

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



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Region V

**Subject:** POLREP #7  
Progress  
BNSF Galena Derailment  
E15510  
Galena, IL  
Latitude: 42.3744730 Longitude: -90.4443060

**To:**  
**From:** Jaime Brown, OSC  
**Date:** 3/15/2015  
**Reporting Period:** 3/12/2015 - 3/14/2015

## 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 #9 (0830 3/14/2015 - 0830 03/17/2015) are 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

Damaged tanker car cleaning, purging and cutting was completed and all tanker cars have been removed from the Site. In addition, sheet pile installation is underway to isolate the area impacted by the crude oil release and prevent potential inundation from rising Mississippi River levels. The remediation approach is to excavate impacted soils and remove contaminated soil from the Site.

#### 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:

- Four surface water samples at upstream & downstream locations (see map in 'documents' section);
- All damaged tanker cars were cleaned, purged, cut up and removed from the Site by truck;
- Sheet pile installation is ongoing (~25% complete) for containment of impacted area to prevent contamination from entering Mississippi River as well as potential inundation from potentially high seasonal water levels;
- Additional stairway access was constructed into the impacted area for personnel safety; and
- Ice build-up was removed from containment boom placed in the river (water levels remain stable).

OSCs, START, and/or the USCG Atlantic Strike Team continue to work with BNSF to finalize and/or implement the following work plans (new or updated plans since last POLREP in **bold**):

- 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) **Preliminary Waste Management & Handling Plan**
- 11) Post Excavation Soil Sampling Plan
- 12) Geoprobe Subsurface Investigation Plan
- 13) Waste Water Treatment Plan
- 14) **Equipment Decontamination Plan**
- 15) **Sheet Wall & Drainage Trench Plan**
- 16) Emergency Egress Plan during Sheet Pile Installation Operations

In addition, the following work plans are in development:

- 17) **Flood Contingency Plan**
- 18) **Oil Spill Contingency 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 (totals to date)

<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	221,265 gal	TBD	staged	TBD
Oil/water mixture	liquid	15,215 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 #9:

- 1) EPA will continue to participate on the IMT (Incident Commander & Deputy Operations Section Chief) and participate in the planning cycle to develop IAPs;
- 2) EPA will continue to review/approve work plans;
- 3) USCG Strike Team will continue to assist in implementation and oversight of the HASP;
- 4) EPA will continue oversight to ensure protection of public health & the environment in coordination with Federal, State, and local agencies;
- 5) BNSF will continue containment/monitoring; of the release with EPA & other agency oversight;
- 6) A work plan for excavation and remediation will be finalized for implementation;
- 7) Sheet pile installation will be completed;
- 8) Work plans for a flood and oil spill contingencies will be finalized; and
- 9) EPA will discuss transition of remediation oversight activities to Illinois EPA.

#### 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 #10. Sitreps, documents, work plans, images and data will continue to be posted to the website. EPA will coordinate with the UC to plan for transition of remediation oversight activities to Illinois EPA.

#### **2.2.2 Issues**

Due to high train traffic, activities requiring track crossing are being closely coordinated by BNSF environmental, mechanical and operations personnel according to the rail schedule. BNSF mobilized an additional contractor to assist in sheet pile installation operations.

EPA requested an emergency consultation pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. 50 CFR §402.05 provides Federal agencies the ability to consult in an expedited manner in situations involving an act of God, disaster, casualties, etc., and includes response activities that must be taken to prevent imminent loss of human life or property. Specifically, EPA requested recommendations to help minimize adverse actions to sensitive species in the area due to remediation activities.

Once the sheet pile wall is installed, the threat of release from the oil spill will be greatly reduced. EPA will begin demobilization planning, which will involve transition of Site oversight responsibilities to Illinois EPA.

### **2.3 Logistics Section**

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

### **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 are 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.

EPA requested verification from all Site contacts of interest in maintaining situational awareness of the incident. The Site contact list has been updated and organized to ensure information sharing and POLREP distribution with all interested parties.

#### **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 cooperating in the response.

## **4. Personnel On Site**

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

TOTAL (estimated): 151

\* OSCs Faryan & Benning demobilized from the Site on March 14 and were replaced by OSCs Kimble & Emmanouil. OSC Brown will demobilize on March 16 and be replaced by OSC Ruesch.

## **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.epaosc.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 17.

## **7. Situational Reference Materials**

No information available at this time.