

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT  
Sycamore Point Mercury - Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Region IV

**Subject:** POLREP #3  
Apache Trail Continues/510 Cove Rd.  
Sycamore Point Mercury  
  
Woodstock, GA  
Latitude: 34.1514970 Longitude: -84.5619190

**To:**  
**From:** Stephen Ball, OSC  
**Date:** 3/4/2015  
**Reporting Period:** 2/27/15 - 3/3/15

**1. Introduction**

**1.1 Background**

<b>Site Number:</b>	<b>Contract Number:</b>
<b>D.O. Number:</b>	<b>Action Memo Date:</b> 2/23/2015
<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> 2/18/2015	<b>Start Date:</b> 2/18/2015
<b>Demob Date:</b>	<b>Completion Date:</b>
<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**

Emergency Response

**1.1.2 Site Description**

See Polrep # 1

**1.1.2.1 Location**

See Polrep # 1

**1.1.2.2 Description of Threat**

See Polrep # 1

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

See Polrep # 1

**2. Current Activities**

**2.1 Operations Section**

**2.1.1 Narrative**

**02/27/2015**

Clean-up operations continued through the weekend. On Friday, DeconGel was applied to a 150 ft x 8 ft area of roadway and allowed to dry. Gross elemental mercury recovery was conducted in the yard and the driveway. Beads are lodged in the cracks and divots of the concrete driveway and are unable to be recovered by traditional techniques. This area will be encapsulated to allow for a work space for the interior of the house.

**02/28/2015**

On Saturday the driveway was sealed with Kilz paint to encapsulate mercury beads contained in cracks and divots. The DeconGel was removed from the road and gross elemental mercury recovery was completed in the yard. A total of 5 fl ozs of elemental mercury was recovered from the exterior areas as well as five drums of mercury saturated dirt from manual removal techniques. OSC Ball and START Vasser investigated some neighbor tips including possible mercury contamination located at 515 Cherokee Mills and a reported site where mercury was buried. No mercury was found. EPA continues to coordinate with the community regarding their concerns.

**03/01/2015**

On Sunday crews began to construct a laydown area, heat tents, and new entry and exit points to address contamination inside the residence. EPA and START conducted a Level B recon entry into the home. Mercury beads and micro beads littered the floor of the downstairs apartment and garage. Micro beads were also spread in the cracks throughout the upstairs hardwood floors. It appears that a clean-up was attempted by the homeowners using a shop vacuum. A five gallon bucket with approximately one inch of mercury was located in the garage. Clean-up operations inside the house will commence on Monday. Access was received from the property rental company for the 510 Cove Rd residence. Cleanup operations projected to commence on 03/02/2015.

**03/02/2015**

Crews entered the basement of the source house in level C PPE to begin removal of visible mercury. Mercury vapor concentrations in the work area ranged from 100,000 - 200,000 ng/m3. A mercury vacuum was used to collect beads in the garage and downstairs apartment suite. START began to move personal items out of the garage, screen them and either dispose of them or place them in the heat and ventilation tent. Most items in the garage were giving an instantaneous reading of >50,000 ng/m3 and were slated for disposal. It is believed that micro beads may exist somewhere on the items or they have become so saturated with mercury vapors that they have become a source themselves. All items slated for disposal have been cataloged.

510 Cove Road clean-up commenced under the direction of OSC Berry. Personal items from were removed and carpets in one room and the hall and stairs was removed. Heating and venting operations were also performed. Personal items were cataloged and slated for disposal or treatment depending on mercury vapor readings.

**03/03/2015**

Crews continued removal of personal items at the source house for screening and cataloging. Additional mercury was vacuumed from the floors. Progress is slow due to the volume of items stored in the garage.

At 510 Cove Road additional carpet was removed from the living room and basement apartment after mercury vapor concentrations were observed at approximately 7,000 ng/m3 in the house. Personal items and some furniture was removed from the basement apartment. Concerns exist for a new born baby that is living in the downstairs apartment. EPA is coordinating with ATSDR for appropriate clean-up target air concentrations for this house.

**2.1.2 Response Actions to Date**

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

**2.1.4 Progress Metrics**

<i>Waste Stream</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Manifest #</i>	<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Disposal</i>
Mercury waste	solid	1 rolloff			Landfill

**2.2 Planning Section**

**2.2.1 Anticipated Activities**

- Continue clean-up actions at contaminated homes
- Continue CIC coordination with community
- Continue to coordinate access at additional properties

**2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities**

- Gain access, assess, and remediate, if necessary, mercury contaminated properties.
- Continue clean-up activities.

**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**

No information available at this time.

**3. Participating Entities**

**3.1 Unified Command**

EPA  
GA EPD  
GA Dept of Public Health  
**3.2 Cooperating Agencies**  
Cherokee County Schools  
American Red Cross  
ATSDR

#### **4. Personnel On Site**

OSC - 2  
START - 3  
ERRS - 6

#### **5. Definition of Terms**

ATSDR - Agency for Toxic Substances Disease Registry  
EPA - Environmental Protection Agency  
OSC - On- Scene Coordinator  
GA EPD - Georgia Environmental Protection Division  
NCP - National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan  
NRC - National Response Center  
CFR - Code of Federal Regulations  
RP - Responsible Party  
NOFI - Notice of Federal Interest  
EMA - Emergency Management Agency  
ERRS - Emergency Rapid Response Service  
CERCLA - Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act  
FPN - Federal Project Number

#### **6. Additional sources of information**

No information available at this time.

#### **7. Situational Reference Materials**

No information available at this time.