

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region IV
POLLUTION REPORT

Date: Monday, October 30, 2006

From: Perry Gaughan

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

POLREP No.:	9	Site #:	A4LD
Reporting Period:	10 -01 thru 10-30-06	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

Throughout October, Errs concentrated on the final phase of hazardous waste disposal of over 800 drums of waste including bulking of compatible drums to minimize disposal costs. Errs continued solidification and disposal of semisolid polymer waste (mostly butyl acrylate) from waste tanks and totes staged on site.

Disposal activities during October included: 80 drums of mixed waste stream (oxidizers, acids, etc.) to Environmental Enterprises, Cincinnati, Ohio, 2510 gallons of caustic solution to EQ Environmental, Detroit, Michigan, 79 drums of non-bulkable flammable waste to Giant Resources Recovery, Sumter, South Carolina, 11 drums of unused Synthron product to Marlin Chemical, Lenoir, North Carolina, and 28 drums, 19 labpacks, 4 totes of additional mixed waste drums to Environmental Enterprises, Cincinnati, Ohio on October 25th.

Errs also continued demolition operations of the maintenance shed and surrounding concrete, and concrete structures around the tank farm area to prepare the tanks for transfer. In addition, Errs arranged for the asbestos abatement of one of the steam boilers on site as well as a 10,000 gallon tank which contained residual amounts of paraformaldehyde waste. Six 10,000 gallon horizontal tanks from the tank farm area were transported off site as arranged by Synthron management. On site collection and treatment of stormwater continues.

The USCG Strike Team continues to monitor general site activities with emphasis on contractor safety.

The OSC continues to coordinate site operations with Synthron management and local government officials. The OSC met with Burke County Manager Ron Lewis in Morganton on Wednesday, October 11th to discuss the expected time frame and eventual site closure. The OSC had a few safety concerns and was referred to Chief of Public Safety, Mark Tolbert. The OSC contacted Mr. Tolbert and explained the eventual site closure with the main building concrete foundation remaining. Mr. Tolbert and county officials were fine with that decision.

The OSC was interviewed by a reporter from the local Morganton, North Carolina paper on October 12th and the brief article was printed on October 13th.

Planned Removal Actions

Continue demolition of the tank farm area including disposal of the remaining tanks and demo of the concrete pad. Disposal of 30,000 pounds of mixed paraformaldehyde waste is also to be arranged.

