

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region III
POLLUTION REPORT

Date: Monday, January 7, 2008

From: Robert Kelly/Mike Towle

Subject: Progress Report for November 17 through December 12, 2007 of PRP Clean-up
Browning Lumber Site
Route 85 near Rock Lick Creek, Bald Knob, WV
Latitude: 37.8503400
Longitude: -81.6287300

POLREP No.:	19	Site #:	A3FD
Reporting Period:		D.O. #:	
Start Date:	6/19/2006	Response Authority:	CERCLA
Mob Date:	6/19/2006	Response Type:	Time-Critical
Demob Date:		NPL Status:	
Completion Date:		Incident Category:	Removal Action
CERCLIS ID #:		Contract #	
RCRIS ID #:			

Site Description

The Browning Lumber Company operated a sawmill at this location until 1998. The company also operated a pressure treatment facility for lumber on this property till 1996. The company was in the business of manufacturing pressure treated cribbing and supports for the underground mining industry. Chromated - Copper Arsenate (CCA) was used in the process and the company obtained an EPA ID number for hazardous waste activity in June 1987.

In July 2002, the Site was inspected by West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP). This inspection revealed that the former wood treating operation had not been completed closed and contamination, specifically chromium and arsenic, from the process still existed on the Site.

WVDEP has requested that EPA Region 3 take the lead in conducting a full assessment of the Site and take actions to mitigate the threats at the Site.

After performing an analytical evaluation and consulting with the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registrar, the OSC has determined that an immediate removal action must be taken.

Current Activities

During the first phase of the excavation work conducted between November 12 and November 16, 2007, ENSR collected 38 post-excavation grab soil and sediment samples from the AOC and drainage swale excavations to confirm the effectiveness of the soil removal. Only two of the post excavation samples had exceedances of the clean-up levels established for the Site pursuant to the Settlement Agreement. Arsenic exceeded the clean-up level of 190.8 milligrams-per-kilogram (mg/kg) in two sidewall samples collected from AOC-4.

None of the post-excavation sediment samples exceeded clean-up levels of 42-mg/kg for arsenic established for the Site pursuant to the Settlement Agreement. Arsenic results in the post-excavation sediment samples ranged from non-detect at 5.0 to 30.0 mg/kg. Chromium results ranged from 14 to 45 mg/kg. Copper results ranged from 7 to 30 mg/kg.

Based on the analytical results of the post-excavation samples, additional excavation will only be required to two sides of AOC-4.

During the first phase of the excavation work, ENSR had collected two waste characterization samples from the soil stockpiles. The waste characterization samples were analyzed for TCLP volatiles, TCLP semi-volatiles, TCLP pesticides, TCLP metals and RCRA characteristics. The waste classification samples did not display the characteristics (ignitability, reactivity, corrosivity, and toxicity) of hazardous waste as defined by RCRA.

Next Steps

ENSR and Environmental Waste Minimization, Inc (EWMI) have discussed the classification of the soil waste stream with WVDEP. A waste profile will be submitted to the WVDEP requesting that the soil be permitted for disposal as non-hazardous waste in a West Virginia municipal landfill based on the results of the waste characterization analysis. As a contingency, a waste profile will also be submitted for disposal in a RCRA Subtitle C landfill in Michigan.

Pending approval of the excavated soil for disposal, ENSR and EWMI will remobilize to the Site during the week of January 14, 2008 to complete the 2nd Phase of soil excavation, transport the soil and water off site for disposal, backfill the excavations, and abandon damaged monitoring wells MW-3 and MW-4.

The Trustee anticipates continuing its attempt to engage the property owner in a discussion about participation in the VRP.

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