



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

New York State Report to the Regional Response Team

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Randy Austin, Reg. Spill Response Supervisor, NYSDEC
Region 2 (NYC) Office

June 13, 2018 – Jersey City, N.J.

Organizational Changes

NYSDEC Spill Response Program now reports through:

- Spill Response & Coordination, DER – Kevin Hale, Sec. Chief – 518-402-9583, kevin.hale@dec.ny.gov

- Emergency Management Unit (EMU) – Matt Franklin, Director – 518-857-9462, matt.franklin@dec.ny.gov

Hugh Cirrito – New DEC RSE for Long Island 631-444-0321

Jeff Vought – Passed away 11/16/17



Basic Stats – Calendar Year 2017

- We are divided into 9 Regional Offices + Central Office in Albany
- NYSDEC received 11,559 spill reports total - 1,670 in NY City
- We initiated 459 State funded emergency cleanups statewide
- Vessel sinkings (pleasure craft), vessel groundings, vessel frozen in St. Lawrence Seaway lock, saddle tank spills, haz mat cargo events, home fuel spills, utility spills



Tank Overfill – Bayside Terminal, Brooklyn

- March 30, 2017: 27k diesel fuel spill into Gravesend Bay from Bayside Terminal – Tank Overfill
- RP mopped up paved area-cleaned beach-dug soil on tank tops
- Public ire -Spill closed in 7/17



Con Ed Transformer Spill – East River

- May 7, 2017 – Con Ed transformer malfunctioned, cracked open, and spilled 30k dielectric fluid onto ground, East River - Spread widely – much public attention

River cleaned up – Most of oil in ground removed – Needs long term remediation

DEC/Con Ed doing 2C plan



Con Ed Feeder Leak – Fresh Creek, S.I.

- Feeder had small leak since 7/13
- Finally found on 6/26/17 on shore of Fresh Creek, in Fresh Kills landfill complex
- Excavation with small caisson to do repair work in tidal zone
- Cable repaired in 8/17
- Total DF lost: 10,000 gals.



Con Ed transformer spill – 65 St. sub-station

9/8/17 – Transformer #8 at 65 St Substation Manhattan malfunctioned and ruptured – Leaked into ground – 13.5 k DF capacity

Transformer removed 9/17 – 6.5k DF recovered so far-soil removal and monitoring wells placed in area – remedial investigation continues under DEC supervision



Steinway Subway Tunnel Oil Seepages

12/00 - #6 FO seep reported – DEC did cleanup 2001-09-15k recovered
2014 – Seep came back – DEC found a potential tank leak source on 2nd Ave. RP cleaned up on surface – Seep disappeared.

4/18 – Seep back! DEC inspects and works with NYCT on getting oil removed – May be new source involved



NYSDEC's New Drone Fleet

- 20 pilots trained - more coming
- Drones have cameras/sensors
- Used in S.I./Texas/Puerto Rico
- If need from DEC, contact Matt Franklin in Albany



Upgrading our Radio Capability



- NYSDEC is getting multi-band Motorola ATX 8000 radios for comms with other agencies
- Working with NYCEM, FDNY, and NJDEP
- Looking for other partners who have agency interoperability channels on their two-ways (VTAC, UTAC, etc)
- Doing this to increase comms with people on scene/IC/UC situations

Thank You

Randy Austin

Reg. Spills Supervisor, Reg. 2

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