

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT  
Michner Plating - Mechanic Street Site - Removal Polrep  
Initial Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Region V

**Subject:** POLREP #1  
Initial  
Michner Plating - Mechanic Street Site  
C57C  
Jackson, MI  
Latitude: 42.2541975 Longitude: -84.4060903

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**From:** Jeffrey Kimble, OSC

**Date:** 9/8/2015

**Reporting Period:** August 24, 2015 through September 4, 2015

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Background

<b>Site Number:</b>	C57C	<b>Contract Number:</b>	
<b>D.O. Number:</b>		<b>Action Memo Date:</b>	7/2/2015
<b>Response Authority:</b>	CERCLA	<b>Response Type:</b>	Time-Critical
<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>	8/24/2015	<b>Start Date:</b>	8/24/2015
<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

Time-Critical Removal Action.

#### 1.1.2 Site Description

Michner Plating Mechanic Street (Site) is a former plating shop which operated from the 1930s until 2007. Michner Plating also operated a separate facility on Angling Road in Jackson, Michigan, until May 2015. The Site contains approximately 1,000 drums, vats, totes, and other containers. Labels and sample analytical results indicate the potential presence of cyanide, zinc cyanide, nickel chloride, chromic acid, hydrogen peroxide, sulfuric acid, ignitable wastes, reactive wastes (including water reactive chemicals), and other chemicals.

### 1.1.2.1 Location

The Site is located at 520 North Mechanic Street in Jackson, Jackson County, Michigan, in a mixed commercial and residential area and is bound to the north by a commercial property, to the east by North Mechanic Street with residential dwellings and commercial properties beyond, to the south by East Trail Street with commercial properties beyond, and to the west by a railroad and the Grand River. The Site sits on roughly 4 acres, and contains four buildings totaling approximately 137,000 square feet.

### 1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

The Site contains approximately 1,000 drums, vats, totes, and other containers. Labels and sample analytical results indicate the potential presence of cyanide, zinc cyanide, nickel chloride, chromic acid, hydrogen peroxide, sulfuric acid, ignitable wastes, reactive wastes (including water reactive chemicals) and other chemicals. The Site is vacant and no longer maintained, and many of the containers showed signs of deterioration. Residences and other occupied properties are located approximately 250 feet east of Site, and the Grand River is located approximately 50 feet west of the Site, thus leading to the potential exposure of animals and humans to hazardous substances.

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

On June 2 and 3, 2015, EPA conducted site assessment activities at the site, which included collection of 8 samples from drums and other containers, and 2 samples of sludge material from the floor. The samples showed pH as low as 0.4 SU; flashpoint as low as 71.9°F; and hazardous concentrations of cadmium (up to 51,700 mg/kg), chromium (up to 259,900 mg/kg), lead (up to 18.2 mg/kg), mercury (up to 10.4 mg/kg), and silver (up to 16.6 mg/kg).

## 2. Current Activities

### 2.1 Operations Section

#### 2.1.1 Narrative

EPA initiated a time-critical removal action consisting of the removal of unknown materials on August 24, 2015.

#### 2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

8/24/2015 – Initiated mobilizing equipment, including EPA HazCat trailer, to the Site.

8/25/2015 - Mobilized personnel and additional equipment, including EPA Air Trailer, to the Site and began site setup activities, including, but not limited to, clearing non-hazardous debris items out of the garage and designating the garage as the equipment storage area.

8/26/2015 – Continued mobilizing equipment. Crews cleared non-hazardous debris materials from an area in the southern portion of the building, and began building a decontamination area.

8/27/2015 - Continued mobilizing equipment and building decontamination area.

8/28/2015 - Continued mobilizing equipment and completed the decontamination area. Crews began sweeping and clearing non-hazardous debris materials in the northern portion of the building and set up the area to use as a container staging area. Crews began moving containers into the staging area.

8/31/2015 – Continued moving containers into the staging area.

9/1/2015 – Continued moving containers into the staging area. Crews began sample collection activities in level B personal protective equipment (PPE). Crews collected samples from containers 001 thru 035.

9/2/2015 – Crews collected samples from containers 036 thru 074. Crew also cleared the outside areas of the site of non-hazardous debris materials.

9/3/2015 – Crews moved additional containers into the staging area and collected samples from containers 075 thru 138. Onsite chemist began hazard categorization.

9/4/2015 - Crews collected samples from containers 139 through 212. Onsite chemist continued hazard categorization of samples. On site security was on site for the weekend. No weekend or Holiday work is being conducted or is authorized other than site security.

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

Michner Plating Company is the potentially responsible party (PRP), however, the company relinquished ownership of the property to the Jackson County Treasurer's Office due to tax reversion and bankruptcy. The removal action is a Fund Lead as a result of the RP's bankruptcy and inability to finance the cleanup.

#### 2.1.4 Progress Metrics

Waste Stream	Medium	Quantity	Manifest #	Treatment	Disposal



## 2.2 Planning Section

### 2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

Anticipated activities for the next reporting period include continuing to move containers into the staging area and to continue collecting samples and performing hazard categorization.

#### 2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

Inventory and perform hazard characterization on all substances contained in containers, drums, tanks and spilled material on the floor and in pits;

Investigate the potential for soil contamination on the property;

Consolidate and package all hazardous substances, pollutants and contaminants for transportation and off-site disposal;

Dismantle and decontaminate process equipment, tanks and building components associated with the product process area, as necessary;

Remove from site and recycle or dispose of vats and waste containers and contaminated process equipment;

Transport and dispose of all characterized or identified hazardous substances, pollutants, wastes, or contaminants that pose a substantial threat of release at a RCRA/CERCLA approved disposal facility in accordance with EPA's Off-Site Rule (40 CFR § 300.440);

Take any other response actions to address any release or threatened release of a hazardous substance, pollutant or contaminant that the EPA OSC determines may pose an imminent and substantial endangerment to the public health or the environment.

#### 2.2.1.2 Next Steps

Continue to perform the planned response actions until cleanup is complete.

### 2.2.2 Issues

No issues to report at this time.

## 2.3 Logistics Section

Site logistics are being managed by ERRS.

## 2.4 Finance Section

No information available at this time.

## 2.5 Other Command Staff

### 2.5.1 Safety Officer

OSC is fulfilling this role.

### 2.5.2 Liaison Officer

OSC is fulfilling this role.

### 2.5.3 Information Officer

OSC is fulfilling this role.

## 3. Participating Entities

### 3.1 Unified Command

### 3.2 Cooperating Agencies

Jackson County Treasurer's Office  
City of Jackson Water Department  
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ)

## 4. Personnel On Site

EPA: 2  
USCG: 2  
START: 2  
ERRS: 10

## 5. Definition of Terms

CERCLA Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act

EPA Environmental Protection Agency

ERRS Emergency and Rapid Response Service

MDEQ Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

mg/kg milligrams per kilograms

OSC On Scene Coordinator

PPE Personal Protective Equipment

RCRA Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

PRP Potentially Responsible Party

START Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team

USCG United States Coast Guard

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

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

-- OSC reporting website with maps and technical documentation:

[www.epaosc.org/MichnerMechanicStreet](http://www.epaosc.org/MichnerMechanicStreet)

(create a login and password if this is your first time visiting)

### **6.2 Reporting Schedule**

POLREPs will typically be issued weekly.

## **7. Situational Reference Materials**

No information available at this time.