

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT  
Pirch Way Oil Spill - Combs Property - Removal Polrep  
Initial Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Region III

**Subject:** POLREP #1  
Removal Action Initiated  
Pirch Way Oil Spill - Combs Property  
  
Elkridge, MD  
Latitude: 39.1881900 Longitude: -76.7884629

**To:**  
**From:** Gregory Ham, On Scene Coordinator  
**Date:** 1/11/2016  
**Reporting Period:** 1/7-11/2016

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Background

<b>Site Number:</b>	<b>Contract Number:</b>
<b>D.O. Number:</b>	<b>Action Memo Date:</b>
<b>Response Authority:</b> OPA	<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> 1/7/2016	<b>Start Date:</b> 1/7/2016
<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> E16305	<b>Reimbursable Account #:</b>

#### 1.1.1 Incident Category

Removal action at an oil spill site.

#### 1.1.2 Site Description

This site is a private residence with a 275 gallon oil tank located outside adjacent to a mobile home.

##### 1.1.2.1 Location

6628 Pirch Way, Elkridge, Maryland 21075

##### 1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

Approximately 110 gallons of home heating oil was spilled at this site when a 275 gallon outdoor tank overturned. Some oil was recovered from the tank, but about 110 gallons was released migrated across two adjacent properties. A storm drain leading to a tributary to Deep Run is located approximately 100 yards from the spill location. Deep Run flows to the Patapsco River which empties into the Baltimore Harbor. Based on the foregoing, the OSC has determined that this incident poses a substantial threat of discharge of crude oil into the navigable waters of the U.S.

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

OSC Ham responded to the site on January 7, 2016 at the request of the Maryland Department of the Environment. The OSC observed the spilled oil on the ground, which had migrated approximately 100 feet from the initial spill location. The local fire department had responded and applied absorbent pads to the spill location. These pads were saturated, and a strong smell of oil was present in the area, and inside one of the adjacent homes. Due to the forecast for several days of rain, the OSC activated an EPA contractor to begin cleanup of the site. OSC Ham obligated funds from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund via CANAPS. An initial project ceiling of \$50,000 was obligated and FPN E16305 was assigned to the case.

## 2. Current Activities

### 2.1 Operations Section

#### 2.1.1 Narrative

Oil spill cleanup initiated.

#### 2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

The OSC activated an EPA cleanup contractor at the site. On January 7, 2016, the saturated pads that had been applied by the fire department were collected and drummed. Additional sorbent material was applied to the spill site, and then poly sheeting was placed over the spill area. The following morning, the sorbent material was removed, and several inches of soil were hand-excavated and drummed. At this time it was determined that the oil contamination extended into the subsurface soils, and that a deeper excavation

would be required. A call was made to have the utilities in the area identified. As this would take until Monday, January 11, 2016 to complete before further excavation could be initiated, it was determined that no further excavation would occur until this was completed, and the site was re-covered with poly sheeting.

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

The PRPs for this site are potentially the homeowner and the fuel delivery company.

**2.1.4 Progress Metrics**

<i>Waste Stream</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Manifest #</i>	<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Disposal</i>
Oil contaminated soil	soil	15 cubic yards			

**2.2 Planning Section**

**2.2.1 Anticipated Activities**

Return to the site on Tuesday, January 12, 2016 to begin further excavation of oil contaminated soils.

**2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities**

Excavate oil contaminated soils. Remove and properly dispose of contaminated soils. Restore site to previous condition.

**2.2.1.2 Next Steps**

**2.2.2 Issues**

OSC will work with MDE to determine cleanup levels for the site.

**2.3 Logistics Section**

Awaiting utility clearances. Awaiting delivery of a mini-excavator and rolloff box.

**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**

MDE, Howard County Fire, EPA

**4. Personnel On Site**

OSC, EPA contractors (ERRS and START)

**5. Definition of Terms**

No information available at this time.

**6. Additional sources of information**

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

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

**6.2 Reporting Schedule**

**7. Situational Reference Materials**

No information available at this time.