

Memo

To: Berlin City Council
From: Jim Wheeler, City Manager
Date: 12/7/2020
Re: City Manager's Report

1. The Mason St. Bridge project is being re-advertised and is due December 17, 2020. The project will need to be completed in September of 2021 to coincide with time frame where the river level is lowered for maintenance of the Central Rivers Hydro.
2. Cross Excavation has been awarded our two demolition projects associated with the Princess Theater and the Fire Department. They are assembling bonds and insurances and working on their environmental permits.
3. The Berlin Housing Authority (BHA) recently partnered with Eversource and the Tri-County Community Action Program (TCCAP) to complete a comprehensive energy efficiency improvement project at St. Regis House. The energy efficiency upgrades – which included work on the windows, lighting, and heating and cooling systems – will help the BHA save an estimated \$20,000 in annual energy costs.
4. The US Environmental Protection Agency continues its work on the Lavoie property at 640 Hillside Avenue. Soil samples collected from the excavated areas showed that PCB and lead concentrations have been significantly reduced. Attached is a report of their progress thus far.
5. We have a Request for Quotations out for Health Insurance Plans; responses are due December 30, 2020
6. The City will begin a new electricity contract with an electric rate of .06990 from 12/28/2020 to 11/24/2024. This is a savings from our current rate of .07090.
7. We have several jobs posted to the Job Search Portal which is a new tool that is aimed at facilitating connections between NH businesses and job seekers. Current open positions include: Public Works Director, Executive Assistant, Public Works Laborer and part time Welfare Department Clerk. More information on any of these positions can be found on the City's website.
8. The monthly Berlin Emergency Medical Services activity report is attached. Scott Lees, will be taking over as Operations Manager at Berlin EMS, and he will be providing these reports from now on.
9. The Berlin PD statistics as reported to the Police Commission at their December meeting are attached.
10. A Fire Department Incident Report is also attached.

2020 BEMS Call Log SUMMARY

	Calls	Emergency	Non E.	LD	ND	NT	Gorham	Milan
January	108	77	10	12	75	21	2	2
February	142	98	22	18	102	22	1	1
March	120	80	11	8	83	29	0	1
April	111	66	12	12	66	33	1	2
May	137	100	10	24	86	27	0	1
June	152	100	15	24	91	37	0	1
July	132	96	10	18	88	26	1	3
August	153	106	18	14	110	29	1	2
September	141	97	18	22	93	26	0	4
October	145	97	17	17	97	31	1	3
November	136	92	15	22	85	29	0	6
December								
	1477	1009	158	191	976	310	7	26

2015	1748
2016	1721
2017	1771
2018	1787
2019	1884

Calls=Total number

Emergency= Calls that require a trip to the Emergency room, or another hospital

Non Emergency= Calls that require a patient to be brought from the local hospital home, or to a local nursing facility.

LD= Long Distance transport

ND= Normal distance transport

NT= No transport, a non billable call, either refusal of care, cancellation, no patient, ect.

Gorham and Milan calls represent a responded call from that community.

- October 2020 Activity Report -

j.cloutier 11/30/2020

Berlin Fire Department

Berlin, NH

This report was generated on 12/7/2020 1:33:37 PM



Count of Incidents by Incident Type for Incident Status for Date Range

Incident Status(s): All Incident Statuses | Sort By: IncidentType | Start Date: 11/01/2020 | End Date: 11/30/2020

INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS
111 - Building fire	1
113 - Cooking fire, confined to container	1
311 - Medical assist, assist EMS crew	7
320 - Emergency medical service, other	1
321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	2
322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries	1
324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	1
341 - Search for person on land	1
355 - Confined space rescue	1
400 - Hazardous condition, other	1
413 - Oil or other combustible liquid spill	1
421 - Chemical hazard (no spill or leak)	1
424 - Carbon monoxide incident	4
441 - Heat from short circuit (wiring), defective/worn	2
462 - Aircraft standby	1
480 - Attempted burning, illegal action, other	1
500 - Service Call, other	1
511 - Lock-out	2
531 - Smoke or odor removal	3
542 - Animal rescue	1
551 - Assist police or other governmental agency	2
561 - Unauthorized burning	3
600 - Good intent call, other	1
611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	2
622 - No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	2
631 - Authorized controlled burning	1
651 - Smoke scare, odor of smoke	1
700 - False alarm or false call, other	1
730 - System malfunction, other	2
733 - Smoke detector activation due to malfunction	1
740 - Unintentional transmission of alarm, other	1
743 - Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional	1
745 - Alarm system activation, no fire - unintentional	4
800 - Severe weather or natural disaster, other	1
812 - Flood assessment	1
813 - Wind storm, tornado/hurricane assessment	1

This report displays Incidents by Incident type for the selected Incident Status (es) and chosen date range. Nemsis 2 & 3 Incidents Included.



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900 - Special type of incident, other	1
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Total Incidents

60

This report displays Incidents by Incident type for the selected Incident Status (es) and chosen date range. Nemsis 2 & 3 Incidents Included.



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U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Lavoie Property - Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region I

Subject: POLREP #2
Progress
Lavoie Property
01PP
Berlin, NH
Latitude: 44.4815600 Longitude: -71.1768700

To: Polrep Distribution, USEPA-R1

From: Tom Condon, OSC

Date: 11/16/2020

Reporting Period: 9/17/2020 to 11/16/2020

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	01PP	Contract Number:	EP-S1-16-01
D.O. Number:	68HE0119F0034	Action Memo Date:	8/28/2019
Response Authority:	CERCLA	Response Type:	Time-Critical
Response Lead:	EPA	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	9/14/2020	Start Date:	9/14/2001
Demob Date:		Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:	NHN000103093	RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	NH DES notified
FPN#:		Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

1.1.2 Site Description

The Lavoie Property Site consists of an abandoned residential property and two adjacent undeveloped properties. The Site reportedly operated as an unlicensed junkyard from the late 1950's until a complaint was filed with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) in 2004. Inspection of the Site by NHDES identified the presence of multiple 55-gallon drums and other containers, lead-acid batteries, and various scrap automotive parts and metals. With oversight and routine inspections by NHDES, the property owner removed the drums, containers and batteries over the course of several years.

Contractors working for NHDES conducted a Phase II Environmental Site Assessment, and submitted a report in March 2019. Based on the findings of that report, NHDES referred the Site to EPA for evaluation. EPA's removal program conducted a removal Preliminary Assessment/Site Investigation (PA/SI) on June 17 and 18, 2019, and determined that an action to remove soil contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and lead was warranted.

1.1.2.1 Location

The Site is located at 640 Hillside Avenue, Berlin, New Hampshire. The geographic coordinates as measured from the approximate center of the property are 44° 28' 54.6" North latitude, and 71° 10' 35.0" West longitude. The Site consists of three parcels; Lot 127-15 a 1.40-acre residential lot containing an abandoned home, and several shed like structures; Lot 127-14 0.36-acre vacant lot; and Lot 127-13 a 0.5-acre vacant lot. The Site was owned by Robert J. Lavoie who had lived on the property, and had operated an unlicensed junkyard, until his death in 2011. The Site is bordered to the west by Hillside Avenue, and to the north, east and south by residential properties.

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

Surface soils are contaminated with PCBs and lead. The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) has concluded that both PCBs and lead may reasonably be anticipated to be carcinogens. Access to the Site is unrestricted, and there is significant evidence of trespassing on the Site.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

At the request of the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES), EPA's removal program conducted a removal Preliminary Assessment/Site Investigation (PA/SI) on June 17 and 18, 2019, which included collection of surface soil samples (0 to 3 ft. below ground surface) and a review of surface

soil sampling data from a Phase II Environmental Site Assessment report prepared by Nobis Group for NHDES, dates March 26, 2019.

Data in the Phase II report indicated the presence of PCBs and lead in surface soil above levels of concern, at several locations on the Site. EPA's analysis of these samples confirmed the presence of high levels of PCBs and lead in surface soil. The findings of the site investigation were documented in an August 28, 2019 Site Investigation Closure Memorandum with the recommendation that a time critical removal action be conducted.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

EPA is conducting a time-critical removal action at the Lavoie Property Site.

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

EPA's ERRS contractor mobilized personnel and equipment to the Site on September 14, 2020. Initial Site work focused on site preparation, including improving Site access, and clearing trees and other vegetation from the areas to be excavated and the area planned for stockpiling excavated soil.

The results of the PA/SI identified three distinct areas on the Site with surface soils contaminated with PCBs and/or lead. On October 5, 2020, the ERRS contractor began excavating contaminated soil and staged the soil on Site. Samples of the excavated soil have been collected, and are being analyzed for disposal parameters.

Soil samples were collected from the excavated areas, and analyzed at EPA's Region 1 Laboratory. The data showed that PCB concentrations had been reduced to below 1 ppm and lead concentrations had been reduced to below 400ppm.

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

No viable Potentially Responsible Parties have been identified.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

<i>Waste Stream</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Manifest #</i>	<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Disposal</i>

2.2 Planning Section

Activities

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

EPA's remaining removal activities will include the following

- Improve Site access to facilitate the removal of excavated soil;
- Install/repair security and/or health and safety fencing as necessary;
- Cap in-place contaminated soils, (if any), which may remain at depth or which cannot otherwise be safely excavated,
- Perform post-excavation confirmation sampling and analysis;
- Perform dust control and mitigation measures as necessary;
- Backfill the excavated area;
- Pre-treat hazardous substances, if beneficial, for off-site disposal options;
- Dispose of hazardous substances at EPA-approved off-site disposal facilities; and
- Repair response related damage

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

EPA's ERRS contractor will continue Site activities, including improving Site access and transportation and disposal of the contaminated soil.

2.2.2 Issues

EPA had planned to initiate the removal action in the spring of 2020, but was forced to delay mobilization due to COVID-19 related restrictions. Additionally, the property owner of record died, leaving no heirs. EPA worked with the Department of Justice, and obtained an Administrative Warrant granting access to the Site on August 18, 2020. Due to these delays, EPA anticipates that upcoming winter weather conditions may force a temporary suspension of Site activities until the Spring of 2021.

2.3 Logistics Section

N/A

2.4 Finance Section

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
ERRS - Cleanup Contractor	\$1,000,000.00	\$67,000.00	\$933,000.00	93.30%
TAT/START	\$300,000.00	\$65,000.00	\$235,000.00	78.33%
Intramural Costs				
USEPA - Direct	\$100,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$70,000.00	70.00%
Total Site Costs	\$1,400,000.00	\$162,000.00	\$1,238,000.00	88.43%

* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

Site Operations are being conducted in accordance with a Site Specific Health and Safety Plan.

2.5.2 Liaison Officer

N/A

2.5.3 Information Officer

An EPA Community Involvement Coordinator has been assigned to the Site. Letters have been sent to residents in the abutting properties to inform them of EPA's actions. A fact sheet has been prepared and was distributed to residents in the vicinity of the Site. EPA made a presentation at the Berlin City Council on meeting September 21. While the meeting was held remotely, provisions were made to allow the public to participate.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

EPA

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

The City of Berlin and NH DES.

4. Personnel On Site

EPA -1
START - 1
ERRS - 4

5. Definition of Terms

N/A

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

No information available at this time.

7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.