



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION I  
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BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02203-0001

January 8, 1998

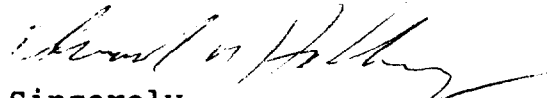
Mr. Liyang Chu  
Project Manager/Eastern Surplus Site  
Brown & Root Environmental  
55 Jonspin Road  
Wilmington. MA 01887

RE: RAC I Contract No. 68-W6-0045  
015-RICO-0189  
Eastern Surplus Company Superfund Site

Dear Mr. Chu:

I have enclosed some background information that you may find useful.

Please contact me at (617) 573-5782 if you have any questions.

  
Sincerely,

Edward M. Hathaway, RPM  
ME/VT/CT Superfund Section

cc: Manchak Ng, EPA Regional Counsel  
Rebecca Hewett, ME DEP



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REGION I FIT/EPA CORRESPONDENCE  
C-583-6-1-93

TO: DON SMITH

DATE: JUNE 12, 1991

FROM: SUE KOSZALKA

CC: S. HAYES S. DANKE  
N. SMITH M. RADVILLE  
R. JUBACH

SUBJECT: CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS  
EASTERN SURPLUS COMPANY  
MEDDYBEMPS, MAINE  
TDD NO. F1-9005-07  
REFERENCE NO. \$375ME25HR1  
CERCLIS NO. MED981073711

The purpose of this chronology of events at Eastern Surplus Company is to aid in determining whether removal actions constitute an "EPA Qualified Removal." The chronology is as follows:

- August 6, 1946 \* Harry J. Smith, Sr. took possession of the land, now known as Eastern Surplus Co.
- October 1946 \* Smith began storing equipment, materials and motor vehicles on the property.
- May 5, 1947 to August 1966 \* Smith operated a power plant at the dam site and sold power through the Eastern Electrical Cooperative.  
\* The power plant was closed as the result of a dispute over Atlantic Salmon and water levels in the Meddybemps and Dennys Rivers.
- May 1966 \* Smith was found guilty in District Court for violating the junkyard ordinance.
- July 1966 \* Smith was found guilty in Superior Court for violating the junkyard ordinance, and reportedly was fined \$500. The fine was suspended, and Smith was placed on two years probation.
- September 1966 \* The State of Maine, through the Atlantic Salmon Commission, claimed the Smith house, the hydroelectric plant and the land, by eminent domain.  
\* Smith took the case to the State Supreme Court, and won on the grounds that the Salmon Commission could not take the land by eminent domain.

- No month, 1966 \* Charles D. Spaulding, Jr. filed suit against Smith to try to force the removal of junk from the Spaulding property which abutted the Smith land. The case never went to trial, because Spaulding never pursued it.
- October 11, 1985 \* The Maine Department of Environmental Protection (ME DEP) performed an initial Site Inspection of the Eastern Surplus Co., and recommended emergency actions, since the site posed a significant risk to the public health and the environment. The ME DEP concluded that extensive removal operations would be needed to clear the site of hazardous materials.
- Oct. 21, 1985 site entered into CERCLIS - EPA lead.
- November 1985 \* Clean Harbors of Maine was hired to secure and stabilize the site, and to begin remedial actions.
- November 25 to November 27, 1985 \* Clean Harbors cleared a staging area, and moved equipment in. A number of box trailers near the front of the site were checked for hazardous materials. Gallon and quart containers of chemicals removed from the trailers were placed on a flatbed trailer near the staging area, and covered with polyethylene sheets. The trailers were then rolled up the hill on the west side of the site towards Stone Road.
- December 2 to December 21, 1985 \* Cleanup of the Eastern Surplus Co. began. Crews worked 10 hours per day, 7 days per week.
- \* Some of the wastes identified included:

CERCLIS DATA →

Start		Compl.
11-20-86	RV1 EPA (FUND)	7-28-90
4-20-88	RV2 Resp. Party	4-20-88
7-11-88	RV3 Resp. Party	12-16-88
10-21-85	DS1 EPA	
10-11-85	PA1 State	3-4-86
	SI1 State	9-29-86
	ES1 EPA	9-14-88
5-6-89	AR1 EPA	

- (1) Electrical transformers, capacitors, and switches.
- (2) Approximately 350, 55-gallon drums containing liquid; approximately 500 empty 55-gallon drums.
- (3) 1-gallon and 5-gallon gas cylinders.
- (4) Miscellaneous pint, quart, and other small containers.
- (5) Compressed gas cylinders.
- (6) Calcium carbide (reactive with water).
- (7) Ammunition.
- (8) Non-hazardous materials such as scrap metal, appliances, junk cars, and clothing.

- \* PCB items were handled first. Next, the ME DEP planned to remove the 55-gallon drums, and time permitting, consolidate the 5-gallon pails. A trailer containing calcium carbide was marked with a "danger" sign, and locked. An area containing partially reacted calcium carbide was cordoned off. A lockable security fence was erected.
- \* Electrical transformers were located and brought to a lined staging area near the front of the site. Each transformer was given an identification number, and its former location was marked with a correspondingly-numbered stake. Each transformer was sampled, and the oils tested for PCBs. Empty transformers were wipe-tested for PCBs. One-hundred and nineteen transformers were located, and a number of capacitors and switches. Capacitors and switches were drummed and disposed of as PCB items.
- \* Staging of 55-gallon drums begun. Approximately 350 drums containing liquids were given identification numbers, moved to the staging area, and sampled. Approximately 500 empty drums were checked for identifying marks, and crushed. Drum samples were taken to Clean Harbors' Natick, MA laboratory for analysis.
- \* Clean Harbors began grouping the 5-gallon pails, but weather conditions halted the cleanup effort for the winter.

December 16, 1985 \* The ME DEP declared Eastern Surplus Co. to be an "Uncontrolled Hazardous Substance Site."

February 5, 1986 \* A Preliminary Assessment was performed by the ME DEP. The report categorized the Dennys River as a "Class A" river, and stated that the River was one of the few wild Atlantic Salmon runs in the U.S. The report recommended that emergency actions at the Eastern Surplus Co. site be implemented.

March 4, 1986 PA complete State lead.

March 25, 1986 \* Tasks completed as of 3/25/86 include:

<u>Task</u>	<u>Quantity</u>
Transformers staged and sampled. PCB oils removed, transformers flushed.	750 gal.>500 ppm 1,250 gal.<500 ppm
Sealed capacitors and oil-filled switches disposed of.	10 drums (3,500 pounds).

All full 55-gallon drums sampled; empty 55-gallon drums crushed and disposed of. 83 cubic yards.

Live ammunition removed by State Police (12/18/85). unknown

\* As of March 25, 1986, tasks to be performed include:

<u>Task</u>	<u>Quantity</u>
<b>Transformers</b> - remove excess soil, decommission transformer bodies.	Approximately 2,000 cubic yards
<b>55-gallon drums</b> - pump and dispose of liquids. Crush empty drums for disposal.	unknown
<b>1-gallon and 5-gallon pails</b> - composite like materials, and analyze.	1,500-2,000 5-gallon pails
<b>Miscellaneous small containers</b> - Identify and determine if hazardous. Composite or lab pack, and dispose.	unknown
<b>Compressed gas cylinders</b> - Determine if cylinders are charged. Identify contents and determine if hazardous. Dispose of gases and cylinders.	unknown
<b>Calcium Carbide</b> - Determine if partially or fully reacted calcium carbide is hazardous.	16,000 lbs. unreacted; 5,000 lbs. partially reacted.
<b>Scrap metal</b> - sell.	unknown
<b>Trash</b> - dispose of clothing, boxes, and crates at Sawyer's Landfill.	unknown
Install monitoring wells.	
Analyze fish tissue from Meddybemps and Dennys Rivers.	
Inspect cinder block building	

for contamination.

Sample soil.

- April 3, 1986
- \* Trip Report prepared by the ME DEP for an inspection conducted on April 3, 1986. The inspection was performed in order to assess site conditions, and to plan future cleanup activities. The site was reported to be "not in good shape." It was noted that over the course of the winter, 5 to 10, 55-gallon drums in the staging area had tipped, spilling their contents. The sorbent boom had absorbed some of the leakage, but heavy rain had caused the runoff of some spilled material from the staging area to the front of the site, and possibly toward the Dennys River. Oil stains were noted in the vicinity of the cinder block building. Most of the polyethylene covering the 55-gallon drums had blown off.
  - \* The goal was to complete the surface cleanup in 1986, and to perform soil and groundwater sampling in 1987.
- April 14, 1986
- \* Cleanup activities, which began in 1985, resumed. This phase took approximately one month to complete and focused on the removal of transformers and liquid waste on the site. Four-thousand six hundred gallons of waste oils, 2,400 gallons of PCB oils, and 117 transformer bodies were removed and disposed of at "licensed facilities". Additional ammunition, not previously noted, was removed and disposed of by personnel from the Brunswick Naval Air Station.
  - \* Field operations ceased, but wastes were still present on the Eastern Surplus Co. site.
- April 29, 1986
- \* A Trip Report was prepared by the ME DEP for Additional Site Inspection of Eastern Surplus Co.
- August 12, 1986
- \* The ME DEP and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service collected water, soil/sediment, and fish tissue samples from several locations on and around the site, including the Dennys River, and Meddybemps Lake. The samples were analyzed for VOCs (Volatile Organic Compounds), SVOCs (Semi-volatile Organic Compounds), and metals.
  - \* It was noted that approximately 24 drums of contaminated soil, 20 drums of contaminated polyethylene, 37 drums of PCB soils, polyethylene and capacitors, and 27 drums of acids and solvents were still present on the site. Several of the 55-

gallon drums were leaking, and the smaller containers were in a state of further deterioration,

Sept 29, 1986

SI complete State lead

June 24, 1987

\* An analysis of fish tissue samples was performed by Dr. Robert A. Frakes, State Toxicologist. White Suckers were found to contain chromium levels of 1.7-2.5 ug/g. A lead concentration of 0.14-0.47 ug/g was found in both White Suckers and American Eels. Mercury levels in all fish tissue sampled was < 1 ppm, and the cadmium levels detected were not a concern. White Suckers are generally not consumed by humans, but Dr. Frakes suggested caution in consuming large quantities of eel, especially for children.

August 3, 1987

\* An HRS Package was prepared by the ME DEP. Bald Eagles have been observed around the site. The nearest documented bald eagle nest to Eastern Surplus Co. is two miles from the property.

April 12, 1988

\* Monitoring wells were installed at Eastern Surplus Co. site by NUS/FIT. Soil, sediment, groundwater and surface water samples were collected for analysis.

Sept. 14, 1988

ESI complete EPA lead.

May 1989

\* An HRS Site Analysis-Interim Report was prepared by the Bionetics Corporation, under contract number 68-03-3532, in order to assess the potential environmental hazards related to the Eastern Surplus Co. site.

Approval:

  
Robert Jubach  
FIT Office Manager



STATE OF MAINE

# Department of Environmental Protection

MAIN OFFICE: RAY BUILDING, HOSPITAL STREET, AUGUSTA  
MAIL ADDRESS: State House Station 17, Augusta, 04333

JOSEPH E. BRENNAN  
GOVERNOR

KENNETH C. YOUNG, JR.  
COMMISSIONER

## MEMORANDUM

TO: File, Eastern Surplus Company, Meddybemps, Maine  
FROM: Cynthia S. Bertocci *CB*  
DATE: March 26, 1986  
RE: Summary - Site History, Remedial Actions, Fall 1985

\*\*\*\*\*

### Introduction

The Eastern Surplus Company site is located at the southwest end of Meddybemps Lake in the Town of Meddybemps, Washington County, Maine. The site, which is approximately three acres in size, is bounded by Meddybemps Lake on the north, the Dennys River on the east, Route 191 on the south and Stone Road on the west (see Figure 1). The initial site inspection was conducted on October 11, 1985 by Hank Aho, Tom Maleck and Cynthia Bertocci of the DEP along with representatives of the Washington County Sheriff's Office and the Maine State Police.

The site apparently served as the storage area for the Eastern Surplus Company (a partnership between Harry J. Smith, Sr. and Harry J. Smith, Jr. of Meddybemps). In addition to scrap metal, junk cars, old appliances, etc., a variety of hazardous materials were abandoned at the site. There are hundreds of 55 gallon drums, small metal containers and compressed gas cylinders scattered in an unorganized manner throughout the site. There are also approximately 120 electrical transformers. Much of the material appears to be of military surplus origin (see Attachment I: Partial List of Materials at the Site). Exposure to the elements has caused the deterioration of the containers to the point where many have already released their contents to the environment, and the condition of the remaining containers is marginal. Given the proximity of the site to Meddybemps Lake, the Dennys River, Route 191 and the center of town, the DEP determined that immediate actions were needed to secure and stabilize the site.

In November 1985, the Department hired Clean Harbors of Maine to begin remedial actions. The site was formally designated an "Uncontrolled Hazardous Substance Site" on December 16, 1985. The Eastern Surplus Company, the property owners and the U.S. Department of Defense were named as responsible parties (see Attachment 2: Partial List of Generators).



### Site History

This site history has been pieced together from information obtained from the following sources: Charlotte Smith, wife of Harry J. Smith, Sr. (interview 12/7/85); Cecil Ward, Second Selectman, Town of Meddybemps (interview 12/11/85); Complaint: Charles D. Spaulding vs. Harry J. Smith (June 1966); Bangor Daily News (article 7/8/68); and the Calais Advertiser (articles 1/27/72 and 2/3/72).

In a conversation with me on 12/7/85, Charlotte Smith stated that her husband, Harry J. Smith, Sr., was an electrical engineer for the U.S. Government and had worked on rural electrification projects. The Smiths moved to Meddybemps from Dayton, Ohio in 1946 when Harry Jr. was five years old. Court records (Spaulding Complaint) indicate that Harry Sr. took possession of the land on August 6, 1946 and that he began storing equipment, materials and motor vehicles on the property in October of 1946.

Mrs. Smith stated that her husband operated a power plant at the dam site for approximately ten years and that he sold power to several of the neighboring towns. The Bangor Daily News article stated that Harry Smith, Sr. sold power through the Eastern Electrical Cooperative from May 5, 1947 to August 1966. Mrs. Smith said that the power plant was closed as a result of a dispute over Atlantic Salmon and water levels in the Meddybemps Lake and the Dennys River.

In addition to the controversy over the Atlantic Salmon, Francis Brown stated that the Smith operation was also the focus of several complaints regarding the "junkyard". The Calais Advertiser article indicated that in May 1966, Harry Sr. was found guilty in District Court and again in Superior Court in July 1966 of violating the junkyard ordinance. Harry Sr. was apparently fined \$500. The fine was apparently suspended and Harry Sr. placed on two years probation (Bangor Daily News). In September 1966, the State, through the Atlantic Salmon Commission, claimed the Smith house, the hydroelectric plant and the land by eminent domain. Mr. Brown stated that Smith took this case as far as the State Supreme Court and won on the grounds that the Salmon Commission could not take land by eminent domain. The land was returned to Harry Sr. and the cleanup of the junkyard was never enforced. In addition, Charles D. Spaulding, Jr. filed suit against Harry J. Smith in 1966 in an effort to force Smith to remove junk from the Spaulding property which abuts the Smith land. Mr. Brown stated that this case never came to trial because the Spauldings failed to pursue their case.

With respect to the junkyard operation, Mr. Brown stated that Harry Sr. told him that most of the "junk" came from the close-out of the Presque Isle Air Base. The BDN article stated that Harry Smith and his son furnished oxygen, refilled fire extinguishers, supplied anesthesia to hospitals, handled structural steel and ran an Army/Navy surplus store in Calais. Mr. Brown confirmed the store in Calais and stated that the Smiths moved the store to Meddybemps after a fire in Calais. The BDN article also quotes Smith as saying that most of the tanks (compressed gas cylinders) at the "junkyard" (dam site) are the property of the U.S. Government.

Cecil Ward, second selectman of Meddybemps, recalled Harry Smith selling surplus clothing and ammunition at the store in Meddybemps. Mr. Ward also recalled a fire at the rear of the site approximately 10 years ago (the fire probably involved the calcium carbide which the DEP has found at the rear of the site). Cecil Ward stated that Harry Jr. worked with his father at the dam site until a few years before Harry Sr.'s death in 1978. Mr. Ward stated that Harry, Jr. purchased the property for Smith Transportation in 1975 or 1976.

#### Remedial Actions, Fall 1985

Clean Harbors of Maine was hired in November 1985 for the purpose of securing and stabilizing the site and beginning removal operations. Clean Harbors personnel spent three days prior to Thanksgiving, November 25-27, 1985, clearing a staging area and moving in equipment. As part of this process, a number of box trailers near the front of the site were checked for hazardous materials. Gallon and quart containers of chemicals removed from these trailers were placed on a flatbed trailer near the staging area and covered with polyethylene sheets. The trailers were then rolled up the hill on the western side of the site toward Stone Road. Clean Harbors brought in office, decontamination, supply and laboratory trailers and established power and phone services for the site.

Cleanup work began on December 2, 1985 and continued through December 21, 1985. The crew worked 10 hour days, 7 days per week. The objective was to accomplish as much as possible prior to a heavy snowfall.

There are seven major categories of wastes at the site: 1) electrical transformers, capacitors, and switches; 2) 55 gallon drums; 3) 1 and 5 gallon pails; 4) miscellaneous pint, quart and other small containers; 5) compressed gas cylinders; 6) calcium carbide; and 7) non-hazardous materials such as scrap metal, appliances, junk cars, clothing, etc. The DEP, in consultation with Clean Harbors, decided to handle the PCB items (transformers, capacitors, switches) first, then proceed with the 55 gallon drums and, if time permitted, begin consolidating the 5 gallon pails. These materials were focused on because they were easy to identify, comparatively easy to handle, and many were leaking. A decision was made not to handle any of the compressed gas cylinders or the calcium carbide. The trailer containing the calcium carbide was marked with a danger sign and locked. The area containing the partially reacted calcium carbide at the rear of the site was cordoned off.

The electrical transformers were located and brought to a polyethylene-lined staging area near the front of the site. Each transformer was given an identification number and its location marked with a correspondingly numbered stake. Transformer locations were marked in order to tie transformers to their original locations and aid in soil sampling at a later date. Each transformer was sampled and the oils tested for PCB concentration. Empty transformers were wipe tested for PCBs. Serial numbers and transformer dimensions were recorded. A total of 119 transformers were located. A number of capacitors and switches were also retrieved. Since it is not possible to sample capacitors and switches, these materials were drummed and disposed of as PCB items.

Once Clean Harbors had completed staging and sampling the transformers, they began staging the 55 gallon drums. Those drums, approximately 350, containing liquids were assigned identification numbers, moved to the staging area and sampled with glass thieves. Empty drums, approximately 500, were checked for identifying marks and then crushed. Since the portable laboratory was backlogged with transformer oils for PCB analysis, the drum samples were taken to Clean Harbor's Natick laboratory for analysis. Drum samples which upon visual inspection appeared to be similar were tested for compatibility, then composited for PCB, halogen and BTU analyses.

Clean Harbors also began grouping the 5 gallon pails, but continued work was not practical given the weather conditions and cleanup actions were halted for the winter.

As of 3/25/86, the following tasks have been completed:

1. All transformers staged and sampled. PCB oils removed, transformers flushed, PCB oils and flush disposed of at a licensed facility (Manifest MA C043096, 12/21/85: 750 gallons >500 ppm; 1,250 gallons <500 ppm).
2. Sealed capacitors and oil filled switches disposed of at a licensed facility as PCB items (Manifest MA C043097: 12/17/85: 10 drums, 3,500 lbs.).
3. All full 55 gallon drums sampled. Empty 55 gallon drums crushed and disposed of at a licensed facility (Manifests MA C043089, 1/14/86 and MA C043682, 1/23/86: 83 cubic yards).
4. Security fence (1,450 feet) erected along Route 191 and Stone Road to restrict access to the site.
5. Live ammunition removed by State Police on 12/18/85.

The following work remains to be done:

1. Transformers:

Remove excess soil, decommission transformer bodies. Estimate 2,000 cubic yards at 15-20 per cubic yard = \$30,000-\$40,000.

2. 55 Gallon Drums:

Pump and dispose of liquids. Crush empties for disposal. Sample results indicate, with a few exceptions, that the drums have no PCB oils, good BTU value, halogen concentration of 1.5% (15,000 ppm). Clean Harbors estimates a disposal cost of \$.75 per gallon.

3. 1 and 5 Gallon Pails:

Composite like materials. Analyze to verify identification. Determine if materials are hazardous. Dispose of at a licensed facility. The Department of Defense (DOD) could be helpful with identification.

4. Miscellaneous Small Containers:

Identify, determine if hazardous. Composite or lab pack. Dispose of at a licensed facility.

5. Compressed Gas Cylinders:

Determine if cylinders are charged. Identify contents and determine if hazardous. Dispose of gases in an approved manner. Dispose of cylinders. DOD could be helpful with identification.

6. Calcium Carbide:

Determine if partially or fully reacted calcium carbide is hazardous (pH of calcium oxide, calcium hydroxide). For suggestions on unreacted calcium carbide, see Stan Johnson's memo (Attachment 3).

7. Scrap Metal: Sell.

8. Trash: Dispose of clothing, boxes, crates, etc. at Sawyer's.

9. Soil, Water, Biota Evaluation:

- Much of the surface soil at the site is probably contaminated with hazardous substances: PCBs, oils, solvents, paints, etc. The scrap metal, appliances, tires, etc. present a problem with respect to soil sampling.
- A few shallow monitoring wells should be installed on the site.
- Several individuals have expressed concern over the possible PCB contamination of the river and its biota. Norm Anderson, Bureau of Health, recommends analysis of fish tissue. The Atlantic Salmon Commission shares this concern and has offered to assist in sampling salmon downstream of the site.

10. Inspection of Cinder Block Building:

This building should be inspected for the presence of hazardous substances.

Eastern Surplus Company: Partial List of Materials at the Site

<u>Substance</u>	<u>Hazardous ID Number</u>	<u>Estimated Amount</u>
1. Calcium Carbide	D003 (Reactivity)	16,000 lbs unreacted, 5,000 lbs partially reacted
2. Toluene	U220	
3. Xylene	U239	
4. Sulfuric Acid	D002	
5. Phosphoric Acid	D002	
6. Hydrochloric Acid	D002	
7. Corrosion Preventive	-	1,000 gallons
8. Corroline, Corro-Zinc	-	
- powder	?	-
- liquid	? D001 (Ignitability)	-
9. Primer Coating	-	
10. Primer caulking compound	-	250+ gallons
11. Ether (tetraethylene glycol-dimethylether)		
12. Paint	? EP Toxic Metals	100+ gallons
13. Methanol	U154	-
14. 1,1,1-Trichloroethane	U226	-
15. Mineral Sprits	-	
16. Cleaning Compound Solvent	-	-
17. Vinyl Zinc Chromate Primer	-	-
18. Methyl Ethyl Ketone	U159	-
19. Duplicator Fluid "POISON"	-	-
20. Fungus-Proofing Compound (perchloroethylene) (paranitrophenol)	U210 U170	

Eastern Surplus Company: Partial List of Materials at the Site (continued)

<u>Substance</u>	<u>Hazardous ID Number</u>	<u>Estimated Amount</u>
21. Cleaning compound - aircraft surface	-	-
22. Oxygen (gas)		
23. Carbon Dioxide (gas)		
24. Argon (gas)		
25. Nitrogen (gas)		
26. Freon (gas)		
27. Propane (gas)	D001	
28. F 1,2 dichlorodifluoromethane (gas)	U075	
29. Acetylene (gas)	D001	
30. Ethylene oxide (gas)	U115	
31. Oils	-	16,000+ gallons

Eastern Surplus Company, Partial List of Generators

<u>Material</u>	<u>Generator ID</u>
- Paints	Boston Naval Shipyard, Boston, MA.
- Grease, Aircraft	Defense Gen. Supply, Boston Naval Shipyard
- Ether	U.S. Air Force, Loring AFB
- Transformer #112	Gentile Depot Property
- Crates Resin/Acid	Naval Supply Center, Oakland, California
- Corrosion Preventive	GSA Federal Supply Service, Kansas City, Missouri
- Xylene	NSC Norfolk-Naval Shipyard, Boston, MA
- Primer Coating	Boston Naval Shipyard, Boston, MA
- Corroline, Corro-Zinc	Boston Naval Shipyard, Boston, MA
- Sulfuric Acid	Boston Naval Shipyard, Boston, MA
- Transformer #125	U.S. Army Air Corps
- Lube oil, steam turbine	Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Portsmouth, NH
- Compressed gas cylinders	Many USN, Watertown Arsenal
- Calcium Carbide	Pacific Carbide, Air Reduction Chemical & Carbide
- Primer, Caulking Compound	U.S. Navy

The Department has information which indicates that Eastern Surplus did business with the following individuals/companies/agencies:

- Eastern Surplus: Contract with Loring AFB - compressed gases
- Monsanto: Interteen PPO (chlorinated diphenyl trichlorobenzene)
- N.H. Bragg & Sons: cylinders
- City of Calais: compressed gases
- Downeast Community Hospital, Machais: compressed gases
- Eastport Memorial Hospital, Eastport: compressed gases
- James McCurdy, Woodland: compressed gases
- David McBride, St. Stephen, NB: compressed gases

## NARRATIVE SUMMARY

The Eastern Surplus Company property (the site) covers approximately three acres near the center of Meddybemps, Washington County, Maine. Eastern Surplus Company is bordered by Meddybemps Lake to the north, the Dennys River to the east, Route 191 to the south, and Stone Road to the west. Beginning in 1946 until the early 1980's, this property was the location of the Eastern Surplus Company, a retailer of army surplus and salvage items owned by Harry Smith Senior and Harry Smith Junior. The property use before 1946 is unknown.

This property was originally inspected in October 1985 by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MEDEP). During this inspection, MEDEP personnel noted chemical odors, leaking electrical transformers, hundreds of deteriorating drums and containers, compressed gas cylinders, 16,000 pounds of calcium carbide, and numerous areas of stained soil. The MEDEP immediately initiated emergency clean-up and removal measures and erected a fence to secure the property.

Source sampling, arranged by the MEDEP and the EPA between November 1985 and August 1990 has identified over fifty different hazardous materials on the property, including polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), chlorinated organic compounds (solvents), heavy metals, acids, paints, oils, asbestos, and pesticides. Soil, ground water, and sediment samples collected by the EPA between 1987 and 1988 have shown that many of these contaminants were released into the environment.

Two other hazardous waste sites are located in Meddybemps. The Smith Junkyard Site is approximately two miles from the site on Rt. 191. This site's surface water migration pathway however, flows into the Dennys River over three miles down stream from the site and the sample locations showing contaminants. The Green Hill Quarry Site has only PCBs and chlorinated solvents as contaminants. Green Hill's surface water migration pathway travels approximately one mile overland to a stream which flows into Meddybemps Lake. The probable point of entry into the surface water migration pathway is over two miles upstream from the site.

Contamination from the site threatens the adjacent Meddybemps Lake and the Dennys River. Both of these surface water bodies maintain active fisheries and spawning areas, a National Wildlife Refuge, and habitat for the federally designated threatened bald eagle. Additionally, drinking water supplies for an estimated 200 people who use private drinking water wells located within a four mile radius of the property are threatened by contamination from the site.

The Hazard Ranking System (HRS) score for the Eastern Surplus Co. Site was calculated based upon the threat posed by the site to the surface water bodies adjacent to the site, and the sensitive environments, fisheries and wetlands associated with the surface water bodies. After reviewing all pathways it was determined that the Air, Soil Exposure, and Groundwater Pathways would not contribute significantly to the overall Site Score. Therefore, those pathways have not been included in this HRS package.



## WORKSHEET FOR COMPUTING HRS SITE SCORE

	s	s <sup>2</sup>
1. Ground Water Migration Pathway Score ( $S_{gw}$ ) (from Table 3-1, line 13)	<u>NE</u>	_____
2a. Surface Water Overland/Flood Migration Component (from Table 4-1, line 30)	<u>100</u>	<u>10000</u>
2b. Ground Water to Surface Water Migration Component (from Table 4-25, line 28)	<u>NE</u>	_____
2c. Surface Water Migration Pathway Score ( $S_{sw}$ ) Enter the larger of lines 2a and 2b as the pathway score.	<u>100</u>	<u>10000</u>
3. Soil Exposure Pathway Score ( $S_s$ ) (from Table 5-1, line 22)	<u>NE</u>	_____
4. Air Migration Pathway Score ( $S_a$ ) (from Table 5-1, line 12)	<u>NE</u>	_____
5. Total of $S_{gw}^2 + S_{sw}^2 + S_s^2 + S_a^2$	<u>10000</u>	
6. <b>HRS Site Score</b> Divide the value on line 5 by 4 and take the square root.	<u>50</u>	

# WASTE STREAM SUMMARY

ESD  
Removal

Waste Stream	Original Quantity	Quantity After Bulking, Separation and Packaging
WS-01 Dehydrating Agent	24 (30-gallon cans)	24 (30-gallon cans)
WS-02 Insulating Varnish	66 (5-gallon cans)	66 (5-gallon cans)
WS-03 Varnish Asphalt	25 (5-gallon cans)	25 (5-gallon cans)
WS-04 Calking Compound	48 (5-gallon cans)	48 (5-gallon cans)
WS-05 Coating Compound Metal Pretreatment Resin Acid	15 (5-gallon cans)	15 (5-gallon cans)
WS-06 Paints	106 (5-gallon cans)	106 (5-gallon cans)
WS-07 Metal Conditioning Compound	9 (5-gallon cans)	9 (5-gallon cans)
WS-08 Corrosion Preventative	143 (5-gallon cans)	143 (5-gallon cans)
WS-09 Adhesives	13 (5-gallon cans)	1 (55-gallon drum)
WS-10 Gun Slushing Compound	3 (5-gallon cans)	Placed in WSC-01
WS-11 Silicones	2 (5-gallon cans)	Placed in WSC-01
WS-12 Oils	124 (5-gallon cans)	600 gallons
WS-13 Solvents	17 (5-gallon cans)	17 (5-gallon cans)
WS-14 Grease	59 (5-gallon cans) 125 (1-gallon cans)	59 (5-gallon cans) 125 (1-gallon cans)

# WASTE STREAM SUMMARY (Continued)

Waste Stream	Original Quantity	Quantity After Bulking, Separation and Packaging
WSC-01	Composite of Wastestreams WS-10 and WS-11	5 (5-gallon cans)
FAC-01	5 (55-gallon drums)	5 (55-gallon drums)
OC-01	78 (55-gallon drums) 105 (5-gallon cans)	78 (55-gallon drums) 105 (5-gallon cans)
OSC-01	42 (55-gallon drums) 269 (5-gallon cans)	42 (55-gallon drums) 265 (5-gallon cans)
PC-01	1 (55-gallon drum)	1 (55-gallon drum)
CNC-01	1 (55-gallon drum)	Placed in BNC-01
AC-01	2 (5-gallon cans) 1 (1-gallon cans)	Neutralized then placed in SCC-001
BNC-01	36 (55-gallon drums) 21 (5-gallon cans)	37 (55-gallon drums) 21 (5-gallon cans)
PCBSC-01/SCC-001	12 (5-gallon cans)/ 833 containers less than 5 gallons	53 (1-cubic yard containers)
BNSC-01	24 (55-gallon drums) 42 (5-gallon cans)	55 (55-gallon drums)
PCBC-01	2 (55-gallon drums) 78 (5-gallon cans)	7 (55-gallon drums)
Electrical Parts	6 drums	6 drums
PCB Solids	51 drums	51 drums
Arsenate of Calcium	2 (55-gallon drums)	2 (55-gallon drums)
Labpacks	349 containers less than 5 gallons & 15 (5-gallon cans)	60 Labpacks
Asbestos	~ 10 cubic yards	41 bags (~ 10 cubic yards)
Empty Drums	24 (55-gallon drums)	116 drums
Visqueen & Trash	25 (55-gallon drums)	Placed in SCC-001
Calcium Carbide	168 (100 pound cans)	168 (100 pound cans)

NUS CORPORATION  
SUPERFUND DIVISION

73086

PROJECT NOTES

TO: Project File

DATE: 3/6/89

FROM: Gary Glennon

COPIES:

SUBJECT: Calculation of PCB Quantity in Transformer Oil at

REFERENCE: Eastern Surplus Co. FI-8801-21 ME 2.5 HR <sup>Eastern Surplus</sup>

## Reference:

~~MADEP. 1986.~~ <sup>OSB 3/6/89</sup>

Clean Harbors. 1985. Transformer Decommissioning and Disposal Certification.

Clean Harbors. 1986. Report of analysis Meddybemps, Maine, for the Department of Environmental Protection, ~~MADEP~~ Maine, May 19.

Using these references, I calculated the total gallons of PCB <sup>OSB 3/6/89</sup> transformer oil which contained  $> 50\%$  PCBs.

Out of 1665 gallons of oil, PCB's were detected in 877 gallons. Of these 877 gallons, 318 gallons contained  $> 50\%$  PCBs.

This oil contains at least  $318 \times 0.5$   
 $= 159$  gallons PCBs  $\times 10$  pounds/gallon  
 $= 1,590$  pounds of PCBs.



Client: Clean Harbors of Maine

Sample Station: Maddybemps Maine Transformer Oil Samples

TOTAL PCB'S  
(as Aroclor 1260)  
In Transformer Oil Samples

Method I (See Appendix)

CHN Number	CHMB Field Number	Transformer Number	Extraction Date	Analysis Date	MDL **	Result **	<i>Gallons</i>
Note 5	#1	17B	12/7/85	12/7/85	30	38	3
Note 5	#2	4	12/7/85	12/7/85	30	ND	
Note 5	#3	5	12/7/85	12/7/85	30	ND	4
Note 5	#4	6	12/8/85	12/8/85	30	ND	12
Note 5	#5	10	12/8/85	12/8/85	30	ND	55
Note 5	#6	11	12/8/85	12/8/85	30	ND	55
Note 5	#7	13	12/8/85	12/8/85	30	93	55
Note 5	#8	12B	12/8/85	12/8/85	30	ND	15
Note 5	#9	14	12/9/85	12/9/85	30	ND	2
Note 5	#10	16	12/9/85	12/9/85	30	ND	5
Note 5	#11	17	12/9/85	12/9/85	30	41	6
Note 5	#12	19	12/9/85	12/9/85	25	25	3
Note 5	#13	24	12/9/85	12/9/85	30	ND	20
Note 5	#14	27	12/9/85	12/9/85	30	>50%	20
Note 5	#15	28	12/9/85	12/9/85	30	>50%	15
Note 5	#16	20	12/10/85	12/10/85	30	>50%	50
Note 5	#17	29	12/10/85	12/10/85	30	>50%	19
Note 5	#18	25	12/10/85	12/10/85	30	>50%	30
Note 5	#19	29B	12/10/85	12/10/85	30	>50%	19
Note 5	#20	26	12/10/85	12/10/85	30	91	20
Note 5	#21	15	12/10/85	12/10/85	30	7.9%	2
Note 5	#22	30	12/10/85	12/10/85	30	>50%	19
Note 5	#23	31	12/10/85	12/10/85	30	>50%	19
Note 5	#24	32	12/10/85	12/10/85	30	>50%	30
Note 5	#25	33	12/10/85	12/10/85	30	>50%	30
Note 5	#26	34	12/10/85	12/10/85	30	>50%	12
Note 5	#27	36	12/10/85	12/10/85	30	>50%	30
Note 5	#28	37	12/10/85	12/10/85	30	>50%	25
Note 5	#29	38	12/10/85	12/10/85	30	ND***	45
Note 5	#30	39	12/11/85	12/11/85	30	Trace	25
Note 5	#31	40	12/11/85	12/11/85	30	ND	15
16431*	#32	41	12/12/85	12/16-18/85	2.0	ND	10
16432*	#33	43	12/12/85	12/16-18/85	2.0	Trace	20
16433*	#34	44	12/12/85	12/16-18/85	2.0	ND	12
16434*	#35	45	12/12/85	12/16-18/85	2.0	Trace	10

>50% = 153 + 165 = 318 gallons

This part

PCB = 462

ND = 250  
238



CHN Number	CMB Field Number	Transformer Number	Extraction Date	Analysis Date	MDL **	Result **
16435*	#36	46	12/12/85	12/16-18/85	2.0	ND 2
16436*	#37	48	12/12/85	12/16-18/85	2.0	ND 20
16437*	#38	49	12/12/85	12/16-18/85	2.0	ND 20
16438*	#39	50	12/12/85	12/16-18/85	2.0	ND 20
16439*	#40	51	12/12/85	12/16-18/85	2.0	ND 15
16440*	#41	52	12/12/85	12/16-18/85	2.0	14.9 1
16441*	#42	53	12/12/85	12/16-18/85	2.0	ND 20
16442*	#43	54	12/12/85	12/16-18/85	2.0	875 2
16443*	#44	58	12/12/85	12/16-18/85	2.0	Trace 30
16444*	#45	61	12/12/85	12/16-18/85	2.0	ND 10
16445*	#46	64	12/12/85	12/16-18/85	2.0	3.8 1
16446*	#47	66	12/12/85	12/16-18/85	2.0	ND 50
16447*	#48	68	12/12/85	12/16-18/85	2.0	ND 25
16448*	#49	69	12/12/85	12/16-18/85	2.0	>90% 30
Note 5	#50	72	12/11/85	12/11/85	30	15.4% 30
Note 5	#51	73	12/11/85	12/11/85	30	ND 30
Note 5	#52	75	12/11/85	12/11/85	30	ND 10
Note 5	#53	76	12/11/85	12/11/85	30	ND 40
Note 5	#54	77	12/11/85	12/11/85	30	ND 40
Note 5	#56	86	12/11/85	12/11/85	30	82 40
Note 5	#57	87	12/11/85	12/11/85	30	ND 10
Note 5	#58	89	12/11/85	12/11/85	30	218 50
Note 5	#59	89B	12/11/85	12/11/85	30	80 10
Note 5	#60	90	12/12/85	12/12/85	30	184 40
Note 5	#61	91	12/12/85	12/12/85	30	55 20
Note 5	#62	93	12/12/85	12/12/85	30	198 13
Note 5	#63	94	12/12/85	12/12/85	30	52 10
Note 5	#64	95	12/12/85	12/12/85	30	73 10
Note 5	#65	96	12/12/85	12/12/85	30	70 10
Note 5	#66	97	12/12/85	12/12/85	30	ND 12
Note 5	#67	98	12/12/85	12/12/85	30	178 3
Note 5	#68	99	12/12/85	12/12/85	30	111 3
Note 5	#69	100	12/12/85	12/12/85	30	651 3
Note 5	#70	101	12/13/85	12/13/85	30	ND 5
Note 5	#71	103	12/13/85	12/13/85	30	52 90
Note 5	#72	104	12/13/85	12/13/85	30	ND 10
Note 5	#73	105	12/13/85	12/13/85	30	ND 10
Note 5	#74	106	12/13/85	12/13/85	30	ND 10
Note 5	#75	110	12/13/85	12/13/85	30	156 22
Note 5	#76	112	12/13/85	12/13/85	30	ND 2
Note 5	#77	113	12/13/85	12/13/85	30	ND 80
Note 5	#78	126	12/13/85	12/13/85	30	ND 80
Note 5	#79	128	12/13/85	12/13/85	30	ND 5
16449*	#80	105QC	12/12/85	12/16-18/85	2.0	ND 3
16450*	#81	99QC	12/12/85	12/16-18/85	2.0	Trace
16451*	#82	49QC	12/12/85	12/16-18/85	2.0	1,200

78  
79  
(11)

10 mis page PCB = 425 415  
ND = 529 538  
Total PCB = 887 877 MD 2 gal  
ND = 767 788 ND 2  
1665 ND 5



<u>CHN Number</u>	<u>CHMB Field Number</u>	<u>Transformer Number</u>	<u>Extraction Date</u>	<u>Analysis Date</u>	<u>MDL **</u>	<u>Result **</u>
16452*	#83	54QC	12/12/85	12/16-18/85	2.0	ND
16453*	#84	69QC	12/12/85	12/16-18/85	2.0	16.18
16454*	#85	11QC	12/12/85	12/16-18/85	2.0	Trace

NOTES:

\* This data was previously reported 12/27/85 as a separate report.

\*\* mg/kg (unless otherwise specified).

\*\*\* Sample was mostly water small oil layer.

ND = Below minimum detectable level (MDL).

Trace = Contaminant present but below MDL.

Note 5 - These analyses were performed in the CHI Mobile Laboratory on-site at Meddybemps Maine.

Sample Number CHMB #55 was not used.

QC = Quality Control sample sent to CHN laboratory for check of Mobile Laboratory.



Client: Clean Harbors of Maine

Sample Station: Meddybemps Transformer

Date Received: 12/27/86

Wipe Samples

CHN Lab #: 16655-16693

Transformer Wipe Test for  
Total PCB  
Method II (See Appendix)

<u>CHN Number</u>	<u>Transformer Number</u>	<u>Extraction Date</u>	<u>Analysis Date</u>	<u>MDL *</u>	<u>Result *</u>
16655	1	2/6/86	2/8/86	2	ND
16656	3	2/20/86	2/23/86	50 mg/kg	ND (Note 1)
16657	7	2/6/86	2/10/86	200	1,500
16658	8	2/6/86	2/10/86	2	ND
16659	9	2/6/86	2/8/86	2	ND
16660	12	2/6/86	2/10/86	200	400
16661	18	2/6/86	2/10/86	2	3.5
16662	21	2/6/86	2/8/86	2	6.8
16663	22	2/6/86	2/8/86	2	2
16664	23	2/10/86	2/11/86	2	ND
16665	35	2/6/86	2/8/86	2	8.6
16666	42	2/6/86	2/8/86	2	9.7
16667	55	2/6/86	2/8/86	2	19
16668	57	2/6/86	2/8/86	2	ND
16669	59	—	—	—	Note 2
16670	60	2/6/86	2/8/86	2	ND
16671	62	2/6/86	2/8/86	2	ND
16672	63	2/6/86	2/8/86	2	ND
16673	65	2/6/86	2/8/86	2	2.1
16674	67	2/10/86	2/11/86	2	ND
16675	71	2/6/86	2/8/86	2	ND
16676	74	2/6/86	2/8/86	2	ND
16677	80	2/6/86	2/8/86	2	ND
16678	81	2/6/86	2/8/86	2	ND
16679	82	2/20/86	2/23/86	50 mg/kg	ND (Note 1)
16680	83	2/6/86	2/8/86	2	ND
16681	84	2/6/86	2/8/86	2	ND
16682	85	2/6/86	2/8/86	2	ND
16683	88	2/6/86	2/8/86	2	ND
16684	92	2/6/86	2/8/86	2	ND
16685	102	2/6/86	2/8/86	2	ND
16686	107	2/6/86	2/8/86	2	ND
16687	108	2/6/86	2/8/86	2	9.5
16688	125	—	—	—	Note 2
16689	127	2/6/86	2/8/86	2	ND
16690	129	2/6/86	2/8/86	2	ND
16691	130	2/6/86	2/8/86	2	ND
16692	131	2/6/86	2/8/86	2	ND
16693	Blank	2/6/86	2/8/86	2	ND





Client: Clean Harbors of Maine

Sample Station: Meddybemps Transformer Wipe Samples

Date Received: 12/30/86

CHN Lab #: 16717-16724

<u>CHN Number</u>	<u>Transformer Number</u>	<u>Extraction Date</u>	<u>Analysis Date</u>	<u>MDL *</u>	<u>Result *</u>
16717	2	2/10/86	2/11/86	2	ND
16718	7	2/10/86	2/11/86	2	11
16719	57	2/10/86	2/11/86	2	2
16720	59	2/10/86	2/11/86	2	16
16721	70	2/10/86	2/11/86	2	ND
16722	114	2/10/86	2/11/86	200	3,600
16723	125	2/10/86	2/11/86	2	10
16724	Blank	2/10/86	2/11/86	2	ND

Note 1: The wipe samples from transformers No. 3 and No. 82 had oil in the sample vials along with the filter paper. Both samples were treated as oil samples and prepared by Method I (See Appendix).

Note 2: The wipe samples from transformer No. 59 CHN #16669 and No. 125 CHN #16688 were resampled and given new CHN Lab numbers 16720 and 16723.

\*ug/wipe