



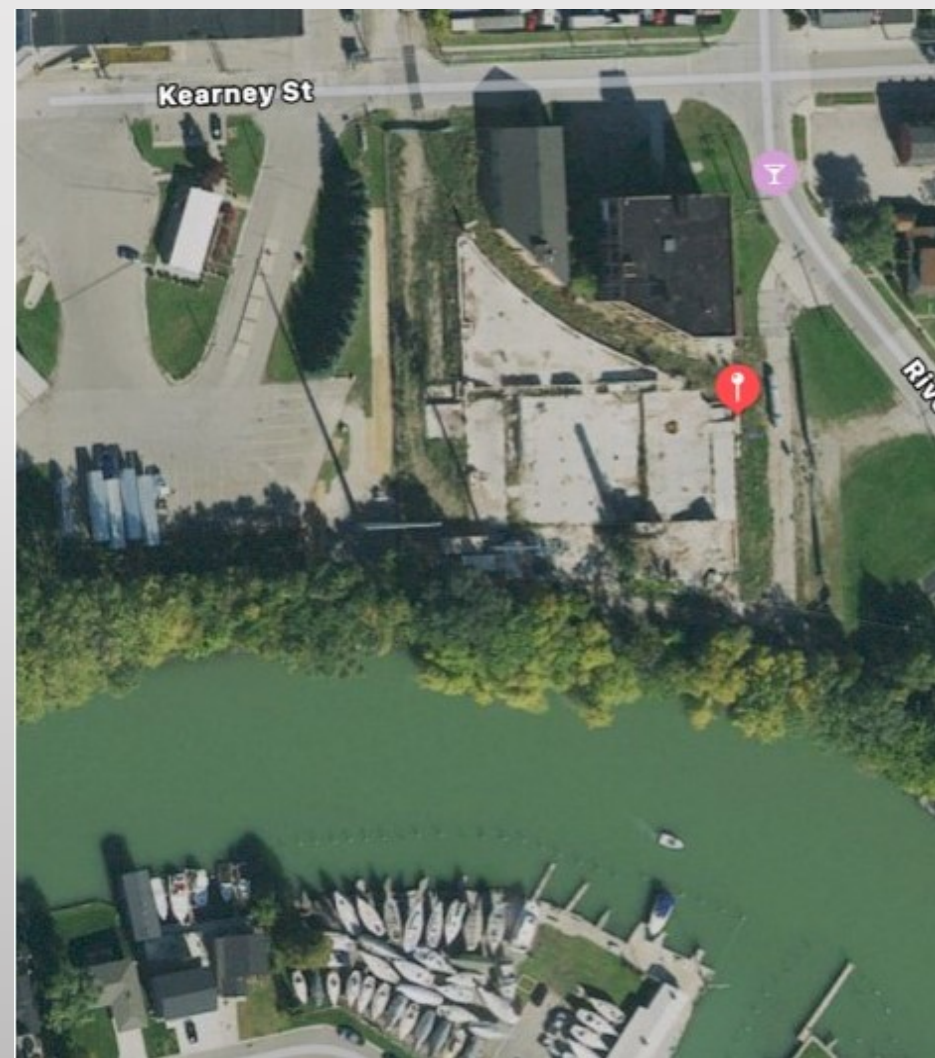
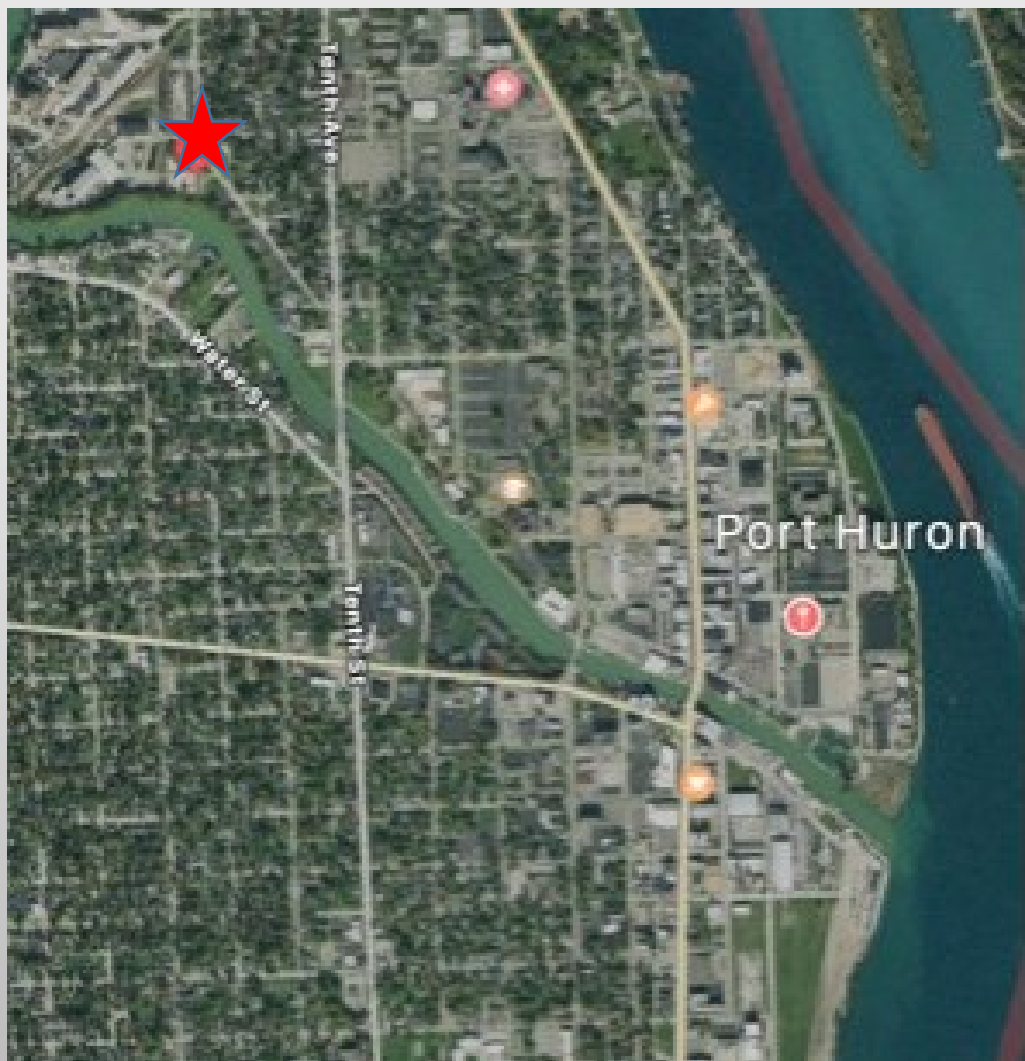
Chicory Plant: Port Huron, MI

USCG Sector Detroit



Chicory Plant Location

1125 12th Ave Port Huron, MI





History:

- Located at 1125 12th Ave, Port Huron, MI
- Chicory production ended in 1974
- Buildings were purchased and used for a variety of uses including storage
- Plant caught fire on night of June 22, 2018
- Plant contained six 8-10K gallon fuel oil tanks used for roasting chicory
- June 29, 2018, USCG Sector Detroit received report of a discharge of oil into the Black River. Sector responded and initiated clean-up efforts. Product flowed from the basement of the plant through basement drains into the black river. Source of the product was suspected to be a result of the fire and associated valves and piping related to the fuel oil tanks. The property owner reported removing viscous product from the tanks to prevent future discharge. Sector Detroit, MI DEQ(EGLE), and Port Huron Fire Department considered the tanks intact and of sufficient construction to alleviate significant failure or threat of discharge.

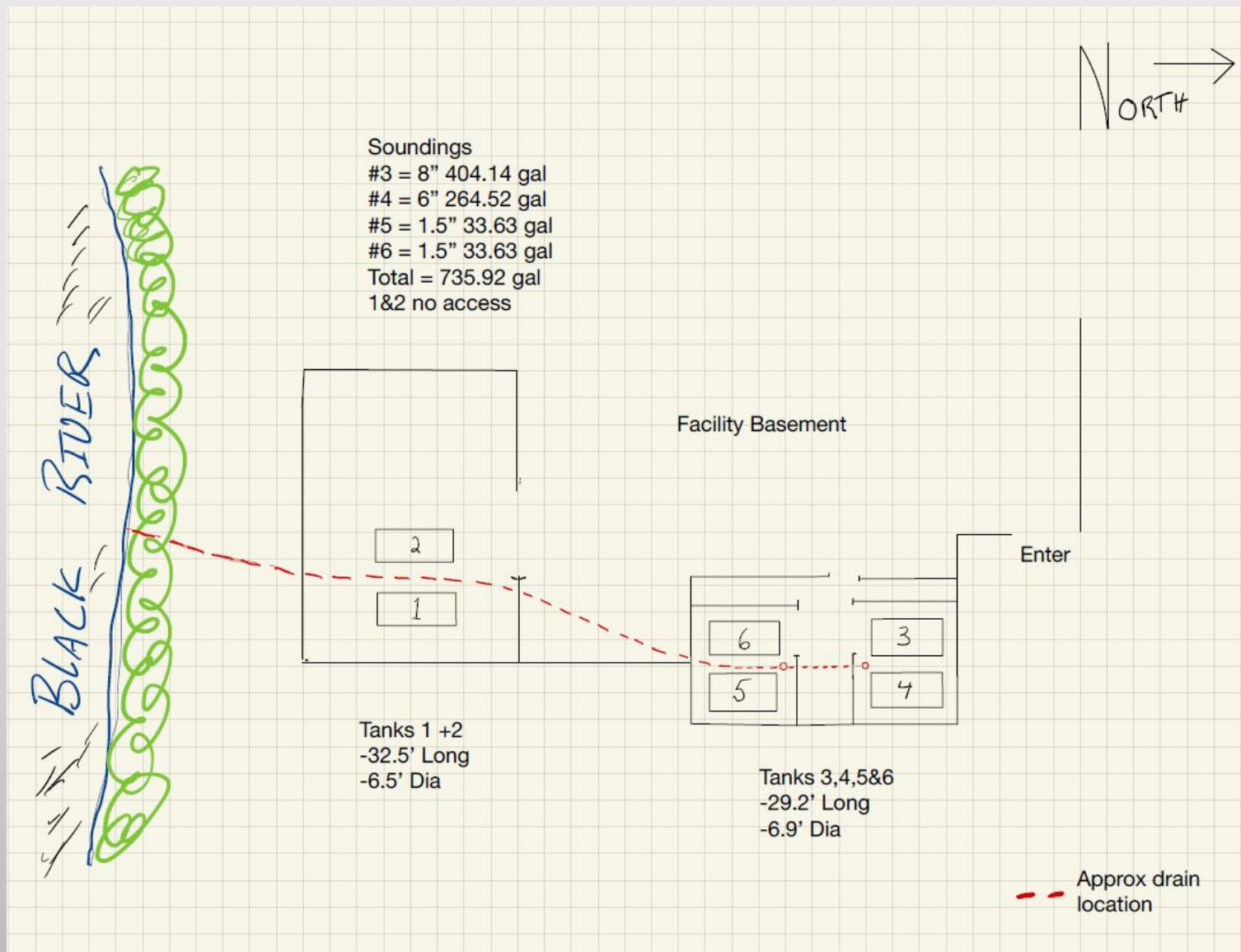


Incident Timeline

- 21 June 2021 – USCG Sector Detroit received an NRC report of a discharge of oil into the Black River in the vicinity of the Chicory Plant.
- Sector Detroit responded to investigate.
- Property owner suspected vandalism and stolen valves which led to the discharge of product into the basement of the plant. The product then flowed from the basement drains into the Black River. Product created a sheen on the Black River. Minor recoverable product along the shoreline in vicinity of the drainage pipe.
- Property owner has deployed containment boom in vicinity of the drainage pipe and utilizing sorbents to collect a continuous seep of oil from the ground along the shore line and drainage pipe.
- 24 June 2021 – Sector Detroit issued administrative order to the property owner directing to develop a written plan to address how they will mitigate further discharge and prevent future discharge into the Black River.
- 20 JUL 2021 - Sector Detroit opened the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund in order to mitigate any further pollution to the environment due to insufficient actions by the RP to control source of discharge.



Site Map





Site View

- Building demolished during fire
- Basement below concrete slab in view





Utility Easement

- Utilities include 24" high pressure sewer line and other potential underground utilities
- Right of way for cell phone tower in back ground





Tank Rooms

Drains in floor in between tanks

Tanks 3 & 4



Tanks 5 & 6





Black River Embankment

- River bank is steeper than the pictures indicate (approx. 35 degree slope)
- 6" (approx.) clay pipe from basement located under riprap/rocks in right picture
- Significant soil contamination suspected in embankment area and soil in vicinity of basement foundation



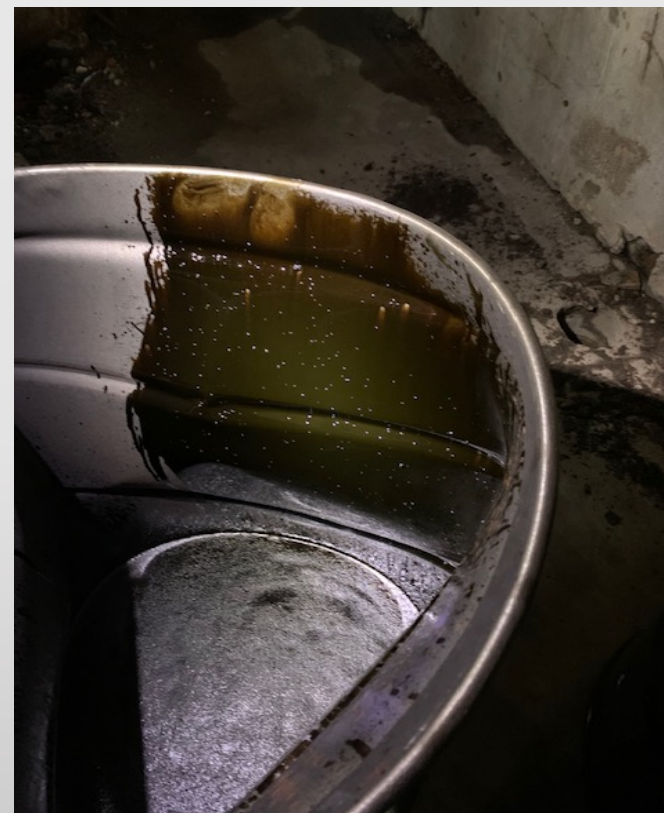


Actions Taken

- Containment boom and sorbents placed in vicinity of basement drain outfall.
- Property owner attempted to block basement drains and remove freestanding product from basement.
- Administrative Order issued to property owner directing to develop a written plan to mitigate the discharge and prevent further discharge into the Black River.
- Owner submitted insufficient plan via e-mail. Sector Detroit responded with further direction and expectations.
- Mitigation efforts were not completed, USCG Federally assumed cleanup operations for basement in the room holding tanks 3 & 4, and waterline
- Property owner worked to remove product from tanks 3 & 4.
- Multiple samples taken from various locations and sent for comparison by the Marine Safety Lab.
- Sector Detroit worked closely with US EPA and MI EGLE during removal operations.
- 20 JUL 2021 – USCG Sector Detroit Opened OSLTF and Marine Pollution Control (MPC) was hired to carryout mitigation of pollution threat.



Tank 3 & 4 contents during removal operations

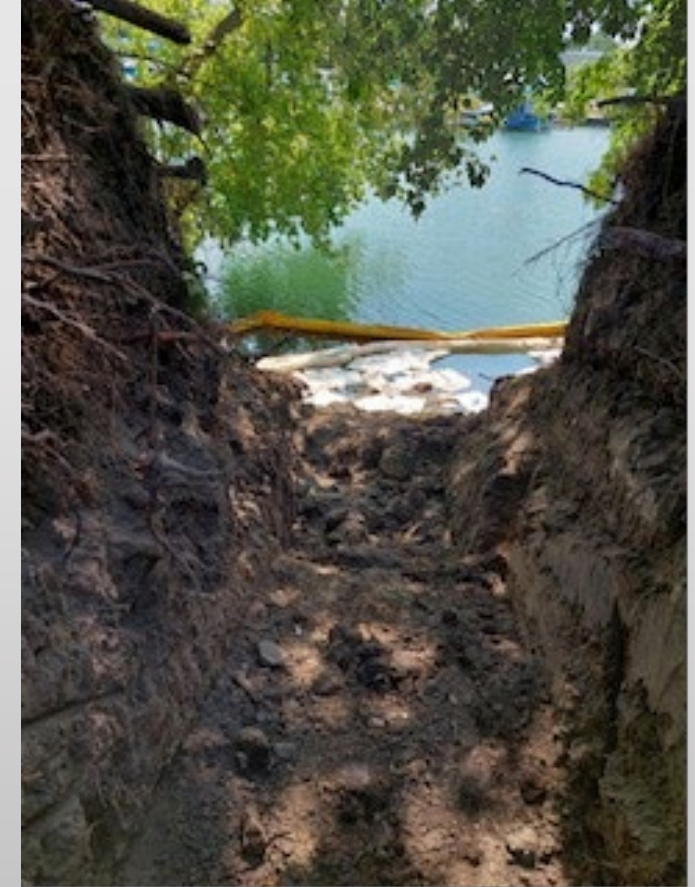


Removed Product



Conclusion of Actions:

- 24AUG21 the owner hired contractors to complete the removal of the pipe at the shoreline, as well as excavation around the pipe to remove soil contamination.
- These actions mitigated any substantial threat to the environment.





Future Actions

- US Coast Guard pursuing enforcement action
- MI ELGE continues to oversee further removal and remedial actions



Involved Agencies:

- US Coast Guard
- US EPA
- MI Environment, Great Lakes & Energy
- Port Huron Fire Department



Thank you for your time!

Any Questions??