

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region IV
POLLUTION REPORT

Date: Wednesday, January 26, 2005

From: Art Smith

Subject: Initial Polrep

Mid-Valley Pipeline Crude Oil Spill

MM 15.9 on the Kentucky River, Perry Park, KY

Latitude: 38.5575000

Longitude: -85.0044000

POLREP No.:	1	Site #:	1302
Reporting Period:	1/26/2005	D.O. #:	
Start Date:	1/26/2005	Response Authority:	OPA
Mob Date:		Response Type:	Emergency
Demob Date:		NPL Status:	Non NPL
Completion Date:		Incident Category:	Removal Action
CERCLIS ID #:		Contract #	
RCRIS ID #:		Reimbursable Account #	Z4HE
FPN#	E05405		

Site Description

On 1/26/2005 at approximately 0100 hrs., a 22-inch pipeline owned by Mid-Valley Pipeline ruptured and released 1500 barrels (over 60,000 gallons) of crude oil into the Kentucky River (NRC# 748277). The location of the break is along the north bank of the river at a point about 15 miles upstream of the confluence with the Ohio River. OSC Smith of the EPA Region 4 Louisville, KY Outpost Office and the USCG MSO Louisville were notified of the incident by the Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection (KYDEP) by 0700 hrs., and were onscene by 0900 hrs. Given that the spill was classified as a major oil discharge under the National Contingency Plan (NCP), the EPA OSC arranged for the following additional resources to be mobilized to the scene:

- EPA Environmental Response Team (ERT) and an EPA Region 5 OSC to assist in monitoring Responsible Party (RP) cleanup operations.

- Superfund Technical Assistance and Response Team (START) contractors to document the response to the incident.

In addition, the EPA OSC placed a verbal task order with the Emergency Response and Rapid Response Services (ERRS) contractor (CMC, Inc.) to supplement the cleanup resources which had been ordered by the RP. The OSC communicated to the RP rep onscene at the time the resources were ordered that a limited federal activation of cleanup resources was required given the time-critical task of containing the oil spill. As of 1/27/2005, at 0000 hrs., EPA will release the ERRS contractor, and the RP will pick up responsibility for this resource.

By 1300 hrs. the leading edge of the oil slick was observed to have traveled over 10 river miles from the leak site, and efforts were focused on establishing containment of the oil spill at Lock and Dam No. 1 on the Kentucky River. While the lock structure is no longer in operation, this location represented an access point and flow condition which would facilitate collection of oil product at a control point about 3 miles upstream of the Ohio River. By 1900 hrs., containment at this location was effective through the installation of over 200 feet of boom configured strategically to prevent the further migration of oil product.

On 1/26/2005, the Natural Resource Trustee agencies responding to the incident reported that approximately 75-80 geese were observed to have landed in the oil slick. 1 Canadian goose was recovered by the Kentucky Division of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR), and transported for rehabilitation by qualified personnel. No other impacts to natural resources (e.g., fish kills, etc.) attributed to this incident have been reported to date.

Potential impacts to public drinking water intakes are not suspected at this time, unless a significant discharge to the Ohio River takes place. The nearest drinking water intake is located in Louisville, KY,

approximately 40 miles downstream of the final collection point established in the Kentucky River.

Current Activities

Mid-Valley Pipeline has established an incident command system (ICS) structure and the environmental protection and natural resource agencies at the state and federal level are providing appropriate oversight of responsible party cleanup activities. Agencies represented in the Unified Command (UC) include USEPA, US Fish and Wildlife Service, US DOT Office of Pipeline Safety, KYDEP and the Kentucky Division of Emergency Management. A temporary incident command post has been established at the National Guard Armory in Carrollton, KY.

Press releases for the incident are being developed and issued through the Unified Command, and the next scheduled press conference is scheduled for 1300 hrs. on 1/27/2005.

Planned Removal Actions

Continue to maintain containment and begin product removal.

Conduct air monitoring and water sampling to measure the degree of impact to the environment caused by the oil spill.

Continue to monitor for impacts to affected natural resources and ensure that mechanisms are in place to treat/rehab affected wildlife.

Next Steps

A Regional Response Team teleconference is scheduled for 1/27/2005 at 1500 hrs. EST.

response.epa.gov/MidValleyPipeline