

**United States Environmental Protection Agency**  
**Region X**  
**POLLUTION REPORT**

**Date:** Friday, July 11, 2003

**From:** Marc Callaghan

<b>To:</b>	Chris Field, USEPA	Terry Eby, USEPA
	Mary Matthews, USEPA	Jeff Fowlow, Ecology & Environment
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**Subject:** Interim

Columbia American Plating Company  
3003 NW 35th Avenue, Portland, OR  
Latitude: 45.5442000  
Longitude: -122.7189000

<b>POLREP No.:</b>	11	<b>Site #:</b>	10BD
<b>Reporting Period:</b>	Monday July 7-Friday July 11	<b>D.O. #:</b>	64-10-16
<b>Start Date:</b>	5/13/2003	<b>Response Authority:</b>	CERCLA
<b>Mob Date:</b>	5/15/2003	<b>Response Type:</b>	Emergency
<b>Demob Date:</b>		<b>NPL Status:</b>	Non NPL
<b>Completion Date:</b>		<b>Incident Category:</b>	Removal Action
<b>CERCLIS ID #:</b>	ORD068788926	<b>Contract #</b>	TDD#0305004
<b>RCRIS ID #:</b>	ORD068788926		

**Site Description**

CAPC is a medium sized commercial metal plating facility that performs several kinds or electroplating. Historically the site has been used for plating operations with zinc, nickel, copper, chromium, silver, gold, tin, and cadmium. Although processes varied from one metal to another, their general process involved pre-cleaning with caustic solution or solvent, acid pickling (which eliminated scales remaining after cleaning), metal plating, and often a final chromate dip to protect plated surfaces. Zinc plating is currently the primary process at the site. The facility employed approximately 13 people.

The primary concern at this Site was the threat of fire and explosion. The secondary concern is the threat posed by CERCLA hazardous substances and pollutant or contaminants releasing from abandoned drums, Above Ground Storage Tanks (AST's) and process area vats. Drums and containers onsite will continue to deteriorate over time. As a result, the potential of solvents, acids, bases, oil, and toxic chemicals to be released to the environment is high.

See initial Polrep for further background information.

**Current Activities**

Monday, July 7, 2003

EPA OSC (1), USCG PST (2), START (3), and ERRS (6) members on site. ERRS contractors continued breaking down the plating lines in the Main Plating Area (MPA). Debris removed from the MPA is being placed in roll off bins for disposal as RCRA contaminated debris. A START geo-probe sampling team mobilized to the site today. Subsurface soil and water sampling will be conducted over the next two weeks to determine the degree and severity of subsurface contamination throughout the property. Geo-probe activities will begin inside the MPA tomorrow. An addendum to the Site Specific Sampling Plan was submitted and approved today for all activities associated with this subsurface sampling event. Approximately 15 boreholes have been cut in the concrete floor of the MPA by ERRS. START

will use a Geoprobe direct-push sampler to collect subsurface soil and water samples. Soil samples will be collected from three different depths below ground surface: 0-5feet, 5-10', and 10-15'. The soil samples will be field screened on site using a portable X-ray Fluorescence (XRF) instrument for the targeted analytes (metals). Approximately 30% of the soil samples having detects will be sent to an analytical laboratory for further analysis. Approximately 5 soil samples will be analyzed for VOC and SVOC's. Groundwater samples (GWS) will be collected from each of the 15 boreholes within the MPA. Field screening of the GWS for TCE using colormetric tubes will identify which samples should be sent for further analytical testing. Approximately 30% of the GW samples will be sent to an analytical lab for metal, VOC and SVOC analysis.

Tuesday, July 8, 2003

EPA OSC (1), USCG PST (2), START (6), and ERRS (6) members on site. START initiated the collecting of subsurface soil and water samples. 1 borehole within the MPA was sampled today.

Wednesday, July 9, 2003

EPA OSC (1), USCG PST (2), START (6), and ERRS (6) members on site. START continued collecting subsurface soil and water samples. 4 boreholes within the MPA were sampled today. ERRS continued overpacking dry chemicals from the NSA and laboratory. These overpacked chemicals are being staged in the South Side Staging Area (SSA) for future disposal. ERRS completed overpacking dry chemicals in the Cyanide room, and staged them for removal from site.

Thursday, July 10, 2003

EPA OSC (1), USCG PST (2), START (6), and ERRS (6) members on site. ERRS continued staging dry chemicals in the SSA from the NSA. ERRS continued to move vats, and access subsurface soils by cutting through the concrete in the MPA. START continued documentation of ERRS activities moving dry chemicals to SSA. START has completed drilling and the collection of soil and groundwater samples from ten bore holes to date. START delivered soil and groundwater samples collected on July 9, 2003 to NCA Laboratories for analysis of RCRA total metals, TCLP total metals, and cyanides.

Friday, July 11, 2003

EPA OSC (1), USCG PST (2), START (6), and ERRS (5) members on site. ERRS Completed drilling holes in concrete in the MPA, also completed drilled three more holes in the basement of the facility. Historically plating operations took place in the basement. Reports by local firefighters indicated that a high water table often flooded the basement. EERS continues to group, and overpack drums in the SSA, as well as removing vats from the MPA. START continues documentation of ERRS activities grouping, and filling drums in SSA with dry chemicals. START continued sampling with Geo-probe, and has completed drilling and collection of soils and groundwater samples from 14 boreholes to date.

### **Planned Removal Actions**

ERRS will continue to access subsurface soils for the START team in the main plating area by cutting through the concrete pad and exposing native soils.

START initiated a subsurface sampling effort this week. Geo-probing activities are expected to take 2 weeks and will end July 18, 2003. An addendum to the Site Specific Sampling Plan (SSSP) and Health and Safety Plan was completed on July 9, 2003.

The WWTU and the 6 above ground storage tanks associated with that operation will have their RCRA hazardous waste sludges removed and placed into on site slurry boxes July 15-17. Analytical data indicates the presence of metals and CN above acceptable treatment standards. The sludges will need to be treated for elevated CN levels and solidified prior to disposal.

### **Next Steps**

Where appropriate, ERRS will continue bulking hazardous waste by waste stream and remove via vacuum truck, baker tank, or drums, for proper disposal.

ERRS will continue removing contaminated debris, characterize sludges and liquids beneath vats in plating room as well as remove all sludges and liquids from floor and wastewater treatment unit.

### **Key Issues**

1) WASTE STREAM TRACKING:

-Please refer to Polrep #5.

2) PUBLIC DOCUMENTS:

-The Administrative Record for this site is available for Public review at the Multnomah County Central Library located at 801 SW 10th Ave./ Portland, OR 97205. The Administrative Record can be located in the Government Documents Collection. Mary Goldie is the Library Contact.

-Please refer to Documents link at the bottom of this page.

[response.epa.gov/ColumbiaAmericaPlatingCo](https://response.epa.gov/ColumbiaAmericaPlatingCo)