

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region IV
POLLUTION REPORT

Date: Monday, April 21, 2008

From: Perry Gaughan

To: Miguel Bella, USCG NPFC

Subject: OPA Removal Activities Continue
Oliver Springs Oil Well Fire
Cove Lane Road, Oliver Springs, TN
Latitude: 36.0708000
Longitude: -84.3569000

POLREP No.:	10	Site #:	Z4MT
Reporting Period:		D.O. #:	
Start Date:	3/19/2008	Response Authority:	OPA
Mob Date:	3/19/2008	Response Type:	Emergency
Demob Date:		NPL Status:	Non NPL
Completion Date:		Incident Category:	Removal Action
CERCLIS ID #:		Contract #	
RCRIS ID #:		Reimbursable Account #	
FPN#	E 08430		

Site Description

On March 19th, EPA ERRB responded to an oil well fire in Oliver Springs Tenn. The RP, Walden Resources hired Wild Well Services from Houston, Texas to put out the well fire and cap the well. After moving necessary personnel and equipment, the fire was extinguished and the well was successfully capped on Tuesday March 25th. EPA and START contractors conducted air monitoring throughout the response effort and conducted daily public meetings to keep the local residents apprised of the response effort. During the effort on March 25th however, the RP was found to be dumping oil contaminated water from the retention ponds onto a pasture approximately 3/4 mile from the well site. On Wednesday, March 26th, the OSC informed the RP that EPA would be taking over the clean up under a Federal Assumption Notice.

Current Activities

April 5th thru April 11th.

Personnel On Site: EPA -2 (OSC P Gaughan and C Eger), START-2, USCG Strike - 4, ERRs -13

ERRs continued contaminated soil removal from the ditchline along the well hillside and from the floodplain below the well head. Oily sludge from Retention Pond 1 was further solidified and staged for disposal. A test trench was dug along the fall line from the oil well head to Wrights Creek and approximately 30 gallons of light crude oil was skimmed from the groundwater trench. Based on these findings, additional hard and soft boom were placed further downstream along Wrights Creek as a secondary containment source for the floodplain area adjacent to the RV park. USCG Strike Team and START contractors continue to oversee clean up efforts, monitor the air levels near the well head and provide sampling and technical support as needed.

On April 11th, EPA subcontracted an oil and gas specialist, Mick Reed from Greystar Pipeline as a consultant for the remainder of the project. Mr. Reed has 32 years of experience in oil and gas production and safety. He will provide technical support for all operations with regard to the well head, production support and oversee all safety aspects of placing the well into production.

Next Steps

EPA will continue to coordinate clean up efforts with Tenn TEMA and TDEC's Oil and Gas Division.

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
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Extramural Costs				
ERRS - Cleanup Contractor	\$590,000.00	\$170,000.00	\$420,000.00	71.19%
RST/START	\$110,000.00	\$60,000.00	\$50,000.00	45.45%
USCG Gulf Strike Team	\$40,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$30,000.00	75.00%
Intramural Costs				
USEPA - Direct (Region, HQ)	\$60,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$45,000.00	75.00%
USEPA - InDirect	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	\$50,000.00	100.00%
Total Site Costs	\$850,000.00	\$255,000.00	\$595,000.00	70.00%

* 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/waldenresourcesoil

POLREP #10 Last Updated 5/19/2010