



United States Environmental Protection Agency

Region 10 Emergency Response Unit

POLLUTION REPORT

I. HEADING

Date: March 23, 2001
Subject: Boomsnub Soil OU Removal Site (Boomsnub), Hazel Dell, Washington
From: Michael Szerlog, OSC, USEPA, Region 10, Emergency Response Unit
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TO: See Distribution List on last page

POLREP No.1 (Initial)

II. BACKGROUND

Site ID: SSID # 106Y
Delivery Order No: 081-10 -14
Response Authority: CERCLA
CERCLIS No: WAD009624453
NPL Status: Boomsnub/Airco is a NPL Superfund Site
State Notification: Washington State Department of Ecology
Action Memo Status: Signed on March 12, 2001
Removal Start Date: March 19, 2001
Expected Completion Date: April 6, 2001
Site Web Page: www.epa.gov/r10earth, click Index, click B for Boomsnub. or use URL: <http://yosemite1.epa.gov/R10/CLEANUP.NSF/sites/boomrv>

III. SITE INFORMATION

A. Incident Category

This is a time-critical removal action at the Boomsnub/Airco National Priority List (NPL) Superfund Site.

B. Site Description

1. Site Location

The Boomsnub/Airco NPL Superfund Site is located north of Vancouver in unincorporated Hazel Dell, Clarke County, Washington at Township 2 North

Range 1 East in Section 12. The site comprises approximately 0.83 acres at latitude 45.677/ North and longitude 122.62/ West. The Site is located at 7608 NE 47th Avenue, approximately two miles east of Interstate 5 and one mile west of Interstate 205, near NE 78th Street and NE 47th Avenue. The Site is bordered by a mixture of residential, commercial, and light industrial properties. The property is vacant except for a machine shop building unrelated to Site activities and the ground-water treatment system. The Boomsnub Corporation and its predecessor company, Pioneer Plating, conducted chrome plating operations at this location from 1967 until 1994, when Boomsnub moved its business to its current location at 3611 NE 68th Street.

The Site also encompasses a plume of ground-water contamination that emanates from beneath the Boomsnub and the BOC Gases facility (formerly known as Airco) facilities and extends in a west/northwest direction to NE 30th Avenue.

There are no known flood plains, endangered species, historical landmarks, or structures with historical significance identified at the Site. Seasonal wetlands have been identified along the south side of NE 78th Street just west of St. Johns Road, in the vicinity of extraction well MW-19D

2. Description of Threat

The principal threat waste, hexavalent chromium in soils, was mostly addressed in a 1994 soil removal action by EPA, however, significant contamination still exists. Removal of the highest contaminant concentrations, and treatment if necessary, prior to disposal at a RCRA-approved landfill is warranted. Lead contamination in soil will also be addressed by excavation of soils to eliminate potential exposures to future workers. The remaining chromium and VOC contamination in Site-Wide ground water will be addressed by the Remedial Program's continued operation of the ground-water pump and treat system, and other actions which may be implemented as part of the contingency remedy provisions in the 2000 Record Of Decision (ROD).

Cleanup of this Site has been designated as Washington's highest priority. The site was included on the NPL using the State's one designation allowed under §300.425(c)(2) of the National Contingency Plan. To keep the cleanup schedule moving, EPA Region 10 has decided to use Removal funding to complete the soil removal at the Site.

C. Removal Assessment Results

In 1994, EPA conducted a removal action of 6,051 tons of chromium-contaminated soils at the Boomsnub Soil OU .

In 1997 and 1998, EPA's Superfund remedial program collected approximately 300 surface and subsurface soil samples during the remedial investigation (RI). As a result of that sampling investigation, EPA determined that significant chromium contamination remained in soil at the Site above the water table. Most of that contamination was located to the west of the previous removal effort, where an old septic drain field was located. Contamination detected in this area had concentrations of chromium above 400 parts per million (ppm) at depths between two and twelve feet below ground surface (bgs).

In 2000, the selected remedy was identified in a ROD for the Boomsnub Soil Operable Unit and consisted of soil excavation and off-site disposal of contaminated soils. The selected remedy's description is as follows:

The major components of the remedy for the Boomsnub Soil OU are the following:

1. Excavation and off-site disposal of an estimated 1,200 cubic yards of soil exceeding a remediation level of 400 ppm for total chromium and the MTCA Method A industrial soil cleanup standard of 1,000 ppm for lead
2. Other co-located contaminants including arsenic and five semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs) will also be addressed by this action, allowing future industrial use of the property.
3. Institutional controls in the form of deed restrictions and controlled site access for the Boomsnub property to prevent contaminated soil below 15 feet in depth from being disturbed without appropriate precautions and to preclude residential use of the Boomsnub property.

IV. Response Information

A. Situation

1. Current Situation

March 19, 2001 (Monday)

Personnel on site: 1 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), 1 United States Coast Guard (USCG) Strike Team, 7 Emergency and Rapid Response Services contractor (ERRS), 4 Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team contractor (START), 2

Environmental Sampling and Assistance Team contractor (ESAT), 1 subcontractor- private utility locate (Total 16).

Weather: Sunny, temps 50-60 degrees F.

Personnel and Equipment mobilized to the site. Established site control, delineating exclusion zones, and establishing decon.

Conducted safety meeting, reviewed and signed safety plan. ERRS subcontracted private utility locate to locate utilities on site. ERRS removed asphalt from excavation areas Boomsnub (B)-8 and B-7 and concrete from area B-4. ERRS prepared site for staging contaminated soils. ESAT set up mobile laboratory to run flame atomic absorption (Flame AA) analyses for chromium and lead. START set up sampling equipment and field screening x-ray fluorescence (XRF) spectrometer for field screening for chromium and lead in soils.

March 20, 2001 (Tuesday)

Personnel on site: 1 EPA, 1 USCG, 7 ERRS, 4 START, 2 ESAT.

Weather: Sunny, temps 50-60 degrees F.

ERRS commences excavation of excavation areas B-8, B-6, and B-5. START sampled the stockpile of soil previously removed by EPA remedial program for the excavation and installation of the deadman piles for the guide wires attached to the air stripping tower. START sampled excavation areas B-8, B-6, and B-5. START screened samples using XRF and ESAT confirmed using Flame AA.

Encountered two one inch galvanized and PVC irrigation pipe in excavation area B-8. EPA met with Voorhies and GL & V Celleco property owners/representatives regarding excavation plans for their properties.

March 21, 2001 (Wednesday)

Personnel on site: 2 EPA (OSC & RPM), 1 WDOE (State), 1 USCG,

7 ERRS, 4 START, 2 ESAT Weather: Sunny, temps 55-60 degrees

F. ERRS mobilized High Power Vacuum truck (super sucker) to remove contaminated soil around a power pole on the GL and V Celleco (GLV) property - excavation area GLV-1. ERRS continued excavation in areas B-8 and B-5 and started excavation in area B-4. START sampled excavation areas B-8, B-4, B-5 and GLV-1, used XRF to screen samples and ESAT provided confirmation samples using the Flame AA. Confirmation samples from B-8 indicate completion of excavation at 1 and 2 foot below ground surface (bgs) in excavation area. EPA conducted media interviews with the Columbian and the Oregonian Newspapers and with KGW-TV8 and KATU-TV2 television stations.

March 22, 2001 (Thursday)

Personnel on site: 2 EPA (OSC & RPM), 1 USCG, 7 ERRS, 4 START, 1 ESAT

Weather: Sunny, temps 60-65 degrees F.

ERRS excavated B-6 and B-7 and GLV-1 to remove chromium- and lead-contaminated soils. Encountered a french drain in the B-7 excavation area. Confirmation samples from B-6 indicate completion of excavation at 2 feet and 2.5 feet bgs. ERRS started removing blackberry bushes on V-1. START and ESAT continued to provide sampling and analysis support. START sampled concrete and asphalt debris and submitted samples to a commercial laboratory. Samples of backfill material were also collected and submitted to a commercial laboratory for chemical and geophysical analysis. EPA conducted interview with KATV-TV12.

March 23, 2001 (Friday)

Personnel on site: 1 EPA, 1 USCG, 8 ERRS, 4 START, 1 ESAT, 1 Lewis and Clark Railroad, 1 Waste Management

Weather: Sunny, temps 65-70 degrees F.

ERRS excavated additional soil contamination from B-7 and B-4 and started excavating B-3. ERRS continued to remove blackberry bushes from Voorhies property (V) 1. Vehicles stored on V-1 being moved by tenant into temporary storage location to allow for excavation of contaminated areas. Temporary fencing installed. START and ESAT continue to provide sampling and analysis. Lewis and Clark Railroad provided Roadway Worker Protection Safety class for working near the Rail tracks. ERRS removed asphalt from B-9, B-11, B-12 and V-1 and completed clearing blackberry bushes on V-1. START collected stockpile samples from B-7 and B-5/GLV-1 for Toxic Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) analysis. Treatment, Storage, and Disposal (TSD) company collected soil samples for mix design.

March 24, 2001 (Saturday)

Personnel on site: 1 security guard. No work conducted today.

2. Removal Actions to Date

The table below shows the excavation areas in the design plan and the final depth of excavation. In addition, it also indicates if confirmation sampling has been completed - Not Excavated (NE) Site Prepared (SP), and Not Sampled (NS).

<u>Excavation Areas</u>	<u>Depth (bgs)</u>	<u>Confirmation Samples</u>
B1	NE	NS
B2	NE	NS

B3	2 feet	Sampled for XRF & AA
B4	2 feet	Sampled for XRF & AA
B5	6 to 6.5 feet	Sampled for XRF & AA
B6	2 to 2.5 feet	Confirmed
B7	4 feet	Sampled for XRF & AA
B8	1 to 2 feet	Confirmed
B9	NE/SP	NS
B10	NE/SP	NS
B11	NE/SP	NS
B12	NE/SP	NS
GLV1	2 to 3 feet	Sampled for XRF & AA
V1	NE/SP	NS
LRR1	NE	NS

3. Enforcement

EPA has completed a PRP search at the Site. EPA has identified Boomsnub/Pacific Northwest Plating and BOC Gases as PRPs at the Site. Although EPA has not identified PRPs associated with specific operable units, the data collected during investigations at the Site clearly shows that chromium is associated with the Boomsnub facility and not with the BOC Gases facility.

In 2000 EPA entered into a consent decree with the Boomsnub Corporation (now out of business), Edward Takitch (the company president), and the estate of Jason Niblett (the former president) resolving their liability at the Boomsnub/Airco Site. EPA and the Department of Justice conducted an extensive analysis of the defendants' ability to pay, and concluded that all defendants had very limited resources. What few assets are available will be put into a special account for this operable unit. EPA is not ordering the PRP to conduct this removal because to do so would be contrary to the settlement that is embodied in the Consent Decree and because EPA is convinced that none of the three Boomsnub defendants has resources sufficient to undertake this work.

B. Planned Removal Activities

To minimize/eliminate the threat to human health and the environment posed by the materials on the site, the following removal activities are planned:

- Excavation, sampling, and off-site disposal of chromium- and lead-contaminated soil on the Boomsnub property (excavation areas B1 - B12), on the GL & V Celleco property (GLV1) on Voorhies property (V1) and on Clark County's railroad property (LRR1). Removal action levels are 400

parts per million (ppm) for chromium and 1000 ppm for lead in soils. It is estimated that approximately 1,200 cubic yards of soil will be removed from these properties.

- Backfill and restoration (i.e., hydro-seeding, fence repair, and asphalt) of excavated properties.

C. Next Steps

The Boomsnub/Airco Superfund Site consists of two industrial facilities and a ground-water contaminant plume. Boomsnub operated a chrome plating facility resulting in historical spills of chromic acid that entered soils on its property and migrated to ground water. BOC Gases, located adjacent to the Boomsnub property, is an active compressed gases facility. Historical practices at the BOC Gases property have resulted in the presence of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in soils and ground water. Releases of chromium and VOCs from the Boomsnub and BOC Gases properties, respectively, have resulted in a commingled plume extending approximately 4,400 feet. EPA has divided this Site into three operable units (OUs) to manage these cleanup activities:

- ! Boomsnub Soil OU
- ! BOC Gases Soil OU
- ! Site-Wide Ground Water OU

The Record of Decision addresses two of three OUs at the Site, the Boomsnub Soil OU and the Site-Wide Ground Water OU. The BOC Gases Soil OU is being addressed under a removal action for source control of ground water within the BOC Gases property boundaries to prevent continued migration of volatile organic compounds to the Site-Wide ground-water plume.

D. Key Issues

Access to the site is restricted by fencing and during this removal action - a 24-hr guard service. EPA has worked with the tenants and owners of adjacent properties to accommodate their needs during excavation on their property. EPA has provided temporary storage for displaced equipment of one of the tenants.

V. Cost Information

Estimated costs are summarized below:

	<u>Established Ceiling</u>	<u>Estimated Costs (As of 3/23/01)</u>	<u>Percentage Used</u>
EPA	\$ 25,000	\$ 8,000	32 %
USCG	\$ 25,000	\$ 4,551	18 %
START	\$126,000	\$ 18,744	15 %

ERRS	\$365,000	\$109,773 (3/22)	30 %
Total	<u>\$541,000</u>	<u>\$141,068</u>	<u>26 %</u>

Note: The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. 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.

VI Disposition of Wastes

No Wastes have been disposed of yet.

VII Distribution

To: EPA Headquarters, Washington, D.C. Attention: Terry Eby
 EPA Region 10, Attention: Chris Field, Debbie Yamamoto, OSCs, Beth Kunz
 EPA Washington Operations Office, Attention: Thomas Eaton
 Washington State Department of Ecology, Attention: Dan Alexanian

VII Status

Case Pending.