

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

Date: Wednesday, December 3, 2008

From: Paul L. Kahn, Michael Hoppe

To: Paul Kahn, ERRD-RPB Patricia Carr, USEPA-PAD Ellen Banner, USEPA Carole Petersen, USEPA Eric Mosher, USEPA Gregory Deangelis, USEPA Region 2 Deborah Schwenk, USEPA Michael Hoppe, USEPA William Molnar, Sandy Alexander Tara Donn, USEPA Region 02 CID Denise Zeno, USEPA Melissa Dimas, USEPA	Tim Grier, USEPA Headquarters 5202G Mary Mears, USEPA, Region 2, PAD John LaPadula, USEPA Jim Daloia, USEPA John Higgins, USEPA Andrew Raddant, Department of Interior Lisa Levy, OSHA Kevin McCarthy, Clifton Fire Department Albert Greco, City of Clifton Leah Escobar, ATSDR Angela Carpenter, USEPA
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Subject: Hazcating activities
Abrachem Chemical
2 Peekay Drive, Clifton, NJ
Latitude: 40.8306000
Longitude: -74.1231000

POLREP No.:	8 Site #:	A212
Reporting Period:	D.O. #:	
Start Date:	Response Authority:	CERCLA
Mob Date:	Response Type:	Time-Critical
Demob Date:	NPL Status:	Non NPL
Completion Date:	Incident Category:	Removal Assessment
CERCLIS ID #:	Contract #	
RCRIS ID #:		

Site Description

At 1615 hours on 10/29/08 EPA received a phone notification from the NRC that a chemical release was occurring at Abrachem Chemical, a bulk chemical packaging facility that leases property in Clifton, Passaic County, NJ. The NJ Dept. of Environmental Protection requested EPA presence at the scene.

At 1730 hours OSC Ellen Banner and OSC Paul Kahn responded to the scene. The company was found to be storing drums and bulk storage containers of known and unknown chemicals in 17 56-foot long intermodal shipping carriers, stacked 3 tiers high (approx. 35 feet). Only 5 of the intermodals could be opened, and inside those it was observed that drums and bulk containers were staged behind tiers of new, blue poly drums which gave the impression that the intermodals were used only for new drum storage.

The owner of Abrachem retained the services of a remediation company which was on the scene, but waiting for EPA to arrive prior to starting work. Contractor personnel were advised to lay poly sheeting and begin removing/overpacking the leaking and unknown drums that were readily accessible. Work commenced almost immediately, but at 2100 hours work was halted due to lack of adequate lighting and the physical inability to access the majority of the drums. Work will resume on 10/30/08 when additional personnel and equipment arrive on-Site.

A meeting was held with the owner, EPA, state, and local authorities at 1000 hours on 10/30/08. At that time a Field Expedient Notice was issued to Mr. Ted Frey, the owner/operator of Abrachem Chemical.

Current Activities

On Monday, December 1, 2008 the technical sub-contractor, Clean Venture, began sampling drums that had been stored inside two Intermodal Shipping Containers (ISC) and are now staged inside the main building. Clean Venture has sampled approx. 80 drums but has not actually tested any samples. At COB

on Tuesday, December 2, 2008 Clean Venture stopped sampling because Abrachem had only paid for two days worth of work. Additional funds have been issued to GTI, the General Contractor overseeing the work, but sampling will not continue until the checks have cleared the bank. GTI indicated that it anticipates Clean Venture will resume work on Thursday or Friday.

The cover photo to this POLREP shows the typical condition of the drums being sampled for haz-cating.

Planned Removal Actions

EPA and other government entities such as OSHA, the NJDEP, and the Clifton Fire Department will continue to have a presence at the Site and monitor on-going activities.

Next Steps

See above.

Key Issues

Key issues remain EPA gaining access to the Site to conduct a response action and monitoring activities at the Site pending obtaining access.

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
Intramural Costs				
Total Site Costs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%

* 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/abrachemchemical

POLREP #8 Last Updated 12/3/2008