



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POSTAL SUPERVISORS

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October 30, 2023

Board Memo 137-2023: Update on Mercury Spill at the St. Louis NDC

Executive Board,

Below is an update from the Michael Swigart, the Executive Director of Continuity and Preparedness, regarding the mercury spill that occurred yesterday, October 26th, at the St. Louis NDC location.

Situation: The St. Louis NDC and De Soto Post Office remain closed this evening. Assessment and remediation efforts for both facilities continue.

The information below is current as of 1830 (eastern).

October 27, 2023 – Occupational Safety & Health Evening Update

St. Louis NDC – 5800 Phantom Drive, Hazelwood, MO

ACTIVITIES COMPLETED: 10/27/2023 (Day Shift)

- Contractor cleared the 2nd and 3rd floor spaces, and the majority of rooms (except the Workroom) on the first floor.
- Contractor cleared approximately 30% of the total square footage of the Workroom
 - These are the open areas without equipment and little to no overhead conveyors.
- Contractor began decon of the trailer on bay 14 – contractor is determining potential contamination route
- Contractor found numerous elevated readings on packages within the trailer at bay 14 leading me to believe there might more contaminated mail to find.
 - Readings at or above 30 ug/m3
- Contractor cleaned small areas that were discovered during initial assessment of the perimeter spaces.

Additional Notes:

- Logistics was asked to stage all tractor trailers that were through the NDC at the PDC – 20 trailers were assessed and cleared. Potential for additional trailers to be identified.
- We still have chicks (lives) on site near bay 14, need to determine if they were exposed; need assistance from USPS.
- Some mail was contaminated in the trailer at dock 14 – contractor determining contamination route
- All employees were screened that were available onsite, additional employees may request evaluation, if necessary

- Quantity believed to be over 1 pound – USPS IH and Contractor will work with Environmental for reporting purposes

PLANNED ACTIVITIES – 10/27/2023 (Overnight)

- Contractor will continue to vacuum and clean mercury found during assessment.
- Contractor will continue to screen areas as they approach the location where mercury was first discovered.

De Soto MPO – 950 Boyd St, De Soto, MO

ACTIVITIES COMPLETED: 10/27/2023 (Day Shift)

- Contractor arrived on site at 7am and began setting up for remediation activities.
- Contractor delivered additional mercury vapor analyzers
- Contractor set up the decon tent area for decon of mail and equipment, as necessary
- Contractor vacuumed visible mercury from the floor and performed a preliminary wash of the most impacted areas.
- Contractor began bagging and screening mail found in the facility.

Additional Notes:

- Postal police is present on site due to issues with local neighbors
- The COOP site for this facility is Hillsboro.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES – 10/27/2023 (Overnight)

- Additional contractor resources will be mobilizing tomorrow to fill 24-hour coverage – currently working 12-hours
- Some available contractors will move to night crew and will assist at the NDC this evening

Cleared Items

1. Hillsboro PO – Clear
2. Pro-Master (#1425042) - Clear
3. Pro-Master (#0421927) - Clear
4. Box Truck (#3810016) – Clear
5. St. Louis PDC – 20 trailers

Left to be cleared – Will be cleared this evening

1. Festus PO
2. Pevely PO
3. Arnold PO
4. Fenton PO
5. Imperial PO

Please share this information with your membership.

Thank you, and be safe.
NAPS Headquarters