

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Tacoma Asphalt Spill - Removal Polrep
Initial and Final Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region X

Subject: POLREP #1
Tacoma Asphalt Spill
Tacoma Asphalt Spill

Tacoma, WA
Latitude: 47.2691170 Longitude: -122.3816710

To: Rick Albright, EPA Region 10 (POLREP List)

From: Angie Zavala, OSC

Date: 2/12/2015

Reporting Period: First and Final

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	Contract Number:
D.O. Number:	Action Memo Date:
Response Authority: OPA	Response Type: Emergency
Response Lead: PRP	Incident Category: Removal Action
NPL Status: Non NPL	Operable Unit:
Mobilization Date: 2/9/2015	Start Date: 2/9/2015
Demob Date: 2/9/2015	Completion Date: 2/12/2015
CERCLIS ID:	RCRIS ID:
ERNS No.:	State Notification:
FPN#: E15002	Reimbursable Account #:

1.1.1 Incident Category

Emergency Response

1.1.2 Site Description

The site is in an industrial area near the Port of Tacoma.

1.1.2.1 Location

2240 Taylor Way Tacoma, Washington.

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

Approximately 20,000 gallons of petroleum based asphalt released from a 4" pipeline while pumping the product from the railcar into the storage tank. It is estimated that about 10,000 gallons of the product entered a nearby draining ditch which connects to the Blair Waterway and Puget Sound (navigable waters of the U.S.).

Wildlife was impacted by this incident. Two ducks landed in the asphalt and got stuck.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

EPA OSC Angie Zavala was mobilized on February 9, 2015 to evaluate the discharge or threat of discharge of petroleum to navigable waters of the U.S. Upon arrival, the plant manager (PRP) and his technical engineer, took OSC Zavala for a tour to the plant and to describe the details of the spill. The spilled started at the Gardner-Fields asphalt facility (PRP) and travelled via a ditch to City of Tacoma property. It was estimated that the asphalt travelled approximately 600 feet in the ditch from the facility toward the Blair Waterway. It was contained about 800 feet from the Blair Waterway. Boom and sorbent were put in place by the RP's contractor to prevent any sheen coming off of the asphalt from migrating further down the ditch. Two ducks that landed in the asphalt got stuck were recovered but thought unlikely to survive. Under direction of OSC Zavala and in coordination with the WA Fish and Game, a contractor was hired by the RP to conduct hazing in order to keep further wildlife from being contaminated by the sticky asphalt. OSC Zavala determined that the release was secure and demobilized Monday evening.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

At approximately 12:00 PM on February 08, 2015, 10,000 gallons of asphalt were released into a drainage

ditch off the facility while transferring asphalt from a rail car to a storage tank (capacity 1.6 million gallons). While pumping into tank 61, a flexible connection failed in the common fill line at tank 62. The valve to tank 62 was closed. The asphalt overflowed the oil water separator and left the facility via the storm drainage system. The equipment failure was discovered at 1:20 PM and pumping activities stopped. The asphalt traveled approximately 600 feet in the ditch from the facility toward the Blair Waterway. It was contained about 800 feet from the Blair Waterway. Boom and sorbent were put in place by the RP's contractor to prevent any sheen coming off of the asphalt from migrating further down the ditch. The ditch is currently under cleanup investigation conducted by the Washington Department of Ecology Toxic Cleanup Program. A recent sampling result showed high contamination of lead, arsenic, and TPH.

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

The PRP hired NRC Environmental cleanup contractor to conduct the cleanup and Focus Wildlife to provide hazing and deterrent measures. Washington Department of Ecology, Toxic Cleanup Program, would be the oversight agency for cleanup of the spilled asphalt.

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

The PRP is Gardner-Fields, LLC of Tacoma, WA.

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

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

Washington Department of Ecology Toxic Cleanup Program will oversee cleanup of the spilled asphalt.

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

2.2.2 Issues

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

2.5.1 Safety Officer

n/a

2.5.2 Liaison Officer

n/a

2.5.3 Information Officer

n/a

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

n/a

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

Washington Department of Ecology
 Washington State Fish and Wildlife
 Port of Tacoma Environmental
 City of Tacoma Environmental Services
 US Coast Guard
 NRC Environmental cleanup contractor

4. Personnel On Site

Washington Department of Ecology: Doug Stolz, and Marv Coleman.
 Washington State Fish and Wildlife: Donald Noviello, Dustin Prator, and Jeff Summit and his trainee.
 Port of Tacoma Environmental: Jenn Stabbings and Stewart Currie.
 City of Tacoma Environmental Services: Jason Yost.
 US Coast Guard: Trevor Stoerek, Michael Berlin, Seth Grayson, and Dana Grada.
 NRC Emergency Response: Jason Blair, Jason Potts, and Lance Baza.

5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

6. Additional sources of information

7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.