

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT  
Holcomb & Hoke Warehouse Fire - Removal Polrep  
Final Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Region V

**Subject:** POLREP #6  
Final Fund-Lead PolRep  
Holcomb & Hoke Warehouse Fire  
  
Indianapolis, IN  
Latitude: 39.7404510 Longitude: -86.1337630

**To:**

**From:** Shelly Lam, On-Scene Coordinator

**Date:** 3/10/2014

**Reporting Period:** December 5, 2013 - March 7, 2014

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Background

<b>Site Number:</b>	C5W8	<b>Contract Number:</b>	EP-S5-09-05
<b>D.O. Number:</b>	0136	<b>Action Memo Date:</b>	1/10/2014
<b>Response Authority:</b>	CERCLA	<b>Response Type:</b>	Emergency
<b>Response Lead:</b>	EPA	<b>Incident Category:</b>	Removal Action
<b>NPL Status:</b>	Non NPL	<b>Operable Unit:</b>	
<b>Mobilization Date:</b>	9/10/2013	<b>Start Date:</b>	9/11/2013
<b>Demob Date:</b>	3/7/2014	<b>Completion Date:</b>	3/7/2014
<b>CERCLIS ID:</b>		<b>RCRIS ID:</b>	
<b>ERNS No.:</b>		<b>State Notification:</b>	
<b>FPN#:</b>		<b>Reimbursable Account #:</b>	

#### 1.1.1 Incident Category

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Incident Category:  
Manufacturing/Processing/Maintenance

#### 1.1.2 Site Description

The site is the former Holcomb & Hoke Manufacturing Company. Holcomb & Hoke purchased the property in 1903, and began operations in 1906. They manufactured popcorn poppers, paint brushes, wall panels, and other items throughout their history. The facility has been abandoned for several years.

The site is over 8 acres in size and contains multiple buildings, including an office building; former manufacturing and processing buildings, including a building used for electroplating; and a flammable storage building.

##### 1.1.2.1 Location

Holcomb & Hoke is located at 1545 Van Buren Street in Indianapolis, Marion County, Indiana. Site coordinates are 39.7404510 degrees north latitude and 86.1337630 degrees west longitude. Adjacent properties include a railroad and industrial facility to the north; an industrial facility to the east; residential properties to the south; and a vacant field to the west, beyond which are additional residences and Interstate 65 (I-65).

##### 1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

The facility caught fire on September 8, 2013 and burned for about 15 hours. Drums and asbestos-containing material (ACM) were involved in the fire. Radar images during the fire showed wind from the east, with debris from the fire possibly deposited to the west. Additionally, response personnel reported that the wind shifted, coming from the south during the fire, with additional possible deposition to the north. The Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department (IMPD) reported the fire and possible releases to the National Response Center (NRC) on September 10, 2013 (NRC #1059783).

##### 1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

See previous Pollution Reports (PolRep).

## 2. Current Activities

### 2.1 Operations Section

#### 2.1.1 Narrative

IMPD requested assistance from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on September 10, 2013. IMPD requested that EPA assess environmental hazards on-site that could interfere with the fire scene investigation. On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Shelly Lam mobilized to the site on September 10th and met with a detective from IMPD.

OSC Lam mobilized the Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team (START) contractor on September 10th and work began on September 11th.

Emergency response actions included stabilization, sampling, segregation, and securing abandoned drums and other containers. The time-critical removal actions included inventorying and performing hazard characterization on substances contained in drums and other containers; performing sampling and analysis to determine disposal options; and transporting and disposing off-site hazardous substances, pollutants and contaminants.

**2.1.2 Response Actions to Date**

EPA worked with a bona fide prospective purchaser to dispose of waste identified during emergency response actions. On March 7, 2014, EPA oversaw the purchaser's consultant, AcuityES, and contractor, Liquid Waste Removal, remove waste from the site.

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

EPA will attempt to identify PRPs and determine if they are financially viable to perform removal actions. The OSC received information that the property is in receivership.

EPA identified a bona fide prospective purchaser who conducted voluntary actions to dispose of waste at the site.

**2.1.4 Progress Metrics**

Waste Stream	Quantity	Unit	Waste Code	Manifest No.	Disposal Facility
Non-hazardous, non-regulated solid and liquid products	17	DM		LWR007268	Twin Bridges Landfill, Danville, IN
Non-hazardous, non-regulated solid and liquid products	1	DF		LWR007268	Twin Bridges Landfill, Danville, IN
UN2809, RQ, Mercury, Contained In Manufactured Articles, 8, PGIII (Universal Waste)	1	DF		LWR007261	Environmental Enterprises, Inc., Cincinnati, OH
Non-regulated material, Computer monitors (Universal Waste)	2	EACH		LWR007261	Environmental Enterprises, Inc., Cincinnati, OH
UN1978, RQ, Waste Propane, 2.1	10	LBS		LWR007266	Vendor
UN1044, RQ, Waste Fire Extinguisher, 2.2	50	LBS		LWR007266	Vendor or Koorsen
NA2212, Asbestos	1	DM		LWR007266	Twin Bridges Landfill, Danville, IN
UN3264, RQ, Waste Corrosive Liquid, Acidic, Inorganic, NOS, 8, PGII (Sulfuric Acid, Phosphoric Acid)	2	DF	D002	011519795JJK	Environmental Enterprises, Inc., Cincinnati, OH
UN3266, RQ, Waste Corrosive Liquid, Basic, Inorganic, NOS, 8, PGII (Sodium Hydroxide, Sodium Sulfite)	15	DM	D002	011519795JJK	Environmental Enterprises, Inc., Cincinnati, OH
UN1993, RQ, Waste Flammable Liquid, NOS, 3, PGII (Paint, Petroleum Naphtha)	3	DM	D001, D035, F003, F005	011519796JJK	ESSROC Cement Corporation, Logansport, IN
UN1993, RQ, Waste Flammable Liquid, NOS, 3, PGII (Paint, Petroleum Naphtha)	1	CF	D001, D035, F003, F005	011519796JJK	ESSROC Cement Corporation, Logansport, IN

**Regional Metrics**

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This is an Integrated River Assessment.	Miles of river systems cleaned and/or restored	NA
	Cubic yards of contaminated sediments removed and/or capped	NA
	Gallons of oil/water recovered	NA
	Acres of soil/sediment cleaned up in floodplains and riverbanks	NA
Stand Alone Assessment	Number of contaminated residential yards cleaned up	NA
	Number of workers on site	18
Contaminant(s) of Concern	Sulfuric acid, phosphoric acid, sodium hydroxide, sodium sulfite, naphtha, mercury, asbestos	
<b>Oil response Tracking</b>		
Estimated volume	Initial amount released	NA
	Final amount collected	NA
CANAPS Info	FPN Ceiling Amount	NA
	FPN Number	NA
	Body of Water affected	NA

## 2.2 Planning Section

### 2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

Emergency and time-critical removal actions are complete. No additional actions will be conducted.

#### 2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

No additional actions are planned.

#### 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

NA

### 2.5.2 Liaison Officer

NA

### 2.5.3 Information Officer

See previous PolReps.

## 3. Participating Entities

### 3.1 Unified Command

NA

### 3.2 Cooperating Agencies

EPA received support from IMPD, the Indianapolis Fire Department (IFD), City of Indianapolis, and Marion County Public Health Department (MCPHD).

#### 4. Personnel On Site

During the reporting period, the following personnel were on-site related to removal activities:

Agency/Company	# Personnel
EPA	1
START	1
AcuityES	1
Liquid Waste Removal	3
City of Indianapolis	1

#### 5. Definition of Terms

ACM	Asbestos-Containing Material
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
ERRS	Emergency and Rapid Response Services
I-65	Interstate 65
IFD	Indianapolis Fire Department
IMPD	Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department
MCPHD	Marion County Public Health Department
NA	Not applicable
NRC	National Response Center
OSC	On-Scene Coordinator
PolRep	Pollution Report
PRP	Potentially Responsible Party
START	Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team

#### 6. Additional sources of information

##### 6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

Additional information is available at [www.epaosc.org/holcombandhoke](http://www.epaosc.org/holcombandhoke).

##### 6.2 Reporting Schedule

A separate PolRep detailing the purchaser's activities will be submitted. No additional fund-lead PolReps will be submitted.

#### 7. Situational Reference Materials

NA