



## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POSTAL SUPERVISORS

*National Headquarters*  
1727 KING STREET, SUITE 400  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314-2753  
(703) 836-9660

June 18, 2024

### **Board Memo 086-2024: Update on Mercury Spill at the Town & Country, Missouri Branch**

#### **Executive Board,**

Below is an update from Michael Swigart, the Executive Director of Continuity and Preparedness, regarding the mercury spill that occurred today, June 12<sup>th</sup> at the Town and Country, MO branch.

#### **6-17-24 PM HQ Summary Sitrep – Town & Country MO mercury spill**

**Situation Summary** (details from USPS Industrial Hygienist included below):

- **Town & Country MO Post Office** remains closed. The Contractor continued cleaning and decontamination efforts including clearing interior floor of all debris in impacted zone and wiping down desks and washing the floor.

The Contractor coordinated with the Postmaster to move cleared items (PO Boxes and carrier cases) to the Balwin Post Office to assist with alternate operations.

Items on Supervisor desk have screened positive for mercury vapor and have been bagged and moved to the decontamination tent. Three (3) wooden platform carts and three (3) shelving units associated with the desk area are currently being decontaminated.

- **Hazelwood (St. Louis) NDC** remains open. Clearance samples came back negative for mercury vapor. Therefore, the site is cleared and go back to normal operation.

The Contractor will begin demobilizing and transport the large decontamination tent currently staged at NDC to Town and Country.

The information below is current as of 1900 (eastern).

### **June 17, 2024 – Occupational Safety & Health Evening Update**

#### **Town and Country PO**

#### **Completed activities:**

- Contractor coordinated with the Postmaster to begin removing cleared mail offsite.
  - The PO boxes and approximately 50% of the carrier cases have been turned over to the Postal Service and taken to the Ballwin facility for reentry in to the mailstream.
  - Additional bags of cleared mail are currently staged on poly and awaiting pick up.
- Contractor completed decontamination of 25 carts.

- Items on Supervisor desk have screened positive for mercury vapor.
  - Items have been bagged and are currently in decontamination tent.
  - 3 wooden platform carts and 3 shelving units associated with the desk area are currently being decontaminated.
- Contractor continued bagging items from the impact zone and placing them in the decontamination tent.

### **Planned activities:**

The contractor will:

- Clear interior floor of all debris in impacted zone.
- Begin wiping down desks.
- Begin washing floor.
- Screen the remaining carts.
- Determine if carrier cases need to be moved (in order to facilitate cleaning).
- Confirm additional tents will be delivered and constructed.
- Continue screening and decontamination activities.

### **Hazelwood (STL) NDC**

#### **Completed activities:**

- Contractor screened remaining items in the decontamination tent.
  - Several items have not been able to be cleaned appropriately, and levels are above USPS/ATSDR guidelines.
  - These items may not be salvageable.
- 4 packages still screening at elevated levels.
  - Contractor will continue to decontaminate, as necessary.
- Clearance samples came back negative for mercury vapor. Therefore, the site is cleared and go back to normal operation.
- Full lab report is anticipated tomorrow and will be followed by a clearance letter.

#### **Planned activities:**

- NDC is clear. Can go back to normal operation.
- Contractor will begin demobilizing.
- Contractor will transport large decontamination tent currently staged at NDC for use at the Town and Country.

Please share this information with your membership.

Thank you, and be safe.

NAPS Headquarters