

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

Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2006

From: Perry Gaughan

To: Shane Hitchcock, EPA ERRB

Jim McGuire, USEPA - Region IV

Subject: Clean-up Continues
Synthron Chemical Fire
305 Amherst Road, Morganton, NC
Latitude: 35.7569000
Longitude: -81.6600000

POLREP No.:	7	Site #:	A4LD
Reporting Period:	8-16 thru 8-30-06	D.O. #:	
Start Date:	5/9/2006	Response Authority:	CERCLA
Mob Date:	5/8/2006	Response Type:	Time-Critical
Demob Date:		NPL Status:	Non NPL
Completion Date:		Incident Category:	Removal Action
CERCLIS ID #:	NCD982121790	Contract #	
RCRIS ID #:			

Site Description

For Site description and background information, refer to previous POLREP.

Current Activities

On Monday, July 31st, ERRS (WRS Inc.) continued demolition operations by taking down the 65 foot conical urea tower and support structure on site. The majority of the tower was constructed of thin sheet metal and was found to contain approximately six cubic yards of residual urea which was staged for future disposal. Errs also continued asbestos abatement activities of asbestos remaining on pipes throughout the remaining structure.

During August, Errs began preparing the concrete floor of the main reactor building to serve as a staging pad for over 800 hazardous waste drums accumulated on site. This effort included demolition of the east and northern walls of the structure as well as concrete pads north of the structure. During demolition activities, several underground pipes running from the tank farm area to the main reactor building were uncovered and isolated for disposal. On August 22nd, after the main building concrete pad was prepared, Errs began staging and segregating drums on the warehouse pad by waste stream.

In an effort to minimize potentially contaminated run off from impacting Hunting Creek, Errs continue to collect and treat site stormwater. During heavy rainfall events, the site accumulates approximately 20,000 gallons of runoff per inch of rain. On August 11th through August 13th for example, 80,000 gallons of storm water was collected during a major rain event and eventually treated on site.

START contractors continue to assist with asbestos air sampling, haz-cattng of unknown drums and materials and sampling plan support. USCG Strike Team continues to monitor general site activities with emphasis on contractor safety. Working conditions during August were extremely hot with temperatures approaching 100 F, so emphasis is placed on staying hydrated.

The OSC and Errs disposal coordinator also finalized plans for three chemical companies to pick up 128 raw material drums which were not damaged from the initial fire and explosion. The majority of the drums were styrene and butyl acrylate monomer.

The OSC continues to coordinate efforts with local Synthron management. The facility still contains assets which have residual value for the company.

Planned Removal Actions

Continue demolition of main building to recover hazardous materials. Continue sampling and hazcattng of totes and tanks. Begin discharge of FT 7, 8, 9, 11, and 12 to POTW. Schedule disposal of remaining frac tanks. Continue perimeter monitoring for dust and asbestos during demolition activities.

Key Issues

Disposal of wastewater for off site treatment and to POTW.
Disposition of unopened raw materials
Bulking of hazardous and non-hazardous waste for disposal
Asbestos segregation and removal
Demolition of main building and boiler rooms
Inventory of assets that will be left on site

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
ERRS - Cleanup Contractor	\$1,450,000.00	\$620,000.00	\$830,000.00	57.24%
IAGs - Coast Guard	\$25,000.00	\$5,233.00	\$19,767.00	79.07%
RST/START	\$240,000.00	\$200,000.00	\$40,000.00	16.67%
Intramural Costs				
Total Site Costs	\$1,715,000.00	\$825,233.00	\$889,767.00	51.88%

* 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.

response.epa.gov/synthron

POLREP #7 Last Updated 3/4/2007