

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Bennett Landfill Fire - Removal Polrep
Initial Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region IV

Subject: POLREP #1
Emergency Response
Bennett Landfill Fire
B44Y
Chester, SC
Latitude: 34.7874300 Longitude: -81.4502500

To:
From: Terry Stilman, OSC
Date: 11/3/2014
Reporting Period: 11/2/2014 - 11/3/2014

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	B44Y	Contract Number:	
D.O. Number:		Action Memo Date:	
Response Authority:	CERCLA	Response Type:	Emergency
Response Lead:	EPA	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	11/2/2014	Start Date:	11/2/2014
Demob Date:		Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:	SCN000402727	RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:	1100014	State Notification:	11/2/2014
FPN#:		Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

Emergency Response to a Landfill Fire.

1.1.2 Site Description

The former Bennette Landfill was a Construction and Debris Landfill permitted by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC). SCDHEC issues a cease and desist order closing the landfill due to improper disposal practices, including improper disposal of asbestos containing materials (ACM) and improper covering of waste.

1.1.2.1 Location

The landfill is located adjacent to the city of Lockhart, SC.

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

High levels of particulates from the fire and the potential for offsite migration of ACM from the improper disposal practices of the landfill directly threaten residents in the city of Lockhart and emergency responders fighting the fire.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

On November 2nd, the former Bennette Construction and Debris Landfill was found to be on fire by the local Fire Department. Union and Chester County Emergency Management Agencies responded. The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) also responded. During the evening of November 2nd, the fire was still not under control and offsite migration of particulates generated by the fire became a concern. The landfill also received an unknown quantity of ACM during its operation. SC DHEC requested USEPA assistance. The fire is directly across the Broad River from the small town of Lockhart, SC, and there is a threat of contamination reaching the town. OSC Stilman, START and QSI were dispatched to the scene.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

During the early morning hours of November 3, OSC Stilman, START and QSI began air monitoring for particulates, VOCs, CO, H2S and LEL surrounding the landfill using a remote monitoring system. Chester and Union County EMA continued fire fighting operations. The landfill is estimated to be between 40 to 75 feet deep and approximately in 23 acres in size. The majority of the fire is within buried portions of the landfill.

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

The landfill owner is Crisis Hill, Inc. Both the County and State EMA have requested Crisis Hill Inc. assist with fire fighting operations. Heavy equipment is needed to uncover buried portions of the landfill that are on fire to allow for extinguishment.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

<i>Waste Stream</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Manifest #</i>	<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Disposal</i>

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

EPA will continue to provide air monitoring and technical support to SCDHEC and County EMAs. Fire fighting operations will continue. The landfill owner will contract for heavy equipment support to assist fire fighting operations.

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

Continue fire fighting and monitoring operations.

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

Determine resource needs over the next 24 hour period.

2.2.2 Issues

Unless heavy equipment is made available to assist with fire fighting efforts, fire may continue unabated for weeks or months. The presence of ACM in areas around the landfill will require decontamination of fire fighting equipment before demobilization.

2.3 Logistics Section

No information available at this time.

2.4 Finance Section

No information available at this time.

2.5 Other Command Staff

No information available at this time.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

- USEPA
- Chester County EMA
- Union County EMA
- SCDHEC
- Landfill Owner

4. Personnel On Site

- EPA - 4
- SCDHEC - 3
- EMA - 85

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.