

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

**Date:** Monday, March 3, 2008

**From:** Jack D. Harmon

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**Subject:** Buckbee-Mears  
30 Kellogg Road, Cortland, NY  
Latitude: 42.5920000  
Longitude: -76.1581800

<b>POLREP No.:</b>	13	<b>Site #:</b>	YH
<b>Reporting Period:</b>	01/27/08 to 03/02/08	<b>D.O. #:</b>	EP-W-04-054-044
<b>Start Date:</b>	1/10/2007	<b>Response Authority:</b>	CERCLA
<b>Mob Date:</b>		<b>Response Type:</b>	Time-Critical
<b>Demob Date:</b>		<b>NPL Status:</b>	Non NPL
<b>Completion Date:</b>		<b>Incident Category:</b>	Removal Action
<b>CERCLIS ID #:</b>	NYN000205908	<b>Contract #</b>	EP-W-06-072
<b>RCRIS ID #:</b>			

**Site Description**

The facility is located at 30 Kellogg Road, City of Cortland, Cortland County, New York, 13045. The property is approximately 50 acres in size and contains a large main production building, interconnected with several smaller production buildings, an office building and several support buildings, including a flammable storage building and a hazardous waste storage garage. The size of the facility

buildings are estimated at 367,000 ft<sup>2</sup>.

The Buckbee-Mears facility was purchased by International Electron Devices (IED) on October 26, 2004. IED operated the facility until May, 2005, when they closed due to a lack of funding. A large number of the bulk chemicals used in production and the chemical wastes from past operations were abandoned on Site. These materials included: strong acids and caustics in large tanks, drums, process piping and numerous small containers throughout the facility. Approximately 7 cylinders of chlorine gas were also abandoned on Site.

During the summer of 2006, the Cortland Police Department responded to a report of vandalism and became concerned when they discovered the large amount of chemicals which had been abandoned at the Site. The Cortland Police subsequently notified the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) of their findings. On July 27, 2006, representatives from the NYSDEC, the Cortland Police and Fire Departments and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conducted a Site visit. The visit confirmed the presence of numerous hazardous substances in drums, tanks and cylinders throughout the facility. The potential for a chemical release was deemed serious because the facility was idle with no security and all utilities had been terminated. On August 1, 2006, the NYSDEC formally requested the EPA to conduct a removal action under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) at this Site.

Negotiations with the PRP to perform the required clean up actions resulted in EPA issuing an Administrative Order on September 29, 2006. The PRP initially complied with the Order, but ceased correspondence with EPA in early November, 2006. Following several acts of vandalism at the facility, EPA initiated a Removal Action on January 10, 2007.

**Current Activities**

Site security was in place during all non-working hours this period and no incidents were reported. One hallway where mold is multiplying was secured and entry prohibited. Two areas, in Building #5, that have been damaged by water leaking from the roof continue to be off-limits.

During the week of January 28, 2008, WRS personnel continued purging and cutting chemical process piping. Residual materials contained inside the piping is being placed into drums. 985 gallons of various acids were collected. 4,955 feet of various chemical feed lines were addressed, bringing the total to date to 44,062 feet. One 25 CY roll-off of C&D debris was shipped off-site.

During the week of February 4, 2008, WRS personnel continued purging and cutting chemical process piping. Residual materials contained inside the piping is being placed into drums. 350 gallons of concentrated hydrochloric acid was collected. 3,150 feet of various chemical feed lines were addressed, bringing the total to date to 47,212 feet. Three roll-offs (70 CY) of C&D debris and one roll-off (52 CY) of F006 sludge were shipped off-site. The production rate for removing piping was affected by duct work that needed to be removed before gaining access to it.

During the week of February 11, 2008, 3,250 feet of various chemical feed lines were addressed, bringing the total to date to 50,462 feet. Five roll-offs (135 CY) of C&D debris and solidified sludge were shipped off-site. Due to the extremely low temperatures on Monday, no work was performed. The production rate for removing piping was affected by duct work that needed to be removed before gaining access to it.

During the week of February 18, 2008, an additional three cleanup techs were mobilized which brings the total to twelve. 6,170 feet of various chemical feed lines were addressed, bringing the total to date to 56,632 feet. Three roll-offs (75 CY) of C&D debris and solidified sludge were shipped off-site.

During the week of February 25, 2008, 8,960 feet of various chemical feed lines were addressed, bringing the total to date to 65,692 feet. One roll-off (40 CY) of C&D debris was shipped off-site.

The AST continues to monitor work zone safety and provide air monitoring. The RST contractor continues to provide oversight and administrative support.

### Planned Removal Actions

The winter of 2006-2007 was the first winter season without maintenance oversight and as a result, building conditions have deteriorated due to extensive roof leaks, burst water and chemical feed pipes and significant mold growth. Leaking acid feed pipes will only accelerate the deterioration process. These worsening conditions significantly change the level of clean-up EPA must complete. In addition, the information offered by a former maintenance person at the facility proved inaccurate; that resulted in far more contamination remaining in the process piping than originally thought.

### Next Steps

EPA will continue Site security during all non-working hours. ERRS will pursue disposal and recycling options for the waste material remaining on-Site. The AST will continue to provide air monitoring and oversight of work zone health and safety and compliance to the HASP. The RST contractor will continue to perform general oversight of field activities, assist the AST in air monitoring, provide written and photo-documentation of field activities, maintain the OSC website, and prepare periodic pollution reports.

### Key Issues

Since the condition of the buildings has worsened, EPA will increase its scope of work to include removal and disposal of process piping, cleaning and dismantling of tanks, decontamination of building interiors, salvaging equipment, scrapping of metal components and, may include demolition of some buildings.

### Estimated Costs \*

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
<b>Extramural Costs</b>				
ERRS - Cleanup Contractor	\$3,300,000.00	\$2,377,239.00	\$922,761.00	27.96%
RST	\$500,000.00	\$378,311.00	\$121,689.00	24.34%
<b>Intramural Costs</b>				
USEPA - Direct	\$250,000.00	\$173,987.00	\$76,013.00	30.41%
<b>Total Site Costs</b>				
	\$4,050,000.00	\$2,929,537.00	\$1,120,463.00	27.67%

\* 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.

#### **Disposition of Wastes**

<b>Waste Stream</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Manifest #</b>	<b>Disposal Facility</b>
Non-Haz C&D	245 CY	various	Waste Management High Acres Landfill 425 Perinton Pkwy Fairport, NY 14450
Non-Haz Sludge	40 CY	008	Seneca Meadows Landfill 1756 Salcman Road Waterloo, NY 13165
Non-Haz Sludge	60 CY	0218081/0218082	Pine Grove Landfill 5131 Drinkle Road Amanda, OH 43102
F006 Sludge	52 CY	001584157 FLE	Envirite of Pennsylvania 730 Vogelsong Road York, PA 17404

[response.epa.gov/BuckbeeMears](http://response.epa.gov/BuckbeeMears)

POLREP #13 Last Updated 3/10/2008