

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Superior Barrel and Drum - Removal UPDATE



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Region II

**Subject: Removal Update**  
**All Containers Extracted from Trailers**  
**Superior Barrel and Drum**  
**Elk, NJ**  
**Latitude: 39.6930670 Longitude: -75.1345550**

**From:** Keith Glenn,  
OSC/Environmental Scientist  
**Date:** 11/17/2013  
**Reporting Period:** November 11, 2013 through  
November 17, 2013

**FOR PREVIOUS REMOVAL UPDATES, PLEASE CONTACT: [glenn.keith@epa.gov](mailto:glenn.keith@epa.gov)**

**Current Activities**

During the operational period all containers located inside tractor trailers were extracted and staged in preparation for sample collection. Personnel commenced the collection of aliquots from these containers while the on-site laboratory continued to screen the material for hazardous characteristics.

The file review and recovery project was completed with all documents of interest electronically scanned by RST personnel. Scanned documents are currently being organized into a database for easy viewing. These documents will be utilized for enforcement purposes.

EPA continued to work with numerous partners including the Gloucester County Fire Marshal's Office, HazMat Team, NJDEP, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, and local officials. NJDEP personnel continued weekly visitations and communication with Elk Township officials also continued. Security personnel continued to patrol the Site during non-operational hours.

## Response Actions to Date

To view removal actions completed during other operational periods, please contact Keith Glenn at 732-321-4454 or email: [glenn.keith@epa.gov](mailto:glenn.keith@epa.gov).

On November 12, 2013 operational crews completed the extraction of drums located in trailer 7. On November 13, 2013 containers located in trailers 5, 6, 10, and 11 were removed and staged in appropriate locations. The remaining drums in trailer 2 were extracted and staged for processing on November 14, 2013. Following such, sampling crews commenced the collection of aliquots to be screened via the hazardous characteristic identification system.

On November 12, 2013 personnel completed the review of documents found in trailers and boxes throughout the facility. During the review, if a document was found to contain specified information that may assist in enforcement actions, it was electronically copied. All electronic files were taken to Edison where they are being processed into a consolidated, user-friendly database.

During the operational period crews from Atlantic City Electric and Comcast visited the Site in preparation of providing utilities for the Site office. Electricity was obtained on November 13, 2013.

ERRS crews continued to consolidate containers based on waste characteristics. Areas located throughout the property have been designated for holding containers of like properties.

The propane company that supplied various above-ground and underground storage tanks to Superior Barrel and Drum was contacted. Suburban Propane is interested in receiving the aging tanks and accommodations are being made to facilitate the removal of such tanks.

A dye test was performed on the drain located in the western portion of the building. It was thought the drain lead to a pipe that discharges into the wetlands. The test revealed the drain emptied along the outside foundation of the building. The origin of the pipe discharging into the wetland remains a mystery.

On November 15, 2013 the draft Action Memorandum was completed and submitted for review. For more information, please see the finance section.

Reporters from CBS continued contacting the OSC requesting historical information relating to the conditions of the Site. In particular, the reporter asked questions about previous inspections and past involvement of partner agencies.

RST personnel continued to deploy and monitor perimeter air monitoring units. RST continued working with field sampling crews to maintain integrity of logs associated with container identification and field screening results. RST continued management of data by utilizing Response Manager. This program holds information regarding each container, including any labels, identifying markers, original location, and photos of the container condition. In addition, validated sample results from assessment activities have been received and introduced into SCRIBE.

## Progress Metrics

	Number of Aliquots for HazCat Collected <sup>1</sup>	Number of Confirmatory Samples*	Number of Surface Soil Samples*	Number of Surface Water Samples*
Cumulative Total	1895	79	36	4

<sup>1</sup>Several containers were opened but aliquot and sample collection was not possible. This count does not include those containers.\*Does not include duplicate samples or MS/MSDs for QA/QC.

Haz Class	Acid	Neutral	Potential Oil	Flammable	Oxidizer	Base	Other	HazCat Complete
Cumulative Total	85	996	224	318	31	84	7	1708

Several containers were opened but aliquot and sample collection was not possible. This count does not include those containers.\*Does not include duplicate samples or MS/MSDs for QA/QC.

## Anticipated Activities

Collaboration between EPA, NJDEP, FWS, County, and local officials will continue throughout the removal activities of the Superior Barrel and Drum Site. During the next operational period all sample collection of aliquots for HazCat purposes should be completed. Personnel will commence the construction of warming cells to be located inside the structure, which will facilitate continuation of operations during colder climate. On-site chemists will continue to HazCat samples and determine waste groupings of materials. Containers will continue to be segregated by waste class and prepared for bulking practices.

## Planned Response Activities

During the next operational period field crews will complete the collection of HazCat samples from remaining drums removed from the tractor trailers. On-site chemists will continue to perform field screening techniques to determine hazardous characterization of material. Personnel will also continue to consolidate non-hazardous materials in preparation for sample collection and laboratory analysis to determine disposal options.

The supplier of propane for Superior Barrel and Drum was contacted for the removal and recycling of propane tanks found on-site. The supplier will make arrangements with site managers for the removal of tanks in the next few weeks.

Construction of warming cells to be located in the structure will commence in next operational period. These cells will aid in the bulking of materials during cold weather events.

As short term goals are accomplished, operations will move into consolidating materials, waste removal, container destruction, inspection of potentially buried USTs and drums, and performance of additional soil investigations.

