

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



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region II

Subject: POLREP #7
Bids Solicited for Transportation and Disposal of Waste Chemicals
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: 8/25/2015

Reporting Period:

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	A-25L	Contract Number:	EP-S2-15-02
D.O. Number:	0010	Action Memo Date:	7/24/2015
Response Authority:	CERCLA	Response Type:	Emergency
Response Lead:	EPA	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	Drums and other bulk containers
Mobilization Date:	8/3/2015	Start Date:	7/21/2015
Demob Date:	8/6/2015	Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:	NYN000201779	RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	881709
FPN#:		Reimbursable Account #:	

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.

ERRS retrieved 32 drums of haz waste from the WWTP, sampled same, and staged drums inside CONEX container. Thirty of the drums had contents that tested corrosive; some with pH as low as 1 and as high as 13. One drum tested positive for flammability. The contents of one other drum remains unknown and will be included in the samples sent to a lab for analysis. The Haz-mat ID instrument was used to categorize the waste streams.

ERRS staged 1 full, two partial, and 4 empty 15-gallon drums of bleach solution in the CONEX box. The bleach drums are marked "Surpass Chemical, Surchlor", a 12.5% bleach solution with a pH of 13. OSC contacted Surpass Chemical at their Albany facility they agreed to accept the drums and empties as returned goods. ERRS transported the drums and transferred them to Surpass where the material will be used in their on-site WWTP. ERRS also lab-packed approx. 100 pails of paint and roofing tar from the main building and staged them in the CONEX box pending T & D.

OSC met with town supervisor and briefed him on the status of the removal action. A member of the Providence Vol. fire company visited the site for a briefing on the removal action and contents of the CONEX boxes.

ERRS demobed crew and rented equipment at COB on 8/7/2015. Prior to leaving ERRS marked the CONEX boxes with flammable/corrosive placards and double-locked the front gate.

RST located a public library in Galway Township and the Admin Record will repose in that library. The public announcement will be published in the Saratogian newspaper in Saratoga Springs.

The laboratory report for the 4 composited liquid samples (combined from 32 drums) has been received. Lab results show the composite samples have either very high acidity (pH <2) or low acidity (pH 12.9). Samples also showed the presence of some metals in parts-per-billion concentrations, some had chlorinated components such as carbon tetrachloride (possible waste degreasing solvent) and some had flash points as low as 60 degrees F. One sample tested positive for reactive sulfides. A review of the results revealed nothing striking or out of the ordinary, and the sample results indicate that the waste chemicals will lend themselves to traditional disposal techniques such as incineration/fuels blending and chemical neutralization. Copies of the field test report sheets and the formal laboratory report can be found in the Documents section on this web site.

The Administrative Record for this removal action has been established at the Galway Township Public Library. The public notice for this removal action will be published in the *Saratogian*, a newspaper of wide circulation in Saratoga County, the week of August 25, 2015. A digital copy of the Admin Record can be found in the Documents section of this web site.

Profile sheets with the chemical and physical properties of the contents of 32 drums and 100 pails of hazardous waste have been compiled by the EPA response contractor. A Request for Quotation (RFQ) has been assembled and sent to vendors for competitive bidding for the transportation and final disposal of these chemical wastes. Bids are due back to the contractor NLT 8/31, a subcontract will be awarded and the shipping of the chemical wastes off Site for disposal will take place on a day between 9/8 and 9/11.

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>
Sodium hypochlorite	liquid	20 gals	B of L		recycled
Caustic (hi pH)	liquid			TBD	
Acidic (low pH)	liquid			TBD	
Ignitability	liquid			TBD	
Reactivity	liquid			TBD	

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

Award contract for transportation and off-site disposal of all drums of waste chemicals.

Select shipping date for all containers of chemical wastes.

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

None.

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

See Documents and Links Section.