

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region VI
POLLUTION REPORT

Date: Saturday, September 15, 2007

From: William Rhotenberry

Subject: Removal Assessment - Building Interior

Helena Chemical

602 Holland Avenue, Mission, TX

Latitude: 26.2131000

Longitude: -98.3336000

POLREP No.:	42	Site #:	0606
Reporting Period:	09/11 - 15/2007	D.O. #:	
Start Date:	9/12/2007	Response Authority:	CERCLA
Mob Date:	9/11/2007	Response Type:	Time-Critical
Demob Date:		NPL Status:	Non NPL
Completion Date:	9/17/2007	Incident Category:	Removal Assessment
CERCLIS ID #:		Contract #	
RCRIS ID #:			

Site Description

From September 2006 through May 2007, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conducted a removal action at the HCC that involved the excavation, transportation, disposal of the pesticide-contaminated soils underneath a deteriorating asphalt cap and site restoration.

Current Activities

EPA Region 6 is currently evaluating options to demolish the on-site, HCC Mixing Building. On September 11 and 12, 2007, representatives from EPA Region 6, EPA National Decontamination Team (NDT) and EPA contractors mobilized to the HCC site to conduct a removal assessment, a structural inspection of the mixing plant building, and site maintenance.

Prior to on-site removal assessment activities, a site-specific Health and Safety Plan (HASP) and a Quality Assurance Sampling Plan (QASP) were prepared and submitted to EPA on September 10, 2007. In addition, START procured a laboratory, Chemtech Laboratories, to analyze the collected wood shaving and core samples for organochlorine pesticides and Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) pesticides.

On September 12 and 13, EPA contractors maintained site vegetation and secured perimeter fencing and gates. On September 12, 2007, a scissors aerial lift was mobilized to the site for use in the collection of wood samples from the mahogany wood beams inside the interior roof structure of the mixing plant building. Environmental samples are collected from the wood beams using a hand planer and hole saw. Wood shavings are placed in sample bags, labeled, and place in a refrigerator for sample preservation. All wood samples taken will be sent to an EPA approved laboratory for the testing of organochlorine pesticide contamination.

From September 12 through 14, 2005 an EPA NDT Senior Engineer Zimmer along with a contracted structural engineer conducted an inspection of the structural integrity inside the former mixing plant building on site. Non-destructive testing along with visual inspections of the roof structure was conducted. The results of their inspection will be forth coming.

As of September 14, 2007, 14 wood shaving and core samples have been collected from three quadrants within the mixing building and submitted for pesticide analysis. In addition, three (3) wood samples have been collected and submitted for Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) pesticide analysis. One equipment rinsate sample has been collected and submitted for organochlorine pesticide analysis.

Planned Removal Actions

The remaining wood shaving and core samples will be collected on September 15 – 16, 2007. The analytical results should be received from the laboratory by September 20, 2007. Upon receiving the

analytical data, START will validate the analytical results and prepare the Removal Assessment report for submittal to EPA. In addition, a structural integrity report for the mixing building will be prepared by the Decontamination Assistance Team (DAT) contractor.

Next Steps

Evaluate environmental sampling analysis report taken from the interior of former mixing plant roof structure.

Evaluate structural engineering inspection report conducted on the former mixing plant building.

Key Issues

None.

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