UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region VI

Subject: **POLREP #4**
Progress POLREP
(E13611) Exxon Pipeline Mayflower Arkansas Oil Spill

Mayflower, AR
Latitude: 34.9638070 Longitude: -92.4286530

To: Dean Vanderhoff, ADEQ
Lawrence Stanton, EPA HQ
R6 PolRep OPA, Response and Prevention Branch
R6 PolRep AR, Response and Prevention Branch
Ragan Broyles, Superfund Division

From: Nicolas Brescia, OSC
Date: 4/2/2013
Reporting Period: 04/01/13 - 04/02/13

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:		**Contract Number:**	
D.O. Number:		**Action Memo Date:**	
Response Authority:	OPA	**Response Type:**	Emergency
Response Lead:	PRP	**Incident Category:**	Removal Assessment
NPL Status:	Non NPL	**Operable Unit:**	
Mobilization Date:	3/29/2013	**Start Date:**	3/29/2013
Demob Date:		**Completion Date:**	
CERCLIS ID:		**RCRIS ID:**	
ERNS No.:		**State Notification:**	12713
FPN#:	E013611	**Reimbursable Account #:**	

1.1.1 Incident Category

Transportation-Related: Pipeline Spill

1.1.2 Site Description

1.1.2.1 Location

The pipeline spill occurred in a residential neighborhood in Mayflower, Faulkner County, Arkansas (34.963807 Latitude, -92.428653 Longitude). Approximately 21 homes were evacuated in the neighborhood due to elevated VOC readings and due to the amount of oil present on the ground and

in the street.

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

The damaged pipeline released Wabassa Heavy crude oil into the North Woods Subdivision. Crude oil then flowed west along N. Starlite Road, into a bar ditch adjacent to a Union Pacific Railroad line, into an unnamed creek, and into a tributary to a cove of Lake Conway. Lake Conway is a tributary to the Arkansas River. Local residents have been evacuated from 21 homes due to elevated levels of VOCs and benzene detected in the source area of the spill.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

The source was a Pegasus Line that connects Patoka, IL to Nederland, TX, approximately 850 miles long. The 20-inch pipeline has a capacity of 95,000 barrels per day. The pipeline is buried 24 inches deep with a distance of 18 miles between isolation valves. The pipeline release began Friday afternoon 29 March 2013. The break in the line was isolated and the pipeline stopped leaking oil at approximately 0300 hours 30 March 2013. The RP is estimating approximately 2,000 bbl of oil has been released.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

March 29-30, 2013

The RP and local responders have installed several dams to contain the oil throughout the impacted area. Vacuum trucks are currently recovering the crude oil at multiple locations and are staging the oil in frac tanks on site. At this time, approximately 4,500 bbl of oil and water has been recovered and staged in nine frac tanks on site. Approximately 700 feet of hard boom and 1300 feet of soft absorbent boom has been deployed throughout the spill area and in Lake Conway. The RP and the EPA are conducting air monitoring to establish levels of VOCs and benzene in the area. The air monitoring is being focused in the North Woods Subdivision and at heavily oiled locations. CTEH is conducting air monitoring, air sampling, water sampling, and soil sampling in the impacted and surrounding area for the RP. The RP currently has approximately 15 Vacuum Trucks on site and 12 frac tanks. The RP currently has 100 response personnel on site conducting the cleanup operation. The RP has estimated approximately 2,000 bbl have been released at this point, however, the RP is staffing their response efforts to tactically cleanup a potential 10,000 bbl release. The RP is standing up an Incident Management Team and will coordinate all response efforts through a Unified Command with local, state, and federal officials. The RP has set-up a claims line for impacted residents and will be assisting residents with temporary housing.

March 30-31, 2013

The RP continued to conduct recovery operations and have organized their response effort into three geographic divisions, Alpha, Bravo and Charlie. Division Alpha will focus on the North Woods Subdivision and will continue to remove free product from the neighborhood. Division Bravo will focus on removing free product and oiled vegetation along the spill pathway following the UP rail line and working the impacted area between the East side of the UP rail line and I-40 W. Division Charlie will focus on recovering free product in the creek area and will maintain containment of the free product in the creek and wetland area adjacent to the Lake Conway cove area.

Division Alpha: Cleanup activities are focused on the North Woods Subdivision to remove all free oil from the roadway, storm drain and residential yards. This includes utilizing pads and power washing streets and driveways that have been impacted. All generated oily water will be collected utilizing vacuum trucks. Residents are being contacted and access agreements are being requested by the RP to begin oil-impacted soil excavation and foundation cleaning.

Division Bravo: Cleanup activities are focused on recovering free product at multiple collection points throughout the area utilizing skimmers, pads, boom, and vacuum trucks. Collection points are located on

Main Street and on HWY 89.

Division Charlie: Cleanup activities are focused on deploying additional hard boom in multiple strategic locations in Lake Conway as part of a contingency plan to deal with any lost oil from the creek area caused from weather events. Rainfall was heavy and two underflow dams were washed out. The dams were reconstructed and stabilized. Currently no oil has migrated into Lake Conway. A contingency plan was created and implemented which involved installing three pumps to remove water from the cove area. The pumps began transferring water from the cove area into Lake Conway to mitigate the additional volume of water that has collected in the cove area from heavy rain events. The cove water volume will be reduced to a safe level in preparation of a heavy rainfall event to prevent the cove from overflowing and potentially releasing any lost oil into Lake Cony. EPA START conducted multiple assessments in the creek and cove area to determine if any oil migrated into the cove area. All oil has been contained within the boomed area within the creek.

The RP has currently increased their personnel and assets on site. The RP has approximately 15 Vacuum trucks on site and 34 frac tanks. The RP currently has 180 response personnel on site conducting the cleanup operation. Approximately 2,200 feet of hard boom and 2,000 feet of soft absorbent boom has been deployed throughout the spill area and in Lake Conway. Approximately 12,000 bbl of oil and water have been recovered on site from vacuuming operations and the oil and water has been placed into frac tanks.

USDOT Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration Pipeline Engineer Accident Investigator David Eng arrived on site and met with OSC Brescia. OSC Brescia and Eng made a field visit to the source location. Mr. Eng began his pipeline inspection and determined that a long axis rupture had occurred. OSC Brescia has requested updated release amounts, but has not received any new updated volumes to date. Actual release amounts will be calculated by the RP and provided to the OSC when available.

March 31-April 01, 2013

The RP continued to conduct recovery operations in the three geographic divisions, Alpha, Bravo and Charlie. Division Alpha continued to remove free product from the neighborhood. Division Bravo continued removal of free product and oiled vegetation along the spill pathway following the UP rail line and the impacted area between the East side of the UP rail line and I-40 W. Division Charlie continued recovering free product in the creek area and maintaining containment of the free product in the creek and wetland area adjacent to the Lake Conway cove area.

During an overflight today, it was determined a small amount of oil did reach far end of the cove area adjacent to Lake Conway during the water pumping efforts last night. The oil has been boomed off and did not enter Lake Conway.

EPA START and the RP Contractors conducted air monitoring in an elementary school this morning before classes began. All readings were below action levels.

The RP is now estimating the amount of oil released to be between 4,000-7,000 bbl.

The RP has increased their personnel and assets on site. The RP currently has 278 response personnel on site conducting the cleanup operation. The RP has approximately 14 vacuum trucks and 38 frac tanks on site. The RP revised their boom number and currently have approximately 1.900 feet of hard boom and 2,200 feet of soft absorbent boom that has been deployed throughout the spill area and in Lake Conway. Approximately 12,000 bbl of oil and water have been recovered on site from vacuuming operations. The oil/water mixture has been placed into frac tanks. Approximately 18 Federal/State/Local personnel are currently on-site.

A residential cleanup plan has been developed and endorsed by the Unified Command. The plan encompasses the affected neighborhood of the North Woods subdivision and areas surrounding that neighborhood.

Ten oiled ducks have been recovered for treatment and have transported to the Hawk Center in Russellville for rehabilitation. Two additional ducks have been found dead.

The City of Mayflower recommended continued evacuation of 22 homes on Starlite Road and Shade Tree Lane in the North Woods subdivision.

EPA OSC consulted with U.S. Fish & Wildlife, as well as Arkansas Game & Fish, on the use of heavy equipment in marshy areas to remove oil. Neither agency expressed concerns on this operation.

The RP conducted a media tour, including some national media, through the affected neighborhood today.

The Unified Command issued a press release this afternoon, updating information about the spill and cleanup activities.

April 01-April 02, 2013

The RP continued to conduct recovery operations in the three geographic divisions, Alpha, Bravo and Charlie. Division Alpha continued to remove free product from the neighborhood. Division Bravo continued removal of free product and oiled vegetation along the spill pathway following the UP rail line and the impacted area between the East side of the UP rail line and I-40 W. Division Charlie continued recovering free product in the creek area and maintaining containment of the free product in the creek and wetland area adjacent to the Lake Conway cove area.

The RP is now estimating the amount of oil released to be between 4,000-7,000 bbl.

The RP has increased their personnel and assets on site. The RP currently has 440 response personnel on site conducting the cleanup operation. The RP has approximately 14 vacuum trucks and 38 frac tanks on site. The RP revised their boom number and have used approximately 1.900 feet of hard boom and 7,040 feet of soft absorbent boom that has been deployed throughout the spill area and in Lake Conway. Approximately 14,430 bbl of oil and water have been recovered on site from vacuuming operations. The oil/water mixture has been placed into frac tanks. Approximately 50 Federal/State/Local personnel are currently on-site.

Removal of impacted soils around the residences began today.

Fourteen oiled ducks, two turtles, and one muskrat have been recovered for treatment. Two additional ducks have been found dead.

Pressure washing of the street areas in the neighborhood has become ineffective and was ceased. Absorbents have been placed on the oiled surfaces, and will be recovered.

The EPA PIO drafted Questions & Answers to be used at scheduled residential meeting. Additionally, the PIO concurred on a press release from Unified Command.
OSC Brescia was filmed for a B roll working with incident commander for national media, no interview was conducted.

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

The Pegasus pipeline is operated by ExxonMobil Pipeline Company.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

Waste Stream	***Medium***	***Quantity***	***Manifest #***	***Treatment***	***Disposal***
Oil and Water		14,430 bbl			

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

Continue recovery of pooled oil, Maintain area air monitoring to identify levels in the residential areas adjacent to the spill and evacuated areas. Continue removing water from the cove and manage water volume in the cove to prevent breaches to Lake Conway.

A meeting with the general public and the 22 residences still evacuated will be held this evening at the local high school. Exxon, State, federal, and local representatives will attend.

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

Continue oil recovery in heavily impacted areas. Continue air monitoring and sampling for VOCs. Monitor containment areas to prevent oil migration into Lake Conway. Contrinue excavation of oil-impacted soils around the impacted homes.

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

Continue oil recovery and air monitoring.

2.2.2 Issues

Rain is expected for the next 3 days, which may hamper recovery/response operations.

2.3 Logistics Section

No information available at this time.

2.4 Finance Section

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
TAT/START	$100,000.00	$25,000.00	$75,000.00	75.00%
Intramural Costs				
USEPA - Direct	$50,000.00	$10,400.00	$39,600.00	79.20%
Total Site Costs	$150,000.00	$35,400.00	$114,600.00	76.40%

* 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

No information available at this time.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

ExxonMobil Representatives
Federal and State Agencies

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality
Arkansas Department of Emergency Management
Arkansas Game and Fish
Arkansas Department of Health
Falkner County Emergency Management
Mayflower Fire Department
Mayflower Police Department
Falkner County Judge

4. Personnel On Site

6 EPA personnel (Incident Command, Planning, Operations, PIO)

4 EPA START personnel (air monitoring)

5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

www.epaosc.org/exxonmayflower

6.2 Reporting Schedule

7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.