United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region IX
POLLUTION REPORT

Date: Thursday, August 24, 2006
From: Craig Benson

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Subject: Continuation of Action
Atlas Metals
10019 S. Alameda St., Los Angeles, CA
Latitude: 33.9464000
Longitude: -118.2297000

POLREP No.:	2	**Site #:**	09NM
Reporting Period:	8/17/06 - 8/23/06	**D.O. #:**	
Start Date:	8/3/2006	**Response Authority:**	CERCLA
Mob Date:	8/14/2006	**Response Type:**	Time-Critical
Demob Date:		**NPL Status:**	Non NPL
Completion Date:		**Incident Category:**	Removal Action
CERCLIS ID #:	CAN000908308	**Contract #**	
RCRIS ID #:			

Site Description
The Atlas Iron and Metal Co., Inc. site (Atlas) is located at 10019 South Alameda Street in the City of Los Angeles, California. Atlas is bordered to the north by LEX-West, a Lexington Steel Corporation, to the south by David Starr Jordan High School facilities and to the west by the Jordan High School sports field. Alameda Street and the Alameda corridor border Atlas facility to the east. The Los Angeles River is located 3.5 miles southeast of Atlas. Atlas is an approximately three acre active metal recycling facility where scrap metal is stored and prepared for reuse by cutting, welding and sorting operations. The site has operated as a metal recycling facility since approximately 1949.

In October, 2005 the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), submitted a formal Request for Federal Action to EPA to address two waste piles present at the facility. Subsequent negotiations between EPA, DTSC and the PRP resulted in an EPA-approved PRP Removal Action Workplan and Health and Safety Plan for the excavation and disposal of the waste piles and any associated areas of soil contamination. The PRP removal team mobilized on August 14, 2006. Field operations are expected to conclude at the end of August or early September 2006.

See POLREP #1 for additional site description.

Current Activities
All removal activities are being conducted by the PRP under the terms of an EPA-approved Removal Action Workplan (RAP) and Site Health and Safety Plan (HASP). EPA approved the RAP on 8/3/06 and the HASP on 8/7/06. The following organizations are participating in the removal action:

- EPA - Providing primary oversight of RAP implementation.
- DTSC - Providing oversight of RAP implementation and lead for community involvement coordination.

• SOS - Prime PRP contractor responsible for overall site removal activities. In addition they are collecting perimeter air samples for lead contamination.
• ERRG - SOS subcontractor; responsible for sorting through waste piles to separate ferrous metals and waste, loading of wastes for off site disposal, and exclusion zone air monitoring for dust emissions.
• GENI - ERRG subcontractor; responsible for personnel safety monitoring.

8/17/06
Personnel On-Site: OSC Jason Musante, 1-START, 1-SOS, 5-ERRG, 1-GENI.

A. ERRG continued processing of the large pile. Work in the exclusion zone was performed in modified level D PPE. Dust suppression was performed using water mist and other control measures identified in the RAP.

B. ERRG and SOS continued air monitoring/sampling activities for particulates/lead in dust. Additional air monitoring for organic vapors was performed with a PID; no concentrations of concern were reported. SOS provides OSC Musante with copy of analytical data from hi-volume air sampling conducted on 8/14/06. Results from all three sampler locations were ≤ 0.0015 mg/m3 as lead. The OSHA PEL for lead is 0.05 mg/m3.

C. START continued air monitoring for particulates at the southwest corner of the site, in the direction of Jordan High School. The PDR was operated for 7.5 hours with a final TWA of 0.022 mg/m3.

D. At 1030 hours, GENI safety officer stops work due to strong sulfur/organic odor reported by workers in the exclusion zone. Air monitoring with PID indicated no concentrations of concern reported. ERRG decontaminated the tracked-loader in preparation for swap out for wheeled-loader. ERRG suspends activities until a 4-gas meter, with H2S sensor, can be brought to the site.

8/18/06
No work performed at the site due to lack of availability of air monitoring equipment and transportation for stockpiled wastes. Activities at site will resume on Monday 8/21/06.

8/21/06
Personnel On-Site: OSC Musante, 1-START, DTSC B. Wu, 1-SOS, 6-ERRG, 2-GENI.

A. SOS provides OSC Musante with Generator's Waste Profile Sheet and Land Disposal Notification and Certification Form approved by Chemical Waste Management, Inc. (CWM) for site wastes. ERRG completed loading of three trucks for transport to CWM facility in Kettleman City, CA. These are Ship, Treat, and Evaluate loads for the disposal facility to test the procedure for processing of the wastes. Truck loading and decontamination was performed using procedures identified in the RAP.

B. ERRG HASP amended to cover level B activities; GENI gives level B training to ERRG personnel. ERRG personnel enter the exclusion zone in level B and performing air monitoring with PID, 4-gas meter (including H2S), and SO2 meter. Concurrently, ERRG performed potholing with excavator to uncover potential pockets of gases. No concentrations of concern were observed with any instrument.

C. ERRG continued processing of the large pile. Work in the exclusion zone was performed in level C PPE. Dust suppression was performed using water mist and other control measures identified in the RAP. ERRG and SOS continued air monitoring/sampling activities for particulates/lead in dust. Additional air monitoring for organic vapors was performed with a PID; no concentrations of concern were reported.

D. START continued air monitoring for particulates at the southwest corner of the site, in the direction of Jordan High School. The PDR was operated for 7.5 hours with a final TWA of 0.026 mg/m3.

8/22/06
Personnel On-Site: OSC Musante, 1-START, DTSC B. Wu, 1-SOS, 5-ERRG.

A. ERRG continued processing of the large pile. Work in the exclusion zone was performed in modified level D PPE. Dust suppression was performed using water mist and other control measures identified in the RAP.

B. ERRG and SOS continued air monitoring/sampling activities for particulates/lead in dust. Additional air monitoring for organic vapors was performed with a PID; no concentrations of concern were reported. START continued air monitoring for particulates at the southwest corner of the site, in the direction of Jordan High School.

8/23/06
Personnel On-Site: OSC Musante, DTSC B. Wu, 1-SOS, 5-ERRG.

A. ERRG continued processing of the large pile. Waste material in the northern end of the large pile is relatively consolidated, slowing excavation. Processing has caused the consolidated waste material to "fluff up" resulting in more volume of material than anticipated in the RAP. A gross estimate of 2,000 yd3 has been stockpiled for disposal to date.

B. Inspection of the excavation area revealed the lack of a hardscape surface underlying the large pile area. SOS proposed to cease further excavation and cap waste body in place, based on concerns of completing activities prior to the resumption of classes at Jordan H.S. on 9/5/06 and limitations of PRP budget for removal. OSC Musante concurred that the proposed action would mitigate threat of contaminant migration and meet objective of completion of activities before 9/5/06, with the stipulation that post-removal sampling be performed to characterize the waste body left in place.

C. Work in the exclusion zone was performed in modified level D PPE. Dust suppression was performed using water mist and other control measures identified in the RAP. ERRG and SOS continued air monitoring/sampling activities for particulates/lead in dust. Additional air monitoring for organic vapors was performed with a PID; no concentrations of concern were reported. EPA/START air monitoring for particulates at the southwest corner of the site was discontinued due to low-level TWA concentrations observed throughout removal activities to date.

D. OSC Musante and A. Helmlinger (EPA ORC) participated in a conference call with DTSC to discuss site progress/next steps. DTSC concurred with OSC Musante's recommendation to cap large pile area and sample to characterize waste body left in place.

Planned Removal Actions
In progress.

Next Steps
- Loading and transportation stockpiled waste for disposal. 25 trucks per day are scheduled for 8/24, 25, 28, 29, and 30.
- Final grading of large pile area.
- Surface clean-up of site work zones and adjacent areas including original small pile area, waste stockpile area, truck loading area, and support zones.
- Post-removal sampling in the large pile area.
- Installation of visqueen and sub-base in preparation for paving in large pile area.
- Asphalt final capping of the large pile area.

Key Issues
- EPA approval of final grade in large pile area.
- EPA approval of SOS post-removal sampling strategy.
- EPA approval of final cap in large pile area.
- EPA receipt of additional SOS air sampling data for review.
- EPA and DTSC continue working together on community involvement.

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
Intramural Costs				
Total Site Costs	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	0.00%

* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.