

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



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Region V

**Subject:** POLREP #8  
Progress  
BNSF Galena Derailment  
E15510  
Galena, IL  
Latitude: 42.3744730 Longitude: -90.4443060

**To:**  
**From:** Jaime Brown, OSC  
**Date:** 3/17/2015  
**Reporting Period:** 3/15/2015 - 3/17/2015

## 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 #10 (0830 3/17/2015 - 0830 03/19/2015) are the following:

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

Sheet pile installation is nearly completed to isolate the area impacted by the crude oil release and prevent potential inundation from potentially rising river levels. BNSF Railway submitted an application to enroll the Site in the Illinois EPA Site Remediation Program. The remedial approach is to excavate contaminated soils and dispose of them in an approved landfill.

#### 2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

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

- Daily surface water samples continue to be taken at upstream & downstream locations along with the source;
- Sheet pile installation continued 24 hrs/day for containment (now ~80% complete) of impacted area to prevent contamination from entering the river as well as prevent inundation from potentially high seasonal water levels;
- Roadway repairs and maintenance continues on haul roads to and from the Site;
- A preliminary estimation of impacts to trees was performed; and
- Containment boom in the river was reconfigured to eliminate the problem of ice build up (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) **Tanker Car Salvage Plan**
- 10) **Waste Management & Handling Plan**
- 11) Post Excavation Soil Sampling Plan
- 12) Geoprobe Subsurface Investigation Plan
- 13) **Water Treatment Plan**
- 14) **Site Decontamination Plan**
- 15) Sheet Wall & Drainage Trench Plan
- 16) Emergency Egress Plan during Sheet Pile Installation Operations
- 17) **Water Influx Contingency Plan**
- 18) **Oil Spill Contingency Plan**

## 19) Site Demobilization Plan

The most recent version of each of these plans is posted in the 'documents' section of the website along with a spreadsheet showing an inventory and status of all work plans.

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. Data from soil sampling in the impacted area is now posted. There continues to be no visual or monitoring data evidence to indicate that any spilled product has impacted either the Galena or Mississippi Rivers.

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)

<b>Waste Stream</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Manifest #</b>	<b>Treatment</b>	<b>Disposal</b>
Crude oil	liquid	223,174 gal	TBD	staged	TBD
Oil/water mixture	liquid	19,015 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 will continue according to approved work plans during the remainder of OP #10:

- 1) EPA will continue to participate on the IMT (IC & Deputy OPS);
- 2) USCG Strike Team will continue to assist in implementation and oversight of the HASP (day & night shifts);
- 3) EPA will continue directing response actions & oversight to ensure protection of public health & the environment in coordination with Federal, State, and local agencies;
- 4) BNSF will continue containment/monitoring of the release with EPA oversight;
- 5) Sheet pile installation will be completed;
- 6) The ICP will be relocated closer to the derailment site and the municipal lot will be repaired/restored to it's original condition; and
- 7) EPA will transition of remediation oversight activities to Illinois EPA.

#### 2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

Response activities will continue under the IAP for OP#10. Incident Objectives and operational work plans will remain the same until the remediation phase of the project is transitioned to an Illinois EPA Site Remediation Program Project Manager (to be assigned).

#### 2.2.1.2 Next Steps

The UC decided to discontinue the planning cycle and extend OP #10 to an end date of 3/25/2015 at 0700hrs. Sitreps, documents, updated/finalized work plans, images and data will continue to be posted to the website. EPA will continue to direct and oversee response activities and will coordinate with Illinois EPA in transition of oversight responsibilities.

### 2.2.2 Issues

Activities requiring track crossing continues to be closely coordinated by BNSF environmental, mechanical and operations personnel according to the rail schedule.

On 3/16/2015, EPA requested an emergency consultation from the US FWS pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. US FWS responded on 3/17/2015 indicating that an investigation had been conducted and that there were no identified concerns related to endangered species.

EPA developed a demobilization plan for personnel, equipment and resources which includes 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. The MCP has been scheduled to demobilize on 3/20/2015. Remaining staff will be moving into an IMT personnel trailer closer to be located at the Site. Sampling and other response equipment will also be demobilized on 3/20/2015.

## **2.4 Finance Section**

### **2.4.1 Narrative**

The approved cost ceiling for overall response under FPN #E15510 remains at \$250,000.

The cost ceiling for a TDD to the START contractor is currently being increased to \$75,700. The EPA Mobile Command Post was deployed by ERRS contractor under an existing Task Order. Approximately \$30,000 was set aside for the USCG Strike Team.

## **2.5 Other Command Staff**

### **2.5.1 Safety Officer**

USCG AST members continue on Site conducting oversight during the day and night shift. It is anticipated that last night shift requiring oversight will be 3/17/2015. Safety briefings are held each day at the beginning of operational briefings for all field supervisors and IMT personnel. HASPs are posted in the 'documents' section of the website.

### **2.5.2 Liaison Officer**

EPA Region 5 Congressional Liaison Ronna Beckmann continues to keep local elected officials up to date on Site activities. There continues to be a high level of interest by local, state and federal elected officials. A briefing for Congressional representatives is scheduled for 3/23/2015.

A briefing for the JoDaviess County Board, Social & Environmental Committee is scheduled for 3/19/2015. EPA is coordinating with JoDaviess County EMA to develop a presentation for this meeting.

### **2.5.3 Information Officer**

EPA Public Information Officer Phillipa Cannon is respond to all press inquiries and requests for interviews and information related to the incident. EPA Region 5 Community Involvement Coordinator Heriberto Leon is maintaining a website for the incident (see link in Section 6.2) and continues to post updates.

## **3. Participating Entities**

### **3.1 Unified Command**

Though additional IAPs are not being produced, the UC continues to consist of ICs from the following agencies:

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

IMT coordination will transfer to a dedicated IMT personnel trailer located closer to the Site.

### **3.2 Cooperating Agencies**

See POLREP #5 for list of agencies cooperating in the response.

## **4. Personnel On Site**

FEDERAL: 11\*  
STATE: 1  
LOCAL: 1  
BNSF: 3  
CONTRACTORS: 102

TOTAL (estimated): 118

OSC Brown demobilized on March 16 and was 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
ICP	Incident Command Post
ICS	Incident Command System
IMT	Incident Management Team
MCP	Mobile Command Post
NRC	National Response Center
OP	Operational Period
OPS	Operations Section Chief
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
US FWS	United States Fish & Wildlife Service
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 20.

## **7. Situational Reference Materials**

No information available at this time.