

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region VI
POLLUTION REPORT

Date: Wednesday, August 3, 2005

From: Scott Harris, Ph.D.

Subject: Discharge to POTW begins
Valley Solvent and Chemical Fire
2573 N.E. 33rd St., Fort Worth, TX
Latitude: 32.8050000
Longitude: -97.3119000

POLREP No.:	4	Site #:	A601
Reporting Period:	08/03/2005	D.O. #:	
Start Date:		Response Authority:	CERCLA
Mob Date:	7/28/2005	Response Type:	Emergency
Demob Date:	7/29/2005	NPL Status:	Non NPL
Completion Date:		Incident Category:	Removal Action
CERCLIS ID #:		Contract #	
RCRIS ID #:			

Site Description

On July 28, 2005, EPA Region 6 was notified of a large fire and heavy plume at the Valley Solvent and Chemical Company, Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas. Several explosions, injuries and nearby evacuations were reported. The smoke could be seen for 30+ miles.

Valley Solvent and Chemical is a chemical repackaging facility located approximately four miles north of downtown Fort Worth. Valley maintains a large inventory and variety of hazardous substances in tanks, drums and smaller containers. The site is located in an industrial complex with adjacent residential areas located less than one mile to the south and west. The cause remains under investigation.

Current Activities

Contractors continue to analyze, pretreat and accumulate runoff water. Organics, pH and foaming are the primary concerns.

Discharge to the Fort Worth POTW began today. TCEQ and FW are limiting discharge to one 20,000-gallon frac-tank at a time at a rate NTE 100 gpm. The POTW will determine whether foaming is a problem in the aeration portion of the system. If so, defoamer may be used.

OSHA inspectors, insurance company representatives and others are at the site investigating potential causes and interviewing employees and responders.

TCEQ may again request START and EPA support with the HAPSITE to accelerate analytical efforts.

Planned Removal Actions

Numerous fractionation tanks are staged at the containment dams to continue pretreating contaminated runoff for discharge to POTW.

TCEQ will coordinate site remediation once investigators release the site.

Next Steps

Continue to coordinate and support water management activities

Key Issues

Two million gallons or more of contaminated runoff water discharged / flushed from the storm water system and contained.

Extreme heat poses a threat to workers.

