

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT  
Old Saratoga Hospital (RV1) - Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Region II

**Subject:** POLREP #4  
SPECIAL #1: On-site Removal Activities Initiated  
Old Saratoga Hospital (RV1)  
A-25L  
Providence Township, NY  
Latitude: 43.0993421 Longitude: -74.0065090

**To:** John Borowski, Providence Fire Department

**From:** Kelli Lucarino, OSC; Paul Kahn, OSC

**Date:** 8/3/2015

**Reporting Period:**

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

|                            |              |                                |                                 |
|----------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Site Number:</b>        | A-25L        | <b>Contract Number:</b>        | EP-S2-15-02                     |
| <b>D.O. Number:</b>        | 0010         | <b>Action Memo Date:</b>       | 7/24/2015                       |
| <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>          | Drums and other bulk containers |
| <b>Mobilization Date:</b>  | 8/3/2015     | <b>Start Date:</b>             | 7/21/2015                       |
| <b>Demob Date:</b>         |              | <b>Completion Date:</b>        |                                 |
| <b>CERCLIS ID:</b>         | NYN000201779 | <b>RCRIS ID:</b>               |                                 |
| <b>ERNS No.:</b>           |              | <b>State Notification:</b>     | 881709                          |
| <b>FPN#:</b>               |              | <b>Reimbursable Account #:</b> |                                 |

1.1.1 Incident Category

Emergency response at an abandoned former tuberculosis cure hospital.

1.1.2 Site Description

The Site is a former Saratoga County hospital that operated as a cure cottage for patients who had contracted tuberculosis. It was built in the late 19th Century, expanded in the early part of the 20th Century, and the present day structure consists of a two story steel frame brick-and-stone main building with a full basement, the remnants of a former boiler plant and electrical generation building, and a former waste water treatment plant (WWTP).

The facility was closed by the county in 1962 and was subsequently purchased in 1982 by Conifer Construction Group, Inc., a building company. An attempt was made to rehab the building and put it back in use as a senior citizen residence, but it proved to be unsuccessful and the facility was abandoned shortly thereafter.

1.1.2.1 Location

It is situated in a rural residential area approximately 10 miles west of Saratoga Springs, NY

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

The building contains hundreds of linear feet of asbestos pipe insulation, much of which has fallen onto the floors. In one room in the main building are 30 - 40 5-gallon pails of roofing tar and paint. In another room are approximately 50 yellow asbestos bags filled with friable asbestos. There is some type of pressure vessel in the basement that is partially covered with a 2 inch thick blanket of asbestos insulation; much of the insulation had fallen onto the floor. Inside the main building are mattresses, clothing and children's toys indicating that trespassers have been accessing the building and areas where there is asbestos insulation.

Inside the WWTP there are at least 30 full 55-gallon drums of waste water treatment chemicals, some of which were tipped over and some were bulging. In addition there are at least 2 30-gallon drums of sulfuric acid. This building is fully accessible to the public and located within 50 feet of a stream that empties into Sacandaga Lake approximately 1 mile away.

The initial removal action planned for this Site will be to address the drummed chemicals, of which there is approximately 100 containers from 1-gallon pails up to 55-gallon drums. Sampling of the suspected asbestos-containing insulation will take place during drum removal activities and may be the subject of a second removal action at this Site.

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

See above.

## 2. Current Activities

### 2.1 Operations Section

#### 2.1.1 Narrative

#### 2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

#### UPDATED INFORMATION IS IN BOLD FONT.

OSCs toured the facility and determined that a threat of a release of hazardous substances and friable asbestos existed.

Verbal authorization to conduct a time-critical removal action for the drummed chemicals abandoned at the Site has been given by the Deputy Director of the Emergency Response & Remedial Division. Funding in the amount of \$147,000 has also been obtained for this removal action. A draft Action Memo has been written, an ERRS contractor has been selected, and a Task Order to mobilize the contractor to the Site is pending.

**The Action Memo and confirmation of verbal authorization and funding signed by Director of ERRD on July 24, 2015. ERRS was activated and mobilized to the Site on 8/3/2015. While investigating a means to extract the drums from the WWTP ERRS discovered 4 additional drums of unknown chemicals and two full drums submerged in the WW settling tank. ERRS cleared a path through the underbrush over which the drums will be relocated into the CONEX boxes.**

**RST has located a public library in Galway Township and the Admin Record will repose in this library. The public announcement will be published in the Saratogan newspaper in Saratoga Springs.**

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

There is at least one known PRP, one of the former partners of Conifer Construction Group, Inc. He has given EPA written access to the entire site. There is one other individual who was associated with Conifer Construction Group, but that person's identity is presently unknown.

OSCs will obtain a search of tax records from the Saratoga County Clerk and will attempt to identify other PRPs from these records.

#### 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

**Begin haz-catting and sampling drums of unknown chemicals.**

**Transport samples to laboratory for analysis.**

**Issue bid documents for transportation and off-site disposal of drums of chemicals.**

**Establish the Admin Record and publish public announcement in local newspaper of general circulation.**

##### 2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

**See Section 2.2.1 above.**

##### 2.2.1.2 Next Steps

**See Section 2.2.1 above.**

##### 2.2.2 Issues

None.

### **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**

### **3.2 Cooperating Agencies**

**NYSDEC**

**Saratoga County**

**Providence Township**

## **4. Personnel On Site**

ERRS crew

EPA OSC

## **5. Definition of Terms**

No information available at this time.

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

### **6.1 Internet location of additional information/report**

See "Links" section of this web site.

### **6.2 Reporting Schedule**

## **7. Situational Reference Materials**

No information available at this time.