

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region IV
POLLUTION REPORT

Date: Tuesday, May 13, 2014

From: Carter Williamson

To: James Webster, USEPA R4 ERRPB

Subject: ESB

1246 Allene Avenue and Neighboring Properties, Atlanta, GA

Latitude: 33.7167000

Longitude: -84.4008000

POLREP No.:	15	Site #:	A4AB
Reporting Period:		D.O. #:	0045
Start Date:	2/15/2006	Response Authority:	CERCLA
Mob Date:	2/15/2006	Response Type:	Time-Critical
Demob Date:	6/25/2009	NPL Status:	Non NPL
Completion Date:		Incident Category:	Removal Action
CERCLIS ID #:	GAD078105749	Contract #	68-S4-02-04
RCRIS ID #:			

Site Description

The ESB, Inc., Site (Site), located at 1246 Allene Street in Atlanta, Fulton County, Georgia, is a defunct manufacturing facility which produced lead-acid automobile batteries from 1948 to 1988. Facility operations included casting lead alloys, producing oxides of lead, mixing lead pastes, and forming positive and negative battery plates. Manufacturing operations ceased in 1988. The Site, situated on 12 acres of land in a mixed-use zoning area in southwest Atlanta, Georgia is bordered by a railroad spur on the north, and residential properties on the west, southeast and south. The nearest residential property is located approximately 500 feet to the west of the facility. A child care center is located directly across the street from the facility to the west. It was alleged that during the manufacturing process, lead particles were released to the atmosphere via emissions from elevated roof stacks at the facility and impacted some of the surrounding properties.

In accordance with the AOC, EPA conducted a fund-lead, time-critical removal action at residential and commercial properties located in the immediate outside perimeter of the ESB facility. This cleanup action included the remediation of lead and arsenic from 48 residential yards and a ditch located downgradient and due north of the facility. Prior to remediation, lead contaminated soils in the yards and ditch revealed elevated lead of 500 mg/kg and 44,000 mg/kg, respectively.

An EPA Fund-lead, Time-Critical Removal Action was implemented at the Site to mitigate lead-contaminated soils identified at residential and commercial properties located in the immediate vicinity of the ESB facility. Lead contamination identified at the properties remediated during this action are suspected to have been directly impacted as a result of historical operations at the ESB facility.

As part of the Administrative Order on Consent for Removal Action (Order) for the ESB, Inc., Site and through a request of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division (EPD), Exide Technologies has employed the services of AMEC E&I (AMEC) to perform quarterly groundwater sampling at the Site. As of September 2010, OSC Carter Williamson has overseen the activities associated with the ESB Site.

Current Activities

On June 10, 2013, Exide filed for reorganization under Chapter 11 of the Federal bankruptcy code and notified EPA and EPD that it was ceasing work at the ESB, Inc., Site until a determination was made in the 2013 bankruptcy process as to any future work under the Order. Up to that point, several conference calls and meetings had taken place between EPA, EPD, Exide and AMEC to help progress the clean-up and remediation of the Site. At the time of the bankruptcy filing, Exide had drafted a letter outlining a potential path forward that was discussed during a meeting on March 21, 2013. Exide forwarded a letter and a proposed remediation plan to EPA and EPD on January 21, 2014 titled "Path Forward for Remediation" which addresses several remediation options focusing on soil excavation at various locations and depths on the former ESB Site. This document was forwarded to the Technical

Services Section for review and consideration. After reviewing the proposal, the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GAEPD) has forwarded their recommendations to EPA for comment and final decision. Once this decision is achieved, EPA and GAEPD will communicate with Exide to determine whether Exide will conduct the appropriate removal action based on the Agency's recommendations. EPA, GAEPD, Atlanta Code Enforcement, Councilwomen Shepard (District 12) and others participated in a community meeting at Perkerson Park on April 18th to address and update the residents on the progress at the Site. The Atlanta Newspaper Creative Loafing also printed a story of the community meeting and the site.

Planned Removal Actions

Once EPA and EPD review the proposed plan and provide comments to Exide, a removal action workplan will be developed that will outline Exides plan of action. At present, EPA and GAEDP are reviewing Exides proposal document which addresses six excavation remediation alternatives for soils at the Exide/Allene Avenue Site.

Next Steps

EPA and GA EPD, along with Atlanta Code Enforcement will continue to coordinate with Councilmember Joyce Sheperd, District 12 and her office to discuss their findings and to plan the path forward for the site. EPA will also be in contact with Exide on their remediation proposal and the Exide bankruptcy proceedings.

Key Issues

Remediation of the lead contaminated soils present on-site
 Code enforcement issues as it relates to the security of the building and the perimeter fencing
 Final dissolution of the actual structure (either demolition, selling it to a commercial development or transferrance to the community for use)

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
RST/START - Tetra Tech	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	100.00%
Intramural Costs				
Total Site Costs	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	100.00%

* 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.

response.epa.gov/ESB