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## Emergency Response

# Absorber Tank Cleanup

### Overview:

When a power plant absorber tank required an emergency cleanup after a catastrophic failure, the experienced crew at Great Lakes Power Vac was called in to handle the removal of 500,000 gallons of material. To manage the temporary storage of this enormous quantity of material, twenty-five “frac” tanks were brought onsite, each with a 20,000 gallon capacity. Our team removed the material from the tank and cleaned it using high-pressure water, thus enabling the plant personnel to do maintenance on the cleaned tank. Unfortunately, the disposal of this material presented a costly scenario, as there were high levels of sulfides present which precluded disposal in a subtitled D landfill. A proper disposal solution to a hazardous waste landfill would have been well over \$1,000,000 in expense. Great Lakes Power Vac devised an alternate solution at a fraction of the cost. This process involved bringing onsite a portable solidification unit to solidify the material, allowing the material to be disposed at a power plant owned landfill, at tremendous cost savings.

<b>Type of Facility:</b>	Power Plant
<b>Role:</b>	Emergency Response Contractor
<b>Environmental Concern:</b>	Removal of gypsum materials and disposal
<b>Response Time:</b>	Onsite within 2 hours of call, initial response actions included an onsite safety meeting and setting up of exclusion zones
<b>Project Duration:</b>	3 months with ongoing solidification, dependent on weather
<b>General Scope of Project:</b>	Great Lakes Power Vac removed 500,000 gallons of material from an absorber tank that experienced a shutdown due to catastrophic failure. Temporary storage of this material needed to be arranged until proper disposal could be performed. The absorber tank needed to be emptied of material and then cleaned with high-pressure water blasting so that the plant personnel could perform maintenance on the tank for subsequent inspection and proper operations.
<b>Included in Scope:</b>	Labor, equipment, and materials
<b>Work Performed:</b>	Emergency environmental project assessment and supervision, safety oversight, vacuum services, solidification, transportation and disposal of waste
<b>Volume of Waste/Material:</b>	500,000 gallons of materials
<b>Waste Disposal:</b>	Materials were disposed of at a power plant owned landfill