vac, but stopped before the mercury was spread further. Living in the home are two adults and two children aged 2 and 7.

The resident reported the spill to the St. Clair fire department and St. Clair County Health Department (SCHD). The SCHD responded, verified the spill, but because SCHD did not have a mercury monitor it contacted Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) and Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) for assistance.

Location

St Clair, MI 48079

Description of Threat/Inspection Results

SCHD verified a substantial amount of mercury had spilled from the drain. As no entity had a mercury monitor, EPA was the first entity to

collect readings, which ranged from 2,500 nano-grams per cubic meter (ng/m3) to 45,000 ng/m3. The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry recommends a screening level for mercury of 1,000 ng/m3 in the breathing zone.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

Response Actions to Date

At the request of the MDEQ and St. Clair Health Department, EPA responded to cleanup the spilled mercury.

Between 12/5/2013 and 12/7/2013, EPA screened and removed mercury contaminated items from the house and used a specialized mercury vacuum to remove the spilled mercury. The mercury levels were found to be as high as 45,000 ng/m3 on the sweeper and 2,500 ng/m3 in the breathing zone. Items above 10,000 ng/m3 were disposed of. Areas around the drain were sealed with hydraulic cement.

The house passed final clearance on 12/7/2013 and final disposal occurred on 12/19/2013.

Progress Metrics

Waste Stream	Medium	Quantity	Manifest #	Disposal
Mercury contaminated debris D009	solid	150 lbs	012030922JJK	1923 Frederick, Detroit, MI 48211

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	0.5
	Number of contaminated residential yards cleaned up	0
	Human Health Exposures Avoided	16
	Number of workers on site	5
Contaminant(s) of Concern		Mercury D009

Oil response Tracking

Estimated volume	Initial amount released	N/A
	Final amount collected	N/A
CANAPS Info	FPN Ceiling Amount	N/A
	FPN Number	N/A
	Body of Water affected	N/A

2.2 Planning Section

Anticipated Activities

None. Cleanup complete.

2.3 Logistics Section

No information available at this time.

2.4 Finance Section

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
ERRS - Cleanup Contractor	\$25,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$13,000.00	52.00%
TAT/START	\$10,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$6,000.00	60.00%
Intramural Costs				
USEPA - Direct	\$1,000.00	\$800.00	\$200.00	20.00%

Total Site Costs	\$36,000.00	\$16,800.00	\$19,200.00	53.33%
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* 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

No information available at this time.

4. Personnel On Site

No information available at this time.

5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

6. Additional sources of information

No information available at this time.

7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.