PROGRESS POLREP

I. HEADING

Date: March 22, 1991
From: Paula A. Cammarata, OSC
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       R. Salkie, 2ERR-ADREPP
       J. Marshall, 2OEP
       J. Becker, 2PSB
       D. Oster, NJDEP
       L. Voyce, ATSDR
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       B. Aber, 2ORC-NJSUP
       L. Miller, NJDEP
       R. Swales, OEM
       A. Zach, City of Newark
       A. Apostolico, NFD

Subject: White Chemical Company, 660 Frelinghuysen Ave.,
Newark, Essex County, New Jersey

POLREP No.: POLREP 29

II. BACKGROUND

Site No.: 6J
D.O. No.: 7445-02-102
Response Authority: CERCLA/SARA
NPL Status: Non-NPL
Start Date: October 01, 1990

III. RESPONSE INFORMATION

A. Situation

The White Chemical Company was an acid chloride manufacturer whose
facility is currently under Chapter 11 proceedings. Approximately
9000 drums and numerous cylinders, tanks, and laboratory materials,
including acids, corrosives, and flammable liquids, exist on-site.
On August 30, 1990, the Removal Action Branch received a request
from NJDEP to perform an assessment for CERCLA Removal
consideration at the White Chemical Company.

On September 7, 1990 a preliminary assessment was performed and
determined the need for a verbal to address emergency site
conditions of tuming drums. This assessment led to the
authorization for removal funding on September 27th. On October
1, 1990, OSC mobilized the Emergency Response Cleanup Services
(ERCS) Contractor, OHM to commence removal action activities.
B. Actions Taken

1. Site activities continued throughout the week.

   a. On Saturday March 16th, the OSC responded to the site because security personnel observed three leaking drums. The drums had been addressed earlier in the week and were sweating due to the change in temperature. The security personnel are having difficulty in determining between significant and routine situation.

   b. ERCS continued the inventory of small containers found in building 33 lab area. To date, 11,500 containers have been inventoried. Of these containers approximately 11,000 have been classified into hazard/chemical categories based upon label information. For all practical purposes the small container inventory is complete, with only occasional new findings of small containers.

   c. ERCs completed the inventory of all lab size material on-site. Segregation, however, will continue for the next several weeks.

   d. The installation of an on site weather Station has been completed.

2. On Monday March 18th ERRD Director, Associate Director, OSC and ORC assembled in Washington to provide a briefing to D. Clay, Assistant Administrator, T. Fields, Office Director and S. Luftig, Director for a $17,000,000 Action Memorandum request. The AM should be signed by Friday, March 22nd. Region II personnel discussed the overall site conditions funding and enforcement strategies.

3. TAT continues coordinating with potential recyclers for the xylene and HCL. Hess corporation was contacted and are still awaiting the analytical results for the xylene. American Galvanizing has been contacted to reclaim the HCL.

4. On Tuesday, March 19th, OSC, TAT and OEP met with the Newark Housing Authority to discuss the necessary notification procedure to be developed by the Housing Authority for the Community Alert Network System. Representatives of the Newark Office of Emergency Management were scheduled for the meeting however they did not attend.
5. On Friday March 22nd, ERCs restaged potential shock sensitive chemical from building #33 to the concrete building #36 as a safety precaution.

C. Next Steps

1. Classification and segregation of laboratory items will continue to be a priority.

2. Stabilization and segregation of drums/containers will continue as necessary.

3. A meeting has been set for Monday March 25th, with the Attorneys representing the AZS Corporation, to review site activities.

4. On Wednesday, March 27th, KPMs will be on-site to discuss the removal of all files on-site through the ICF, Corp. Contact.

5. The OSC will continue to keep crew on an eight hour day and closely monitor spending.

6. A training session will be held on Saturday, March 23rd with all site security personnel to clarify their roles and responsibilities along with procedures they must follow in the event an emergency situation develops.

7. The next Task Force meeting is scheduled for Feb 28 at 10:00am. Also at 2:00pm that same day an area business meeting has been scheduled.

D. Key Issues

1. With the warmer weather setting in, it is imperative that we use the springtime as effectively as possible. For every day we limit our hours we lose two- three days in the summer months when the chemicals react more violently with the high humid temperatures.

2. ERCs commenced yard operations, however, with the limited number of crew members and limited working hours; drum handling is slow. Furthermore, we have approximately five weeks left of monies before we run out ($62,000 per week). This will be shortened by the fact that once we put the transfer unit on-line we expend $32,000, the cost of the unit. We also need to bring in a 215 which increases our costs an additional $2000 per week. It is still quite
difficult due to the funding limitations to properly execute the necessary tasks. Therefore, these additional expenditures will be made despite funding limitation to properly execute drum handling operations.

IV. COST INFORMATION

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<th>Amount Budgeted</th>
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*As of March 21st, 1900-55

**Will be adjusted when Action Memorandum is authorized

FURTHER POLREPS
FINAL POLREP _FORTHCOMING_ X_ SUBMITTED BY Paula A. Cammarata, OSC Removal Action Branch

DATE _7/17/97_