

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region II
POLLUTION REPORT

Date: Wednesday, November 15, 2006

From: Paul Kahn

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Subject: Initiation of Action
Bio-Tech Mills OPA Removal Site
RFD 2, Battenville, NY
Latitude: 43.1097000
Longitude: -73.4225000

POLREP No.:	6	Site #:	n/a
Reporting Period:		D.O. #:	029
Start Date:	6/6/2006	Response Authority:	OPA
Mob Date:		Response Type:	Non-Time-Critical
Demob Date:		NPL Status:	Non NPL
Completion Date:		Incident Category:	Removal Action
CERCLIS ID #:		Contract #	EP-W-O4-055
RCRIS ID #:		Reimbursable Account #	2005HR02H0X71302D91CZ271
FPN#	E05204		

Site Description

Site is a defunct paper converter which manufactured tissue and toilet paper, and is located within 10 feet of the Battenkill River in upstate rural NY. Owner operates a business office at the site, but manufacturing ceased 12 years ago.

Since April, 2004, OSC has been working with the owner to remove approx. drums of hydraulic fluid, PCB fluids, waste oil and other chemical substances. The CERCLA removal action was completed in June, 2005.

During the removal action, the OSC observed a large oil tank on the property. Closer examination revealed the presence of approx. 10,000 gallon of aged #6 oil being stored in what was a deteriorated metal tank that had inadequate secondary containment.

Inasmuch as the mill has been shut down for 12 years and will never operate again, the OSC determined that the oil being stored in the deteriorated tank, with less than adequate secondary, constituted a significant threat of a release of petroleum to a navigable waterway of the United States. Because of the Petroleum Exclusion in CERCLA, the oil will be now be addressed with funding authority under CWA-Oil Pollution Act '90. The owner has agreed to cooperate with EPA and have the oil removed.

See separate site profile for "Bio-Tech Mills-CERCLA" for additional information.

Current Activities

ERRS contractor continues to draft the Health & Safety Plan (HASP) and Work Plan, and investigate possible end-users for the #6 oil.

Planned Removal Actions

Crew move is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, November 29, 2006, at which time the crew will clear brush, small trees, and other obstacles from the areas around the tank and leading up to the tank. ERRS will begin to demolish parts of the block wall surrounding the tank, and will cut away piping and other extraneous objects so that they can access the interior of the tank.

Next Steps

Finalize HASP and Work Plan.

Mobilize crew to Site to begin work.

Key Issues

Key issues are finalizing the necessary plans and moving crew to the Site before the onset of winter temperatures and snow.

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