

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region V
POLLUTION REPORT

Date: Friday, November 21, 2008

From: Fredrick Micke

Subject: Tracy Lead Battery

Tracy, MN

Latitude: 44.2302510

Longitude: -95.6232630

POLREP No.:	4	Site #:	B5KP
Reporting Period:		D.O. #:	0010
Start Date:	9/16/2008	Response Authority:	CERCLA
Mob Date:	9/16/2008	Response Type:	Time-Critical
Demob Date:		NPL Status:	Non NPL
Completion Date:		Incident Category:	Removal Action
CERCLIS ID #:	MNN000510289	Contract #	EP-S5-08-02
RCRIS ID #:			

Site Description

The Tracy Lead Battery Site is located at 361 South 4th Street, 380 South 4th Street, and the former Central Livestock yard in Tracy, Lyon County, Minnesota. The Site is located on both sides (east and west sides) of South 4th Street and is bordered by open farmland to the west, a livestock yard and residential properties to the south, undeveloped land to the east, and a drainage ditch to the north. The ditch contains water and flows from west to east. Commercial properties are located north of the ditch. The Meridian coordinates for the Site are 44.230251° North and 95.623263° West.

The former owner of the 361 South 4th Street property, Mr. Shirley Stowell, crushed lead batteries on the property for over 25 many years. These operations likely ceased upon the death of Mr. Stowell in 1970. Battery casings, metals, and debris remain piled and scattered on the Site.

The property at 380 South 4th Street was also used for battery crushing, but no visible battery crusher remnants are located at 380 South 4th Street. The 380 South 4th Street property was a salvage yard in the 1950s, 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s. Tax records indicate that the property was a salvage yard during this period and went through several ownership changes. The lead battery cracking operations on this property occurred during the 1960s and early 1970s. The property is currently used as a single family home.

Historic lead battery recycling operations at the Central Livestock property are indicated by the presence of empty battery casings and battery-casing chips located along the central and eastern portions of the abandoned railroad spur. The batteries likely came from the 380 South 4th Street property which used the railroad spur to transport the lead batteries for recycling. Additional lead contamination is also located along the northern boundary of the property. This contamination likely spilled over from the adjacent salvage yard (380 South 4th Street).

STS Consultants Ltd. conducted Phase I (2004) and Phase II (2007) investigations for the 380 South 4th Street and Central Livestock properties (STS Consultants Ltd. 2007), and Delta Environmental Consultants, Inc., conducted a Phase I (2004) investigation for the 361 South 4th Street property (Delta Environmental Consultants, Inc. 2004). The Phase I and II investigations were performed for the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA).

In June 2007, the MPCA requested U.S. EPA assistance to evaluate the Site.

In April 2008, U.S. EPA conducted a time-critical removal assessment at the Site. U.S. EPA and Weston START mobilized to the Site on April 21, 2008, to perform this investigation. The Site Assessment found levels of lead as high as 26,000 parts per million (ppm).

An Action Memorandum (Action Memo) indicating the need to perform a Time-Critical Removal Action was approved on August 5, 2008.

The Scope of Work for the Removal Action includes the following:

- Mobilize/Demobilize Equipment

- Excavate and Remove Impacted Soils
- Soil Sampling
- Transport/Dispose of Impacted Soils
- Backfill and Grade Excavated Areas
- Site Restoration

Removal activities at the Site began on September 16, 2008.

Current Activities

The removal activities continued on the 361 South 4th Street property during this reporting period. The volume of lead-contaminated soil on the property, while great, has been less than estimated and, therefore, the excavation activities for the year on this property ceased on October 18. The lead-contaminated soil under the construction trailer and gravel parking lot and driveways will be excavated during the 2009 construction season. The backfilling of the excavated areas was initiated on October 30 and was completed on November 6.

The clearing and grubbing of the abandoned railroad spur on former Central Livestock property began on October 15. Excavation activities began on October 18 and ceased on November 8. Most of the railroad spur was found to be contaminated.

The last pile of lead-contaminated soil was treated on November 10. The last shipments of soil to the landfill were made on November 12. The last on-site workday for 2008 was November 13.

To date, 6373 tons (257 truck loads) of lead-contaminated soil have been transported to the Waste Management Landfill (Spruce Ridge Landfill) in Glencoe, MN.

Planned Removal Actions

The removal activities are suspended until April 2009. Winter has arrived.

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