



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 4**

**Subject:                   Situation Report (SitRep) # 10**

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

**To:                         Distribution List**

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

**Reporting Period:    1600 02/12/2014 to 1600 02/13/2014**

**Introduction**

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

**Background**

While conducting a routine security inspection at approximately 1500 hrs on February 2, 2014, security officials at the Duke Energy Plant located in Eden, North Carolina noticed a drop in the levels of the primary coal ash pond. Duke Energy's Environmental Division conducted a subsequent inspection and identified a coal ash release into the Dan River through a storm sewer management pipe. The pipe runs beneath the coal ash pond and drains rainfall off the facility. The pipe is not part of the ash management system. Initial efforts by Duke Energy to stop the flow were unsuccessful, and the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NCDENR) was notified of the release later in the day on February 2, 2014. Upon responding to the scene, NCDENR notified the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 4 and requested EPA assistance in the oversight of cleanup activities. Following coordination with the EPA Region 4 Telephone Duty Officer, 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.

## **Current Activities**

The following activities occurred during this reporting period:

### **Unified Command**

- EPA Region 4, Duke Energy (Duke), North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NCDENR), and the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) continue to be part of the Unified Command.
- EPA Region 4 Science and Ecological Support Division (SESD) personnel are on site conducting sediment and water quality sampling activities.
- EPA Environmental Response Team (ERT) is assisting UC with planning for near term removal activities associated with the river.

EPA Site information can be found at <http://epa.gov/region4/duke-energy/> and

[http://www.epaossc.org/site/site\\_profile.aspx?site\\_id=9065](http://www.epaossc.org/site/site_profile.aspx?site_id=9065)

- Duke Energy Site information can be found at <https://www.duke-energy.com/power-plants/coal-fired/dan-river-response.asp>
- NCDENR Dan River Site Information can be found at <http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/guest/dan-river-spill>

### **Special Message**

UC implemented the severe winter weather plan and site activities were curtailed to a minimum. All sampling activities have been suspended. The UC will fully reconvene on Saturday, 0630, February 15<sup>th</sup>, and continue to implement the Incident Action Plan.

### **Water and Sediment Sampling**

- Due to weather, sampling has been suspended.
- No impacts to drinking water have been reported by either the Danville or South Boston water treatment facilities.
- The EPA Region 3 OSCs continue to communicate with downstream WTPs, Virginia Department of Health and Virginia Department of Emergency Management.
- All EPA sampling results will be posted on <http://epa.gov/region4/duke-energy/>

### **Coal Ash Basin Sampling**

- The EPA is waiting for results from the two samples collected from the primary coal ash basin. Samples collected will be analyzed for benzene/toluene/ethylbenzene/xylene (BTEX), Total Metals, and Toxicity Characteristic Leachate Procedure (TCLP) Metals.
- SESD has received laboratory results from ash sample collected on February 7<sup>th</sup>. This sample was analyzed for VOC, SVOC and Total Metals and is undergoing agency review. The results will be published on EPA's public website.

### **Mitigation Activities**

- Duke Energy continues with their grouting plans of the storm water drain. On site crews continue with storm water, excavation well and pipe vacuum monitoring.

### **Public Information and Community Involvement**

- The EPA Region 4 CIC is engaged with Duke Energy developing site-specific information updates to inform the community of on-going activities. 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.
- The Eden, NC community briefing will be on February 19<sup>th</sup>. The South Boston, VA community briefing is confirmed for February 20<sup>th</sup>.
- The EPA Region 4 has received a limited amount of validated sampling results and has shared these verbally with our response partners. Region 4 released a second information sheet. Validated data is prepared for public release in coordination with the Region 4 Regional Emergency Operations Center and EPA Headquarters on the incident specific website.
- Duke has received analytical results back and has posted the data on its website.

### **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, 1 CIC
- 3 Region 3 On-Scene Coordinators, 1 PIO
- 7 SESD
- 1 EPA ERT Technical Specialist
- 4 START
- 1 QSI Contractor Support

### **STATE Reps**

NCDENR	1
VA DEQ	1

### **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.
- The Region 4 Technical Services Section is reviewing sampling results and providing suggestions for additional analyses and comparative values.
- Region 4 External Affairs is working closely with EPA Headquarters to stand up an EPA website for viewing of site information, including summaries of EPA analytical data.
- Region 4 media and regulatory programs are providing support as necessary as requested by the on-scene Incident Management Team.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Facility Layout Map

Unified Sampling Location Map

Updated Sampling Location Map

**Situation Updates are currently being posted by 1700 each day.**