



# Valley Drive Abandoned Slurry Site Update

## USEPA Region 8

Operational Period 04:

Monday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022

### SITE DESCRIPTION

The Valley Drive Abandoned Slurry Site is located at 185 West Valley Drive, Kalispell, Montana. This Removal Action involves the cleanup and proper disposal of hydrocarbon waste and debris at private property in Kalispell, Montana. The waste contains numerous Polynuclear Aromatic Compounds (PAHs); ethylbenzene, xylene, and naphthalene. The Site was identified through a report by a private citizen to the National Response Center (NRC) and has been the subject of attempts by both Flathead County and the Montana Department of Environmental Quality to compel cleanup by the property owner. Conditions at the Site present a threat to public health and the environment and meet the criteria for initiating a removal action under 40 CFR § 300.415(b) of the National Contingency Plan (NCP).

In July 2022 the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requested access to inspect and conduct cleanup activities on-site. However, this request was denied by the property owner. As a result, the EPA, via the Department of Justice (DOJ), sought a Warrant for Access through the Federal District Court for the District of Montana. The Court issued the requested warrant on September 7, 2022 and EPA mobilized to the Site on September 15, 2022. The warrant expires on November 30, 2022.



**Southeast Side of Site**



**Northeast Side of Site**



**Hydrocarbon Waste Product**

### SAFETY MESSAGE

- Always watch out for yourself and the coworkers/public around you.
- Always protect yourself, coworkers and public from exposure to contaminants.
- Prevent contamination from spreading beyond work area.
- Discuss site conditions daily.
- Conduct daily safety checks on equipment and general site conditions.
- Remove, mark or remedy hazards when you see them. Notify OSC of all hazards.

### OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES

1. Keep a supply of sawdust to be used as stabilization agent.
2. Continue the opening and draining hydrocarbon waste from tanks.
  - a. Continue working on Tank #13
  - b. Start working on Tank #14.
3. Solidify/stabilize drained hydrocarbon waste.
4. Continue shipping solidified hydrocarbon waste off-site for proper disposal.



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### OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES (Continued)

5. Continue cutting and sizing tanks for scrap metal recycling.
6. Continue shipping scrapped tanks for recycling.
7. Continue using dump trucks for hauling waste and sawdust.

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. 130 cubic yards of sawdust have been delivered to the Site.
2. Tank #13 was drained of hydrocarbon waste (approximately 15,000 gallons) and disassembled.
3. Tank #14 was opened on October 12, 2022 and is being drained of hydrocarbon waste. Work on disassembling tank #14 is underway.
4. 10 roll-off boxes and 14 dump truck loads of stabilized hydrocarbon waste were shipped off-site for disposal. This totaled approximately 230 tons of waste for the period, and approximately 544 tons to date.
5. No steel was shipped off-site this period. A total of 180 cubic yards of steel has been shipped to date.
6. Solidification Pit #1 has been closed, backfilled, and prepped for final grading.

### PLANNED ACTIVITIES

**For the Operational Period 05, October 17<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022, the following operations are planned:**

1. Finish draining Tank #14.
2. Finish disassembling Tank #14.
3. Continue shipping stabilized hydrocarbon waste off-site.
4. Begin decontaminating and demobilizing Site equipment as appropriate.
5. Conduct final removal soil sampling
6. Begin Site restoration.

### WEBSITE

For additional information please visit the EPA Valley Drive Abandoned Slurry Response page:

[https://response.epa.gov/site/site\\_profile.aspx?site\\_id=15686](https://response.epa.gov/site/site_profile.aspx?site_id=15686)

### OPERATIONAL PERIOD 04 HIGHLIGHT PHOTOS:



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**Tank #13 draining into solidification pit #2**



**ERRS crew scraping remnants of tank #13**



**ERRS crew cutting tank #14**



**Emptying tank #14**



**ERRS crew closing out solidification pit #1**



**Site overview on Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup>**