

**United States Environmental Protection Agency**  
**Region VI**  
**POLLUTION REPORT**

**Date:** Wednesday, January 5, 2005

**From:** Chris Ruhl

**Subject:** Teris El Dorado Explosion  
309 American Circle, El Dorado, AR  
Latitude: 33.2275000  
Longitude: -92.6325000

<b>POLREP No.:</b>	4	<b>Site #:</b>	NRC745957
<b>Reporting Period:</b>	1/5/05	<b>D.O. #:</b>	
<b>Start Date:</b>	1/2/2005	<b>Response Authority:</b>	CERCLA
<b>Mob Date:</b>		<b>Response Type:</b>	Emergency
<b>Demob Date:</b>		<b>NPL Status:</b>	
<b>Completion Date:</b>		<b>Incident Category:</b>	
<b>CERCLIS ID #:</b>		<b>Contract #</b>	
<b>RCRIS ID #:</b>			

**Site Description**

See POLREP 1,2, and 3 for activities prior to 0000 05 January 2005.

The fire continues to smolder and flare up in hotspots within the warehouse. Teris continues to monitor the fire.

Teris has contracted a fire fighting/remediation contractor (HEPACO). The contractor will be responsible for the relocation of the 117 drums of magnesium waste, the extinguishing of the ongoing fire, and the remediation of the warehouse. Teris personnel remain actively engaged in the response.

Teris estimates that there is approximately 24,000lbs of waste contained in the magnesium drums. The drums will be relocated to the "Special Handling" building located adjacent to the burnt warehouse. HEPACO initiated the relocation of those drums at approximately 1600. Based on the expectation of rain before all the drums could be relocated, the drums were staged for relocation in a portion of the burnt building where the roof did not leak. HEPACO staged drums on new pallets until approximately 1930. Prior to staging, the integrity of each drum, whether it had leaked, and the temperature was observed. Two drums continue to have temperatures above ambient. One staged drum was placed in an over pack since there was evidence that it had leaked. A total of twenty-four drums were placed on 6 pallets in the staging area. HEPACO will continue monitor the temperature of the drums throughout the night.

Wipe sample results were received late in the day. Teris forwarded the results to the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH), ADEQ, and EPA.

EPA START contractors continue to perform air monitoring. Parameters that are being monitored include: VOC, Ammonia, Chlorine, Nitrogen Dioxide, Sulfur Dioxide, Ethylene Oxide, Phosphine, Carbon Monoxide, and Methane. Air monitors were taken down at approximately 1400 because of the forecasted rain. Rain is expected throughout the night. For this monitoring period, data collected indicate that concentrations of constituents do not pose an acute risk to the community.

**Current Activities**

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### **Next Steps**

EPA will continue air monitoring under the established air monitoring program and may add additional monitoring locations or contaminant-specific monitors if necessary. EPA will coordinate results with all stakeholders.

EPA will continue to monitor fire fighting activities and actively participate within the established Incident Command System. ADEQ and the local fire department have also been incorporated in the command structure.

Immediate response actions will include the relocation of the 117 magnesium drums to the “Special Handling” building. Once drums have been relocated they will be repackaged.

Once the 117 magnesium drums are removed, it is expected that the fire will be extinguished.

EPA will discuss wipe sample results with ADH and ADEQ and a determination of what next steps are appropriate.

EPA will review water sample results for contained fire suppression water. Results will also be shared with ADEQ. ADEQ and EPA will determine and discuss the appropriate disposal/treatment of water with Teris.

### **Key Issues**

- 1) Evacuations have been lifted.
- 2) The fire continues to smolder/flare up.
- 3) Unknown quantities of unknown materials are located in the warehouse.
- 4) The removal of 117 drums containing magnesium waste, so fire can be extinguished.

[response.epa.gov/terisexplosion](https://response.epa.gov/terisexplosion)