



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 4**

Subject: **Situation Report (SitRep) # 3**

 Eden NC Coal Ash Spill
 Lat: 36.4958644, Long: -79.7220632

To: **Distribution List**

From: **Region 4 Regional Emergency Operations Center**

Reporting Period: **1600 02/05/2014 to 1600 02/06/2014**

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Name:	Eden NC Ash Spill	Location:	Eden, NC
Incident Date:	02/03/2014	Site ID:	B41W
Mobilization Date:	02/03/2014	Start Date:	02/03/2014

At approximately 1500 hrs on February 2, 2014, security officials at the Duke Energy Plant located in Eden, North Carolina noticed liquefied coal ash leaking from a buried storm sewer into the Dan River. Initial efforts by Duke Energy were not fully successful in stopping the release. The North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NCDENR) was notified of the release by Duke Energy on February 3, 2014, and investigated the facility. Once it was determined that there was a release of coal ash (ash) the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 4 Raleigh Outpost On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) was notified and requested to assist in the oversight of cleanup activities. Following coordination with the EPA Region 4 Telephone Duty Officer and Region 4 Removal Manager two OSCs were deployed to the scene from Atlanta, Georgia. Due to proximity and the potential for cross-regional impacts, an OSC was deployed from EPA Region 3 to provide additional assessment and oversight support.

2.0 Current Activities

The following activities occurred during this reporting period:

Unified Command

- EPA Region 4 is currently in Unified Command with Duke Energy; NCDENR and US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS).
- EPA Region 4 Science and Ecological Support Division (SESD) is on site and has initiated sediment and water quality sampling activities.
- EPA Environmental Response Team (ERT) has mobilized to the site and is assisting UC with planning for any in-river removal.
- Region 4 Community Involvement Coordinator (CIC) is on site and has integrated into UC.

Water Sector

- Water quality sampling is being conducted by Duke Energy, NCDENR, SESD and EPA Region 4 Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team (START) Contractor, at the spill source and locations downstream including intakes at the Danville, and South Boston Virginia water treatment plants (WTP).
 - SESD is implementing a sediment/water column sampling plan along the Dan River.
 - Samples are being collected at one half mile intervals along the River the purpose of which is to delineate the downstream extent of the ash plume.
 - EPA Region 4 Water Protection Division (WPD) is also working with NCDENR and SESD to conduct transport modeling of the ash plume to assist in sampling along the Dan River.
 - START Contractors are collecting drinking water samples at the downstream WTPs including pre intake, post flocculation and finished water samples.
- NCDENR continues to collect water quality samples at three locations, one upstream of the Duke facility and two downstream locations in the Dan River. The furthest downstream location collected by NCDENR is located at the Virginia/North Carolina border.
- No impacts to drinking water have been reported by either the Danville or South Boston facilities.
- FWS is providing support to UC under an interagency agreement between EPA Region 4 and the Department of the Interior (DOI). Technical assistance includes advice on endangered species and habitat downstream of the spill site to assist in assessment activities.

Mitigation Activities

- The Excavation and Pipe Grouting Plans to address the impacted section of storm drain line are under review and expected to be presented to UC on 02/06/2014. The Excavation Plan will address activities around the pipe and the removal of coal ash in preparation for pipe grouting. The Grouting Plan will address activities related to the plugging of the pipe to stop all releases to the Dan River. NCDENR Land Resources Management is coordinating with Duke Energy regarding activities related to the coal ash impoundment.
- Discharge from the damaged pipe to the River have been significantly reduced but not stopped. Observations by the OSC suggest that seepage of groundwater into the storm sewer may be contributing to the continued flow.

Public Information and Community Involvement

- An EPA Region 4 CIC is on site and has fully integrated into the UC.
 - The CIC is working with NCDENR and Duke Energy to identify state, local and community contacts in Virginia and North Carolina in the immediate vicinity of the spill site and downstream.
 - The CIC is drafting of fact sheets for review in anticipation of addressing future release of analytical results and recommendations to the community concerning potential exposure to the ash in the Dan River.
 - The CIC has solicited a list of public information/availability sessions scheduled by UC.
- The EPA Region 4 Office of External Affairs continues to be actively engaged in fulfilling information requests in coordination with external affairs programs in EPA Region 3 and EPA Headquarters.

Personnel and Work Schedules

- Crews are working two 12 hour shifts :
 - 0700 hours – 1900 hours
 - 1900 hours – 0700 hours
- Current EPA Personnel On Site:
 - 3 Region 4 On-Scene Coordinators
 - 2 Region 3 On-Scene Coordinator

- 1 Region 4 CIC
- 1 EPA ERT Technical Specialist
- 8 EPA SESD
- 4 START Contractors (Tetra Tech)
- 1 EPA Warehouse Contractor (OSI)

Regional Emergency Operation Centers

- Region 4 REOC personnel are assisting in production of SitReps and providing logistical and resource support.
- Region 3 REOC personnel are coordinating resource and situational support with field personnel and EPA Region 4 REOC.
- WPD, as indicated above, are providing support to SESD in planning for Dan River assessment activities.

Other Relevant Site Activities/Events

- The Governor of the State of North Carolina and the Secretary of NCDENR will visit the site during this operational period and receive an operational briefing and site visit from UC.

Situation Updates will be posted by 1600 each day for the time being.