

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

Date: Tuesday, September 30, 2003

From: Greg Fife

To: Debbie Dietrich, Office of Emergency Management Ragan Broyles, EPA

Subject: Removal Action Continues
Many Diversified Interests
3617 Baer Street, Houston, TX
Latitude: 29.7679250
Longitude: -95.3297000

POLREP No.:	8	Site #:	06FE
Reporting Period:		D.O. #:	
Start Date:	7/15/2003	Response Authority:	CERCLA
Mob Date:	7/14/2003	Response Type:	Time-Critical
Demob Date:		NPL Status:	NPL
Completion Date:		Incident Category:	Removal Action
CERCLIS ID #:	TX0002288082	Contract #	
RCRIS ID #:			

Site Description

The MDI Site located in Harris County, Texas is an abandoned foundry facility located approximately 2 miles east of downtown Houston and east of the intersection of Highway 59 and Interstate Highway 10. This portion of Houston is also known as the Fifth Ward. The MDI fenced property is bounded by Hare Street to the north, National Vinegar Company and Press Street to the east, the former Texas & New Orleans Railroad right-of-way beyond the easement to the south, and Bringhurst Street to the west. There are in excess of 10,000 people within a mile of the Site, including several hundred children attending the local elementary school. There are approximately 60 High Access Areas (HAAs) at the Site with lead contamination greater than the established 500 ppm action level. These HAAs include the Blanche Kelso Bruce Elementary School, the Fifth Ward Multipurpose Community Center, a church, and residential areas. The school is located one block west of the MDI Site.

The EPA is currently performing an RI/FS at the Site. The purpose of the RI/FS is to determine the nature and extent of contamination and to gather sufficient information about the Site to support an informed risk management decision regarding which remedy is the most appropriate for the Site.

Current Activities

The number of crews has been increased from one to two.

Priority One Properties (19 total)

- 14 properties - removal action complete and released
- 1 property - removal action done, waiting for release sign-off by owner
- 1 property being excavated
- 2 properties are ready for excavation
- 1 property - access agreement pending

Priority Two Properties (7 Total)

- 1 property - removal action complete and released
- 4 properties - removal action done, final documentation stages
- 1 property being excavated
- 1 property ready for excavation

Priority 3 Properties (33 total)

- 2 properties - removal action done, final documentation stages
- 4 properties ready for restoration (sod)
- 3 properties being excavated

- 10 properties ready for excavation
- 14 properties in access/restoration agreement stage

Air Monitoring

- Air monitoring continues every day during excavation. Air sampling is being done about once a week.
- To date, all air sampling results have come back at either non-detect for lead or below the established action level of 1.45 mg/m3

Key Issues

Access agreement for one of the Priority One property is being pursued at the DOJ level.

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.

response.epa.gov/MDI

POLREP #8 Last Updated 9/30/2003