GREAT LAKES PowerVac

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ENVIRONMENTS

Emergency Response

Coal Fire Cleanup

Overview:

After a coal bin caught fire at a power plant, involving a multiple alarm fire department response, Great Lakes Power Vac was called in to clean up water-saturated coal after the dousing the silo received from the fire departments. Adding to the complexity of this project was the fact that the coal had hot spots as it was being removed, requiring the fire departments to douse the coal continually prior to being vacuumed out by our team. Our experienced crew worked side by side with firefighters as a team to ensure that the coal was removed safely for the duration of the project. The coal and water mixture was hauled to an onsite staging area set up by Great Lakes Power Vac. The amount of coal affected was several hundred tons and required around the clock cleanup efforts by our team to ensure the quickest removal possible with the highest degree of safety.

Type of Facility: Power Plant

Role: Emergency Response Contractor

Environmental Concern: Water-saturated coal removal from a power plant holding silo

Response Time: Onsite within 2 hours of call, initial response actions included an onsite safety meeting and setting up of exclusion zones

Project Duration: 24 hour around the clock service for 4 days

General Scope of Project: Several hundred tons of water-saturated coal had to be vacuumed from a holding silo at a power plant after a coal fire. Our supervisors coordinated efforts with the fire departments and plant supervisors to safely and quickly remove the material from the silo to an onsite holding area to allow for drainage.

Included in Scope: Labor, equipment, and materials

Work Performed: Emergency environmental project assessment and supervision, safety oversight, vacuum services, and transportation of coal to an onsite holding area

Volume of Waste/Material: Several hundred tons of water-saturated coal

Waste Disposal: Coal and water mixture was relocated onsite to enable drainage and drying