The Director-General/Chief Executive  
National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency  
Abuja

Attention:  
The Director  
Oil Field Assessment  

REPORT OF ASSESSMENT OF CRUDE OIL SPILL AND ASSOCIATED PETROLEUM EFFLUENTS NOTICED ON ORASHI RIVER, AT OBRIKOM/OMOKU ONEELGA, RIVERS STATE ON JULY 29, 2020.

Following your directive on the above subject matter, please find attached the report of Assessment of Crude oil spill and associated Petroleum Effluents noticed on Orashi River at Obrikom/Omoku ONEELGA, Rivers State on July 29, 2020.

2. The report is being forwarded for your information, please.

3. Thank you.

[Signature]

Ime A. Ekanem  
Zonal Head, Port Harcourt
REPORT OF ASSESSMENT OF CRUDE OIL SPILL AND ASSOCIATED PETROLEUM EFFLUENTS NOTICED ON ORASHI RIVER, AT OBRIKOM/OMOKU ONELGA, RIVERS STATE ON JULY 29, 2020.

The Agency participated in a Joint Assessment Visit to Orashi River at Obrikom/Omoku following a report of crude oil impact noticed at the shores of the River. Below were observed

2. INSPECTION DATE & TIME:

Date: July 29, 2020

Time: 14:30hrs – 18:45hrs

3. INSPECTION TEAM

i. Ime A. Ekanem
   ZH/ Team Lead - NOSDRA

ii. Oduolisaeme Ifechukwu
   PES/(Reporting - NOSDRA

iii. Ogbulu, Gp. Ijeije
   RSME

iv. Dr Egobueze, F
   NAOC HSE

v. Itekere Samuel
   NAOC HSE

vi. Okah, K
   NAOC PAF

vii. HRH M.L Ordu
    Obrikom Community Rep.

viii. Emeka Onye
     Omoku Community Rep.


5. Observations

i. River boom deployed by NAOC to contain spread of the crude oil was sighted at the Omoku Jetty.

ii. The team observed patches of weathered crude oil along the River banks of Orashi River.
iii. The River flows downstream Omoku and the source of oil impact was traced from the water fronts of Obrikom to 14’’ Akri – Ebocha Oil Center Pipeline River Crossing at Abacheke through the water way. No leakage point was observed from any NAOC facility along the Orashi River Channel.

iv. Several sources of illegal oil refinery, oil theft loading and illegal oil transport vessel were sighted and were considered as potential source of impact on Orashi River.

v. The crude oil impacted shoreline was discontinuous upstream.

vi. The team observed that the 14’’ Akri – Ebocha Oil Center Pipeline RoW was bushy.

6. Pictures

Fig.1 Boom deployed at the water front

Fig2. Weathered crude oil sighted at the community water front
Figure 3&4. Illegal crude oil refinery sighted 100m from the water front

Fig 5. Drums used for illegal refining

Fig 6. Illegal trench used for storing crude oil
Fig 7. An abandoned vessel used for illegal crude oil transport

Fig 8 Security forces checking out the vessel

7. Recommendations

In light of the observations made at the site, the zonal office has forwarded a letter to NAOC requesting;

i. An immediate clean-up of the impacted shorelines with close supervision/monitoring by the Agency.

ii. Investigate further on the possible illegal bunkering point(s) along NAOC’s Right of Way (RoW).

iii. Bush clearing along the company’s Right of Way (RoW) should be carried out within the next one (1) month. This bushy ROW is a potential hide out for oil theft.

iv. Intensify surveillance along the company’s Right of Way (RoW).

8. The above for your information, please.

Ime A. Ekanem
Head/Team lead

Oduolisaeme, I
PES/Reporting