

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

**Date:** Wednesday, August 27, 2008

**From:** Paul L. Kahn & Eric M. Daly

**To:** Tim Grier, USEPA headquarters  
Patricia Carr, USEPA  
Kristen Skopeck, USEPA  
Joe Bethel, GFPD  
Patrick Dee, Sanford Street Public School  
Andrew Raddant, Department of Interior  
Scarlett Messier, NYS Dept. of Health

George Zachos, USEPA  
Mary Mears, USEPA  
Mike DiPietro, NYSDEC  
Tom Donohue, City of Glens Falls  
Jack Diamond, City of Glens Falls  
Dennis Farrar, NYSDEC  
John Vetter, USEPA

**Subject:** Correction to POLREP #4, Preliminary Results of Mercury Analyses

Frasier Paint & Paper Soil Site

5 Logan Avenue, Glens Falls, NY

Latitude: 43.3177167

Longitude: -73.6527667

<b>POLREP No.:</b>	6	<b>Site #:</b>	YY
<b>Reporting Period:</b>		<b>D.O. #:</b>	
<b>Start Date:</b>	8/26/2008	<b>Response Authority:</b>	CERCLA
<b>Mob Date:</b>	8/26/2008	<b>Response Type:</b>	Pre-Deployment
<b>Demob Date:</b>		<b>NPL Status:</b>	Non NPL
<b>Completion Date:</b>	8/26/2008	<b>Incident Category:</b>	Removal Assessment
<b>CERCLIS ID #:</b>	NYN000206215	<b>Contract #:</b>	
<b>RCRIS ID #:</b>			

#### **Site Description**

In September, 2007, NYSDEC Region 5 rep. Mike McClean contacted the EPA Region 2 Regional Response Center and requested EPA assistance with an abandoned paint store in the City of Glens Falls, NY. The building had been acquired by the City through a tax foreclosure and the dangerous condition of the building was discovered by while the property was being evaluated for a Brownfields redevelopment Grant.

The building was located in the center of a residential area, adjacent to an elementary school and ball field. The materials inside the building were identified by DEC and Brownfields assessors as paint and solvents.

On September 20, 2007, OSC Eric Daly met with NYSDEC and City officials and performed a preliminary assessment of the building. OSC Daly observed that the roof structure was deteriorated and that approximately 1,000 rusted containers of paint and solvent were haphazardly stacked throughout the facility. EPA conducted air monitoring along the perimeter of the building, inside the premises, and along the school grounds.

The building consisted of: the main level, a basement, and an attic. The entire structure was unstable. The roof was dramatically bowed and perforated and the main room ceiling was collapsing. Containers of solvents and leaking/rusted containers of paint and unknown substances were located on all 3 levels and haphazardly stacked.

EPA was officially requested to conduct a removal action by the Mayor of Glens Falls, the Glens Falls Fire Department, and the Principal of Sanford Street Elementary School. NYSDEC issued a verbal referral of the site to EPA on September 20, 2007, and, based on the verbal referral, on September 20, 2007, ERRD Director G. Pavlou gave a verbal authorization to proceed with a removal action. A formal written referral was received by EPA on September 21, 2007.

EPA mobilized its ERRS contractors on September 24, 2007. Initial efforts concentrated on stabilizing the structure and identifying, and consolidating the containers. All hazardous substances were packaged into cubic-yard boxes, staged in Conex shipping containers in an adjacent parking lot, and shipped off-Site for disposal. On October 10, 2007 the removal action was completed.

The City demolished the empty structure in the fall of 2007, and hired a consultant to perform a Phase II soil analysis. On June 24, 2008, the City received a report which revealed the presence of elevated levels of mercury in the soil underneath the footprint of the building. Following the release of this report, EPA received a written request from the City for assistance in removing the contaminated soil, and a written referral of the Site to EPA from the NYSDEC for additional removal work was sent on 8/6/2008.

Inasmuch as the school year starts on September 3rd, the time frame in which to acquire additional samples/data, and then perform any needed removal work, is not enough to complete the work prior to the opening of school. Consequently, initial efforts will concentrate on interim measures to secure the Site and acquire additional data. OSC Paul Kahn has taken the lead role in this phase of the removal assessment.

#### **Current Activities**

This POLREP is intended to correct the erroneously reported preliminary analytical results of the 18 soil samples that were tested for mercury and reported in POLREP #4 dated 8/22/2008.

The analytical results reported in POLREP #4 stated that only one sample showed total mercury above background levels, and that the other 17 samples contained mercury at or below background levels.

POLREP #4 is corrected as follows: The results show that one sample had 150 parts per million (ppm) of mercury (1,700 times background) and three other samples had mercury above background. The NYSDEC residential clean-up guidance level for mercury in residential soil, set forth in TAGM #4046 (1/24/1996), is 0.2 ppm.

#### **Planned Removal Actions**

See POLREP #5.

#### **Next Steps**

See POLREP #5.

#### **Key Issues**

See POLREP #5.

[response.epa.gov/FrasierPaint-PaperSoil](http://response.epa.gov/FrasierPaint-PaperSoil)