

Detterman, Mark, Env. Health

From: McGee, Nancy@DTSC [Nancy.McGee@dtsc.ca.gov]
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2015 5:09 PM
To: Detterman, Mark, Env. Health
Subject: RE: Followup - Mercury Emergency Response @ 1315 Court Street, Alameda
Attachments: 1315 Court St (initial).jpg; 1315 Court St 2.jpg; 1315 Court St 3.jpg; 1315 Court St 4.jpg; 1315 Court St 5.jpg; 1315 Court St 6.jpg; 1315 Court St 7.jpg; 1315 Court St 8.jpg

Hi Mark,

The information I have on this incident is limited as DTSC was only on site for one day. According to my notes, Alameda county requested DTSC's assistance with an emergency removal of approximately 10 tablespoons of mercury that a property owner discovered abandoned on his property. I responded with our DTSC contractor, Parc Specialty, to conduct an emergency removal on 1/29/2014. Once the removal work began it was apparent that the volume of mercury in the soil was greater than 10 tablespoons. The area impacted by the soil backed up to a concrete wall separating two properties. After removing 2 55-gallon drums of mercury-contaminated soil and debris, a decision was made to cease removal work as the mercury appeared to be under the footings of the concrete wall and possibly extending to the adjacent property. Access to the adjacent property was not available. Also it was determined that any further digging could affect the integrity of the concrete wall. Furthermore, the additional work required to complete the removal action was outside the normal scope of DTSC's emergency removal program. At that point one large bag of absorbent was placed in the hole and the area roped off to prevent someone from inadvertently falling in the hole.

Measurements were taken using a mercury vapor analyzer, Lumex RA-915 Light. Initially when we arrived the reading above the soil before our DTSC contractor started the soil removal was $1.6 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. The reading taken at the backyard patio area was $0.2 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. The inside of the home was monitored and mercury vapors were only detected in the washing machine at 0.2 to $0.4 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ and from the bottom of a pair of men's shoes at $0.1 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. Mercury vapors above one of the drums containing soil contaminated with mercury was measured at $148 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. The measurement inside the hole was $>200 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ before the hole was covered up. The operating range of the instrument is from $0.1 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ to $200 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. I also attached the photos taken during the emergency removal.

This is all the information I have on this incident. I am out of the office till Wednesday, May 13. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact me.

Nancy McGee
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916-255-6585

From: Detterman, Mark, Env. Health [<mailto:Mark.Detterman@acgov.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 05, 2015 2:53 PM
To: McGee, Nancy@DTSC
Subject: Followup - Mercury Emergency Response @ 1315 Court Street, Alameda

Nancy,

I have been assigned the environmental case for the elemental mercury cleanup at the residence at 1315 Court Street in Alameda, CA. The file that I've been given is pretty limited and I wanted to see if any additional documentation is available for the case, including a cleanup incident report that documents the extent of the soil excavation and subsequent removal of the two drums of soil by Parc Specialty Contractors on January 29,

2015. I do have a copy of the Haz Waste manifest, a sketch map of the site and area of interest, and copies of a few emails. There does not appear to be a Envirostor case for the site.

Would you forward what information you have? Is there a repository of information I can access?
I appreciate your time.

If you have questions, please let me know.
Regards,

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PDF copies of case files can be downloaded at:

<http://www.acgov.org/aceh/lop/ust.htm>















