

**Summary of Current Actions
Covering the period from 1/12-18/02**

ICS 201

18 Jan 02

ICS 201 Summary of Current Actions

Updated as of 1600, 1/18/02

o **WTC LOWER MANHATTAN "SHORT TERM" SAMPLING**
(FERRIOLA, NORRELL, TEITZ)

Beginning the week of January 7th, EPA-ERRD/DESA began a transition period to assume sampling responsibilities from ERT/REAC. This "short term" sampling program consists of a twice per week collection of air samples from nine (9) different locations in proximity to Ground Zero. Samples are being collected for dioxin/furans, PCBs, PAHs, metals, and silica from each of nine (9) designated locations (R, A, 3A/B, B, C, D, P, S, & E). Samples are collected over an eight (8) hour period utilizing Aircon II and SKC sampling pumps. Beginning the week of January 14th, the samples were being shipped to EPA contracted laboratories (EMSL & Paradigm Labs) for analyses. EMSL will be performing the metals and silica analyses and Paradigm will be analyzing samples for dioxin/furans, PCBs, and PAHs. EPA and NIOSH methodologies will be utilized for each of the analyses listed. ERT/REAC will continue to perform data validation. ERT Scribe software is currently being utilized for data entry and generation of field work sheets and chain of custody forms.

o **WTC LOWER MANHATTAN SAMPLING GROUP -**
(JIMENEZ, NORRELL, TEITZ, HALE, MUSTAFA, PATEL)

Group continued collection of airborne asbestos samples at 20 fixed stations in and around ground zero. 19 of the 20 sample stations are located out doors, the remaining station is located in the Main Washing Tent. Two twelve hour samples are taken at each fixed station per day. Asbestos Station W which is located in the Main Washing Tent, was moved to a different location in the Wash Tent on 1/14, because ground zero workers were tampering with the sampling equipment. Group continued to conduct real time air monitoring for the following compounds: O₂, CO, H₂S, SO₂, CL₂, HCN, HCL, HF, COCL₂. In addition PID, FID and LEL meters are used. These real time readings are taken twice per day at 21 locations around ground zero that correspond to the fixed asbestos locations. Real time air monitoring will be discontinued on 1/21. Effective 1/18 station T will not be sampled on the weekends. The station is located at the Pier 6 Heliport, which does not have weekend access.

The group conducted VOC sampling with the use of Tedlar Bags. Four samples were taken each day and analyzed in DESA's Region 2 Mobile Laboratory, which is located on-site.

On 1/10, at the request of DDC the lower manhattan sampling group conducted water sampling in the ground zero excavation, with the assistance of RST. Analysis was provided with 24 hr turnaround, for parameters provided by the NYC Department Of Environmental Protection. Analytical results were reported to DDC's Health and Safety personnel. Two exceedances were noted: PH was noted as 11.5, above the limit of 11 which NYCDEP sets for accepting caustic liquids. MTBE was noted as also being above the NYCDEP limit and DDC was so advised.

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Personnel from the lower manhattan sampling group also responded to a fire involving equipment associated with the Main Chiller Plant. Apparently one of the work crews were using acetylene torches against previous orders to dismantle a heat exchanger unit in the former Main Chiller Plant, and ignited one of the internal coils that is made of titanium. NYFD had the fire under control by the end of the evening, by covering the unit with sand.

o **DISPOSAL (TOUW)**

Stillwell & Gladding Laboratory, 130 Cedar Street - On 1/15, OEM granted EPA access to the building, in order to further assess this testing laboratory, located on the 8th floor. Power has been restored to the stairways, but not to the whole building, and work is on-going to provide power to the freight elevators. On 1/17, EPA, RST and ERRS entered the laboratory to inventory the chemicals present and to develop a strategy for segregation and packaging of the materials for their removal from the building. The laboratory is covered with dust and debris as a result of the WTC collapse, and the containers themselves appear extremely old and questionable in their quality. The owners of the lab, who relocated to Highland Park, NJ following 9/11, have expressed their desire to claim the chemical inventory. EPA has raised concerns regarding chemicals, as well as the company's viability, and recommended that EPA arrange for disposal of the materials rather than transferring them to the company.

B1 Level Truckdock Hazardous Waste Storage Cage - As of 1/17, this area remains inaccessible. However, the Port Authority has informed EPA that work on this area is expected to commence during the week of 1/21, at which time EPA will be able to remove the remaining drums and access the hazardous materials storage locker, once the surrounding debris is cleared.

B-6 Level Oil Storage Tanks - During the week of 1/14, work began on the removal of the access road into the Site from West Street. There are three large oil storage tanks, as well as several smaller day tanks, in the general underlying vicinity of that access road, which EPA has been unable to access due to safety concerns associated with the heavy equipment utilizing the roadway. Once the roadway has been removed, the tanks are expected to be exposed shortly thereafter, and EPA will be able to access them and pump out their contents. The Port Authority advises EPA that this could happen during the week of 1/21.

General Activities - EPA continues to oversee the recovery of oil/water from Verizon and ConEd manholes and trenches around the site of 7 WTC. On 1/15, the Baker tank on Vesey Street was deconned, and removed from the Site on 1/16. NYSDEC has informed ConEd in writing that EPA intends to discontinue operation of the remaining Baker tank on Barclay Street by the end of the month, and that they must make arrangements to assume responsibility for the existing Baker tank or make alternate arrangements by that time.

Overall, the following materials have been collected to date from the WTC site:

Batteries: 69

Containers: 503
Cylinders: 1,902

Of the cylinders, 749 have been recycled, 136 have been accepted by three cylinder companies, and 195 have been disposed at the Staten Island landfill. In addition, 56 batteries have been recycled, and 3 batteries have been shipped off-site for disposal.

In addition, 614,815 gallons of fuel oil and/or oily water mixture have been pumped from basements and USTs.

o **CENTRAL PERSONNEL WASH STATION** **(BANNER)**

Vacuuming and washing activities continue in the big, white tent. The through-put numbers for the past week are:

Wednesday	1/09/02 - 5410
Thursday	1/10/02 - 4754
Friday	1/11/02 - 4627
Saturday	1/12/02 - 2852
Sunday	1/13/02 - 3088
Monday	1/14/02 - 4956
Tuesday	1/15/02 - 5253
Wednesday	1/16/02 - 5062

We have heard that the National Guard will be leaving our facility on January 25th. A request has been made to have them stay on. If that is not possible, we will speak to OEM about having police officers assigned. Some workers are unwilling to vacuum and can become belligerent. Earth Tech has been instructed to get the names of the angry workers and EPA will speak to their management.

Winterized Truck Wash Stations - as of this date, only one of the three stations is operational. That station is located on Greenwich Street. During the past week EPA and USCG have had numerous discussions with the Bovis Management team working on the new site traffic pattern. A second automated truck wash station (at West and Albany Streets) is expected to be operation this Sunday 1/20, or by Monday 1/21 at the latest. The third automated truck wash (at West and Murray Streets) cannot be utilized since traffic is not allowed in the area until critical, trench work being conducted by Verizon is completed. It is expected to be operational within a week to two weeks.

Personnel Wash Stations - EPA and USCG continue to stand-by as the zone is shrunk once again by the new, site management team. The plan, at present, is to identify only one entry and exit point from the inner zone. We will work with Bovis and Tully in moving our wash stations in to become an integral part of daily, site operations. It has been suggested that in order to sign out (and therefore get paid), any worker (who is not entering the sprung structure) must pass through a personnel wash station. We have

been working with NYDEP on permission to keep our station's discharge temporarily hooked-up in order for maximum flexibility in placement.

o **STATEN ISLAND LANDFILL (HARRINGTON)**

Routine air monitoring and washing operations continue. Approximately 150 cylinders were removed from the cylinder storage area and returned to vendors.

On 1/11/02, the exceedance of the TEM AHERA standard for asbestos occurred at the indoor "Wash" Location W-12A (166.23 S/mm²); (the TEM AHERA benchmark for the site is 70 S/mm²). The location is in the wooden shed (pre-wash station) prior to the main wash station (the large trailer with the sinks). PPE is removed and boots are scrubbed in the shed prior to personnel entering the main wash station. No other outdoor or indoor sampling stations at the site registered comparable results.

The wash station operation was reviewed to try to identify the possible cause of the exceedance, including the removal of contaminated PPE in the station and/or the infiltration of windblown dust from the site. Two people maintain the shed, the operations look very good and the area is fairly clean. Therefore, windblown dust is suspected as a possible source. The day of and the two days preceding the exceedance registered continuous high winds on the site, towards the shed, and no recent rain. Nevertheless, the overall shed configuration and operations is being improved to hopefully minimize the potential for infiltration of wind-borne particulates from the exclusion zone.

A windbreak surrounding the entrance to the shed was considered but Landfill site engineering staff objected (possible collection area for garbage and potential hideout for workers) and recommended moving the shed door from the downwind to upwind side. EPA will move the door, install two additional HEPA filters (one HEPA filter is in place) in the shed, and continue to review data and wash operations.