

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

Date: Wednesday, April 2, 2008

From: Robert Wise

To:	ERT Support, Steve Calanog, EPA Jim Hanson, EPA Tom Dunkelman, EPA Janet Yocum, EPA Rich Martyn, EPA Craig Benson, EPA Jason Musante, EPA Chris Weden, EPA Hedy Salter, EPA Paul Casa Grande, EPA Barbara Lee, EPA Mark Samolis, EPA Steven John, EPA Sherry Fielding, EPA Kevin Sligh, PST NPFC POLREPS, NPFC John Holland, DFG Josha Curtis, DFG George Baker, DTSC Chad Gibson, START Damian Higgins, USFWS Josh Neipp, SBCOFD Kate Sulka, SBCFD Mike Zimmer, SBCO Petroleum Office Ian Zelo, NOAA Becky Stanton, OSPR	Robert Wise, EPA Peter Guria, EPA Daniel Meer, EPA Michelle Rogow, EPA Will Duncan, EPA Donn Zuroski, EPA Martin Powell, EPA Harry Allan, EPA Bret Moxley, EPA Peter Reich, EPA Peggy De La Torre, EPA Ivania Brown, EPA Celeste Temple, EPA Eugene Rainwater, EPA Carole Kirby, EPA Pat Port, DOI Lt. Brian Gollhopher, DFG Melissa Boggs-Blalack, DFG Kenneth Wilson, DFG Harvey Packard, RWQCB Ed Brannon, DOGGR Greg Haas, Congression Staffer Richard Todd, SBCoFD Mike Connell, CADFG OSPR Denise Steurer, USFWS Mary Simms, EPA
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Subject: Federal Take Over of Cleanup
Greka Bell Lease 3
6801 Palmer Road, Santa Maria, CA
Latitude: 34.8279500
Longitude: -120.3254400

POLREP No.:	6	Site #:	
Reporting Period:		D.O. #:	
Start Date:		Response Authority:	OPA
Mob Date:	1/29/2008	Response Type:	Emergency
Demob Date:		NPL Status:	Non NPL
Completion Date:		Incident Category:	Removal Action
CERCLIS ID #:		Contract #	
RCRIS ID #:		Reimbursable Account #	
FPN#	E08906		

Site Description

Contamination in the creek remains in Sections A, D and E of the creek. The ponds remain to be cleaned out.

On March 23, 2008, On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Robert Wise reviewed the Health and Safety Plan (HASP) provided by Greka's new contractor, Filter Recycling Services (FRS). The HASP did not meet the requirements pursuant to 29 CFR 1910.120(b)(4): Site Specific Safety Plan under HAZWOPER. OSC Wise provided comments to FRS. FRS had also been directed to provide the Health and Safety Program Plan pursuant to 29 CFR 1910.120(b)(1), but failed to provide it with the HASP. With the

comments, OSC Wise directed again to provide the Program Plan as well as the Respiratory Protection Program plan pursuant to 29 CFR 1910.134.

On March 26, 2008, OSC Wise directed Greka to have their contractor's revised plan to EPA by March 27, 2008. FRS provided the plan, but again it did not meet the minimum regulatory requirements pursuant to 29 CFR 1910.120(b)(4). FRS also failed to provide the other requested documents. On March 31, 2008, EPA notified Greka that FRS was unacceptable to conduct the cleanup.

On March 28, 2008, Greka notified EPA that they would be unable to meet the April 1, 2008 deadline for the Upper Bell Pond excavation. On March 26, 2008, OSC Wise reminded Greka that the plan was due and that there would be no further extensions.

Greka was also in violation of the Bell Lease 311(c) Clean Water Act Order for failure to provide Workplan 1 as described in the Order and the post-removal sampling plan.

Based on the above facts, plus the continued presence of oil in the creek, EPA took control of the Bell Lease 3 Spill on March 31, 2008. Greka was verbally notified on March 31, 2008 and in writing on April 1, 2008.

Current Activities

OSC Wise deployed the ERRS contractor to the site on March 31, 2008, to begin planning for the cleanup. On April 1, 2008, ERRS repaired the underflow dams in the creek and prepared the creek for the pending rain event forecasted for April 2, 2008.

ERRS is also setting up the command post and conducting other logistical tasks in preparation for the start of cleanup operations. Cleanup operations are expected to begin on April 3, 2008.

Planned Removal Actions

1. Remove oil from creek on in Section A. Oil is being released from historical asphaltic formations. After consulting with other agency stakeholders, it is believed that the fresh oil from the spills is liberating oil from this area. The fresh oil will be removed via mechanical excavation. The excavations will initially not exceed a depth of 3' bgs.
2. Removal of oil in Section D and E. Free standing water containing oil will be removed. The oil containing sediment will then be removed using mechanical methods.
3. Removal of sediment from the Upper Bell Pond. The sediment removed will be disposed of off-site along with all material removed from the creek.
4. The creek will be restored to prevent downstream sediment loading and erosion. The restoration will be conducted in cooperation with the California Department of Fish and Game (CADFG). A PRFA will be issued to CADFG to provide technical assistance to EPA during the cleanup.

Next Steps

1. Setting up a command post. The command post will be located at 6840 Palmer Road, Santa Maria, CA.
2. Excavation of Section A.

Key Issues

1. The excavation of Section A will be initially conducted in several test areas to determine the implications of excavating the asphaltic formations in the creek seeping the crude oil.
2. On April 2, 2008, EPA will be meeting with the CADFG biologist and stream alteration specialists to discuss restoration and excavation issues.

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
ERRS - Cleanup Contractor	\$700,000.00	\$0.00	\$700,000.00	100.00%
PST	\$75,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$40,000.00	53.33%
RST/START	\$75,000.00	\$0.00	\$75,000.00	100.00%
Intramural Costs				
USEPA - Direct (Region, HQ)	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	\$50,000.00	100.00%

Total Site Costs	\$900,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$865,000.00	96.11%
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* 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/Greka_Bell_3

POLREP #6 Last Updated 4/2/2008