

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT  
BNSF Galena Derailment - Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Region V

**Subject:** POLREP #6  
Progress  
BNSF Galena Derailment  
E15510  
Galena, IL  
Latitude: 42.3744730 Longitude: -90.4443060

**To:**  
**From:** Jaime Brown, OSC  
**Date:** 3/13/2015  
**Reporting Period:** 3/11/2015 - 3/12/2015

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Background

<b>Site Number:</b>	E15510	<b>Contract Number:</b>	
<b>D.O. Number:</b>		<b>Action Memo Date:</b>	
<b>Response Authority:</b>	OPA	<b>Response Type:</b>	Emergency
<b>Response Lead:</b>	PRP	<b>Incident Category:</b>	Removal Action
<b>NPL Status:</b>	Non NPL	<b>Operable Unit:</b>	
<b>Mobilization Date:</b>	3/5/2015	<b>Start Date:</b>	3/5/2015
<b>Demob Date:</b>		<b>Completion Date:</b>	
<b>CERCLIS ID:</b>		<b>RCRIS ID:</b>	
<b>ERNS No.:</b>		<b>State Notification:</b>	
<b>FPN#:</b>	E15510	<b>Reimbursable Account #:</b>	Z5PL

#### 1.1.1 Incident Category

Emergency Response

#### 1.1.2 Site Description

See POLREP #5

##### 1.1.2.1 Location

See POLREP #5

##### 1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

See POLREP #5

#### 1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

See POLREP #5

## 2. Current Activities

### 2.1 Operations Section

#### 2.1.1 Narrative

The incident objectives stated in the IAP for OP #8 (0830 3/12/2015 - 0830 03/14/2015) remain the following:

- Safety of residents & responders
- Protect environment and control runoff
- Stabilize site
- Monitor environmental conditions/impacts
- Facilitate investigations & product sampling/recovery
- Restore derailment site
- Ensure safe & effective track operations
- Clarify tank status

Response activities remain focused on cleaning, purging and cutting up damaged tank cars and staging them for removal from the area. In addition, investigation continues to delineating the extent of contamination to develop a remediation plan.

#### 2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

See POLREP #5 for a summary of initial response operations in the first week of the response.

During the current reporting period, the following activities took place:

- Installation of 5 soil borings along the proposed sheet pile wall to a depth of 6' bgs. Samples were screened in 2' intervals with a PID for the presence of VOCs. No elevated levels of VOCs were observed in any of the borings and no soil samples were collected;
- Groundwater sampling was conducted;
- Collection of 5 surface water samples, 2 from upstream (4U, 2U), 2 from downstream (1D, 2D), and the source;
- Tanker cars were cleaned, purged and cut up for staging & removal. Nine tankers cars have been cut up with approximately 4 remaining; and
- Preparations for the receiving and staging of sheet pile for containment construction operations.

The water level in the Mississippi River dropped by approximately 3-4" from yesterday. The river is now almost entirely open with only minor ice jams remain.

OSCs, START, and/or the USCG Atlantic Strike Team continue to work with BNSF to finalize and/or implement the following work plans:

- 1) Overall Site Health & Safety Plan
- 2) Traffic Control Plan
- 3) Security Plan
- 4) Construction Storm Water Prevention Plan
- 5) Air Sampling & Analysis Plan
- 6) Worker Exposure Monitoring Plan
- 7) Surface Water Sampling & Monitoring Plan
- 8) Site Transfer Plan
- 9) Tank Car Cleaning & Purging Plan
- 10) Waste Management Plan
- 11) Post Excavation Soil Sampling Plan
- 12) Geoprobe Subsurface Investigation Plan
- 13) Water Treatment Plan
- 14) Site Decontamination Plan

The most recent version of each of these plans is posted in the 'documents' section of the website.

Sampling and monitoring data collected to date is being posted on maps and tables, all of which are being posted in the 'documents' section of the website. Details on parameters being monitored are found on the maps and tables.

There were no injuries or wildlife impacts reported during the reporting period. All operations data is being reported in a daily Sitrep and ICS 209 Incident Status Report (see 'documents' section of website).

### 2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)

See POLREP #5

### 2.1.4 Progress Metrics

<i><b>Waste Stream</b></i>	<i><b>Medium</b></i>	<i><b>Quantity</b></i>	<i><b>Manifest #</b></i>	<i><b>Treatment</b></i>	<i><b>Disposal</b></i>
Crude oil	liquid	217,625 gal	TBD	staged	TBD
Oil/water mixture	liquid	7,790 gal	TBD	staged	TBD
Contaminated soil	solid	TBD	TBD	staged	TBD
Tanker cars	solid	12	NA	salvage	scrap

## 2.2 Planning Section

### 2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

The following activities are anticipated during the remainder of OP #8 & #9:

- 1) BNSF will complete cleaning/purging, scrapping & removal operations on remaining tanker cars staged on site;
- 2) EPA will continue to participate on the IMT (Incident Commander & Deputy Operations Section Chief) and participate in the planning cycle to develop the IAP for OP #9;
- 3) EPA will continue to provide tactical advice and review/approve work plans;
- 4) USCG Strike Team will continue to assist in implementation and oversight of the HASP;
- 5) EPA will continue oversight to ensure protection of public health & the environment in coordination with Federal, State, and local agencies;
- 6) BNSF will continue containment/monitoring of the release with EPA & other agency oversight; and
- 7) A draft work plan for excavation and remediation is due on 3/16 for consideration;

#### 2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

See Section 2.2.1

#### 2.2.1.2 Next Steps

The Planning Section of the IMT will develop an IAP for OP #9. Sitreps, documents, work plans, images and data will continue to be posted to the website.

### **2.2.2 Issues**

Trains are now running at 25 mph, and trains pass the Site every 10 – 15 minutes. Site activities requiring track crossing are being closely coordinated by BNSF environmental, mechanical and operations personnel according to the rail schedule.

## **2.3 Logistics Section**

The EPA Mobile Command Post (MCP) was deployed on 3/6/2015 and remains on scene to support response staff. Sampling and other response equipment are being provided by EPA and START contractors.

There is new discussion of possibly relocating the incident command post trailers to a different location to return the municipal parking lot to normal operations.

## **2.4 Finance Section**

No information available at this time.

## **2.5 Other Command Staff**

### **2.5.1 Safety Officer**

USCG Atlantic Strike Team members continue on Site conducting oversight during both day and night shifts. Strike Team members assisted in establishing a site-wide Health & Safety Plan as well as review individual contractor HASPs and various job safety analyses. These plans were posted in the 'documents' section of the website.

Safety briefings are held each day at the beginning of operational briefings for all field supervisors and IMT personnel.

### **2.5.2 Liaison Officer**

EPA Region 5 Congressional Liaison Ronna Beckmann continues to keep local elected officials up to date on Site activities during conference calls. There continues to be a high level of interest by local, state and federal elected officials. A briefing for Congressional representatives is scheduled for 3/16.

### **2.5.3 Information Officer**

EPA Region 5 Community Involvement Coordinator Heriberto Leon continues to respond to all press inquiries and requests for interviews and information related to the incident. The EPA website for the incident (see link in Section 6.2) and continues to post daily updates.

## **3. Participating Entities**

### **3.1 Unified Command**

A UC continues to consist of Incident Commanders from the following agencies:

US EPA Region 5  
Illinois EPA  
Jo Daviess County EMA  
BNSF Railway

### **3.2 Cooperating Agencies**

See POLREP #5 for list of agencies. New additions include the following:

Iowa American Power  
USCG Sector Upper Mississippi River

## **4. Personnel On Site**

FEDERAL: 14  
STATE: 2  
LOCAL: 1  
BNSF: 4  
CONTRACTORS: 130

TOTAL (estimated): 151

## **5. Definition of Terms**

bgs	below ground surface
BNSF	Burlington Northern Santa Fe
CTEH	Center for Toxicology and Environmental Health LLC
ERRS	Emergency and Rapid Response Services
FPN	Federal Project Number
HASP	Health & Safety Plan
IC	Incident Commander
ICS	Incident Command System
IMT	Incident Management Team
MCP	Mobile Command Post
NRC	National Response Center
OP	Operational Period
OSC	On-Scene Coordinator
POLREP	Pollution Report
SDS	Safety Data Sheet
Sitrep	Situation Report
START	Superfund Technology Assessment and Response Team
TDD	Technical Direction Document

UC Unified Command  
VOC Volatile Organic Compound

## **6. Additional sources of information**

### **6.1 Internet location of additional information/report**

IAPs, aerial photographs, site photographs, data, work plans, data and other supporting technical information can be found at: <http://www.epaossc.org/bnsfgalenaspill>

A general website for updates to the public can be found at: <http://www2.epa.gov/il/galena-train-derailment>

### **6.2 Reporting Schedule**

The next POLREP will be issued on March 15.

## **7. Situational Reference Materials**

No information available at this time.