# United States Environmental Protection Agency Region X POLLUTION REPORT

Date: Tuesday, May 10, 2005

From: Marc Callaghan

To: Eugene Lee, EPA HQ (POLREP List) Chuck Donaldson, ODEQ

Preston Sleeger, Department of Interior Erin Lynch, EnE

(POLREP list)

Subject: Interim Report

Lacamas Explosion/Fire

3625 N Suttle Rd., Portland, OR

Latitude: 45.6131000 Longitude: -122.7056000

**POLREP No.:** 2 **Site #:** 10DL

**Reporting Period:** Tuesday May 10 **D.O.** #:

Start Date:Response Authority:CERCLAMob Date:Response Type:EmergencyDemob Date:NPL Status:Non NPLCompletion Date:Incident Category:Removal Action

CERCLIS ID #: Contract #

RCRIS ID #:

## **Site Description**

Lacamas Laboratories is a pharmaceutical manufacturing plant located in Portland, Oregon.

The Lacamas plant is located in an industrial setting of North Portland off of Marine Drive. The property is composed of approximately 8 buildings that are used for storing process chemicals and the equipment necessary to produce percursor pharmaceutical chemicals. The total area is approximately 2.4 acres according to information taken from www.portlandmaps.com

Concerns on site (beyond worker safety, fire and explosion) include the threat of runoff of pollutants and contaminants into the Columbia River.

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) requested EPA's assistance to both identify and mitigate any potential environmental threats on site.

EPA responded to the site at the request of the DEQ. EPA formed a Unified Command with the RP, (the RP's contractor NRC), DEQ, and the USCG.

### **Current Activities**

Summary from 1100 Planning Meeting:

Participants discussed roles during the removal action:

Environmental Issues: DEQ and USEPA will coordinate efforts to ensure that environmental concerns are addressed during all of the removal activies taking place on site.

Oregon Bureau of Environmenal Services will ensure that all site waters are disposed of properly and meet the necessary permit requirements. If water contaminats exceed applicable discharge permit values the waste water may be disposed of as process waste water at a local oil recycling facility.

OR OSHA: will be conducting an investigation into the cause of the accident.

Tim Archer with NRC gave an operations debrief for the operational period 0415 to 2000 (May 9,2005).

On Site activities completed included:

- -Five, 20K baker tanks have been filled with site contact waters.
- -Building 4 has had the liquids from the floor pumped into an aboveground poly tank.

-The Baker tanks and poly tank were sampled today for disposal purposes.

Off Site water activities included:

-changing out the sweep boom

Air monitoring activities are being conducted by Marine Environmental.

Incident Investigation is being conducted by OR OSHA. Six of eight buildings have been turned over to Lacamas Labs. The remaining 3 buildings still need to be inspected. OR OSHA and Insurance company representatives will be working together to coordinate collection of evidence.

The following staff were in attendance for the 1100 meeting:

Craig T Cristy, Structural Eng for RP Marc Callaghan, FOSC, USEPA

Jennifer Powell, RPOS

Greg Marhett, Schaffer Engineering, Insurance

Martin Stapelson, Sheaffer Engineering, Insurance

Mike Amen, Site Safety Officer, NRCS

Brian Williams, Site Safety Officer, Marine Environmental

Jason Davendonis, Shaw, Insurance

Mike Kratovil, Lacmas Labs

Peter Titteringtor, Lacamas Labs

Tim Dean, OR Bureau of Env Services

Allen Erickson, Owner Lacamas Labs

Erin Lynch, EPA-Ecology and Environment

Tim Archer, NRCS, Removal Manager

Penny Wolfe McCormick, Oregon OSHA

Jason Potts, NRCS

## **Planned Removal Actions**

Continue to control site runoff. All site contact water will be collected in Baker tanks and tested prior to disposal.

Maintain curtain and absorbent boom on the Columbia River.

Complete integrity analysis of impacted buildings on site. Shore buildings as necessary to provide safe environment for removing chemical and debris. RP's Engineer will approve all building safety.

Continue air monitoring during operating hours.

Maintain 24 hour security.

#### **Key Issues**

Need to ensure that damaged chemical containers from inside building structures are handled by the appropriately trained personnel.

response.epa.gov/lacamas\_fire