

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Typhoon Soudelor - Polrep/Sitrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region IX

Subject: SITREP #22
Progress
Typhoon Soudelor

Saipan, MP
Latitude: 15.1778010 Longitude: 145.7509670

To:
Thru: Calvin Terada, Area Commander
From: Josie Clark, Planning Section Chief
Date: 9/1/2015
Reporting Period: 8/28/2015 - 9/1/2015

Executive Summary

EPA is working under 5 Mission Assignments from FEMA to date:

- 1) For activation and coordination (\$285,000);
- 2) Subject matter experts (SMEs) for water (\$210,000);
- 3) SME for debris management and household hazardous waste (HHW) planning (\$104,000); and
- 4) Direct Federal Assistance to collect, stage and dispose of downed and damaged transformers (\$1,000,000).
- 5) DFA to collect, stage and dispose of household hazardous waste (HHW) (\$1,400,000).

This report provides updates covering the operational period 8/28/15 pm through mid-afternoon 9/1/15 (ChST)

Unless specified otherwise all dates & times are in Pacific Daylight Time (PDT).

Please note the Sitrep frequency will be reduced to Tuesdays and Fridays only.

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	NA	Contract Number:	NA
D.O. Number:	NA	Action Memo Date:	
Response Authority:	Stafford Act	Response Type:	Emergency
Response Lead:	FEMA	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:		Operable Unit:	NA
Mobilization Date:	8/3/2015	Start Date:	
Demob Date:		Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:	NA	RCRIS ID:	NA
ERNS No.:	NA	State Notification:	NA

1.1.1 Incident Category

Stafford Act

1.1.2 Site Description

See initial (8/4/15) SitRep

1.1.2.1 Location

Saipan, CNMI

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

See initial (8/4/15) SitRep

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

1.2 Incident Objectives

Field Objectives:

1. Ensure the health and safety of responders
2. Minimize risk to the public and public health from typhoon impacts
3. Address environmental impacts of typhoon on CNMI
4. Support long-term recovery of CNMI from typhoon

EOC Objectives:

1. Ensure the health and safety of responders.
2. Support the EPA response to Typhoon Soudelor.
3. Provide information related to the response to EPA Region 9 and other stakeholders.
4. Identify and assign staff and other resources as needed to support the response.
5. Coordinate with FEMA on Mission Assignments, funding, logistical and other issues.
6. Address regulatory or technical issues related to environmental concerns.

1.3 Critical Resource Needs

None at the present time. However, communications and internet connectivity remain a significant issue on Saipan, which along with the difference in time zones further hampers communications between EOC & field personnel. Lodging for responders continues to be a major constraint, with some hotels damaged and unable to supply electricity and potable water.

1.4 Strategic Considerations

CUC anticipates that full power will not be back online for 2-3 months.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

2.1.2 Response Actions this Reporting Period

2.1.2.a - SMEs for Support of Water Functionality Task Force

CUC Water Distribution Recovery Summary:

CUC now has 65 wells operable, producing 5.3 MGD of sanitation water. This represents 51% of production capacity. More than 80% of population is now receiving sanitation water at least intermittently. Hours when water is available each day are increasing. CUC is doing weekly public announcements about boiling and disinfecting drinking water.

Bottled Drinking Water:

9 bottled water companies are operational, capable of producing 75,000 gallons of potable water/day. The remaining 5 companies are not operational. There is enough bottled water capacity to meet current demand. Saipan Ice is on island power.

Emergency Water Distribution Points:

CUC continues to operate three non-potable water distribution stations, from 1200 to 1900 daily. The CUC Capitol Hill station was closed at the end of the day on 8/27. Coral Ocean Point resort continues to operate its drinking water distribution point, from 1430 to 1730 daily. US National Park Service continues to operate a drinking water distribution station at American Memorial Park, from 0630 to 0830 daily. Lau Lau Bay Golf Resort in the Kagman area has opened a potable water distribution point.

Lab Capability:

BECQ's lab is operating at full capacity (60/samples per day). Water Task Force collected coliform bacteria and samples, and tested for chlorine residual disinfectant levels. DEQ is now prioritizing school water systems for testing. Updates regarding lab capability will not be included in future SitReps.

Wastewater:

All lift stations are operating and both WWTPs are operational full time. Updates regarding wastewater will not be included in future SitReps.

2.1.2.b - SME for debris removal planning support

EPA visited the quarry at Kagman, on 8/30, which is being used as a green waste collection area. Initially this site was used only for debris too large to be chipped, but it was now being used for green waste of all sizes. The presence of a large pile of green waste raised concerns about fire hazard from auto-ignition. EPA met with BECQ to discuss changing the site back to only large green waste and returning to chipping smaller green waste. After conversations with EPA and a fire that started in another organic debris staging area, BECQ has ceased adding small green waste to the pile in the quarry. Small green waste is being sent to chippers. Community members are taking advantage of free mulch, and the chipped material is not accumulating.

EPA has concerns about landfill compliance and capacity, and is documenting the situation.

2.1.2.c - Downed Transformers

The assessment team has almost completed assessment of damaged transformers on feeder Kiya 1 and has almost completed collection of transformers on Kiya 2. The collection crew completed collection of damaged transformers on feeder Kiya 4.

The table below provides data on numbers of transformers collected. Because of the time difference between Saipan and the mainland, the table shows the number of transformers collected from 1400 on one

day to 1400 on the next.

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Date(in Saipan)	Transformers Collected(as of 1430 Saipan time)
8/20 (partial day)	16
8/21	24
8/22	32
8/23	36
8/24	28
8/25	33
8/26	26
8/27	19
8/28	44
8/29	39
8/30	21
Total Collected:	318

2.1.2.d - Household Hazardous Waste (HHW):

The shipping container of supplies needed to establish HHW collection areas under this mission assignment shipped on 8/26. It is scheduled to arrive on Saipan on 9/18.

EPA revisited all of the sites identified as potential HHW sites – Lower Base Transfer Station, Isley Field and the Kagman Ag Station. Lots of white goods are already coming into the transfer station, and the area set aside for white goods there is full to capacity.

EPA met with BECQ on the increasing white goods and HHW needs, desires and potential schedules. It was decided that white good drop off areas would be open by next Friday, 9/11. EPA anticipates staffing the drop off locations on Fridays and Saturdays. A Public Service Announcement on white good drop off is being produced by EPA. EPA is also hoping to establish a temporary HHW collection site at the Lower Base Transfer Station. This will require approval from DPW. The transfer station is currently filled to capacity with a variety of waste. EPA anticipates hosting several HHW drop off events in September.

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

The EPA R9EOC anticipates continuing to communicate with and supporting our field personnel.

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

2.2.1.1.a - Water Functionality Task Force

The remaining WET team member on Saipan, Sue Cox, will demobe on Wednesday, 9/2. She will not be backfilled as further assistance isn't needed at this time. R9 will continue to provide technical assistance to BECQ and CUC regarding recovery of the drinking water supply system from San Francisco. It is anticipated that WET team members will return to Saipan when the system is repressurized. This requires the power grid to be functional which will not happen for 2 to 3 more months.

2.2.1.1.b - Debris removal planning support

Continue to provide support to FEMA, USACOE, and local agencies on debris collection and disposal. This includes providing guidance on the use of air curtain incinerators beyond 16 weeks and the reuse of treated wood power poles.

2.2.1.1.c - Downed Transformers

Continue collection of damaged transformers.

2.2.1.1.d - HHW

Plan for 2 to 3 events in September where people can drop off their HHW at an established HHW collection area.

White Goods collection is scheduled to begin on Friday, 9/11.

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

See above

2.2.2 Issues

2.3 Logistics Section

Not activated

2.4 Finance Section

No information available at this time.

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

None assigned

2.5.2 Liaison Officer

Lance Richman is available to provide additional support to the ESF-10 desk on Saipan.

2.5.3 Information Officer

Dean Higuchi in EPA's Honolulu office is assigned as PIO.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

NA

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

CNMI Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ)

CNMI Commonwealth Utilities Commission (CUC)

CNMI Dept. of Public Works (DPW)

USACOE

USCG

FEMA

4. Personnel On Site

Name	Position	Email	Telephone
Dale Becker	OSC (R10)	becker.dale@epa.gov	206-718-6257  (c)
Michelle Rogow	OSC	rogow.michelle@epa.gov	415-595-8347  (c)
Jason Musante	OSC	musante.jason@epa.gov	213-479-2120  (c)
Su Cox	Water Team	cox.susan@epa.gov	670 483-0754  (c)
Norwood Scott	Debris SME	scott.norwood@epa.gov	670-483-4825  (c)

Also:

5 USCG PST

4 ERRS

3 START

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.