

BioLab Incident

News Release from Unified Command

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Unified Command Releases Photos of BioLab Facility Remediation Efforts

CONYERS, Georgia - The Unified Command has released a series of photos capturing images from site cleanup efforts following the chemical release at the BioLab facility; these images document the transition from the initial response to the progress achieved over the past two weeks.

"This progress reflects the hard work and coordination of the Unified Command, cleanup crews, and partner agencies," said Deputy Chief Jimmy Robinson from Rockdale County Fire Rescue. "We are proud of the efforts of everyone involved not only to act swiftly but to do so with the safety of the community and our responders in mind."

The accompanying photo series provides snapshots of the cleanup operation, from the initial response to current progress.

For media inquiries, please contact the Unified Command Joint Information Center at biolabresponsemedia2024@gmail.com.

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BioLab Conyers Response Facility Remediation Photos

Overview

- The Unified Command comprising representatives from Rockdale County, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Georgia Environmental Protection Division, and BioLab – has been working diligently to address a fire that occurred at a warehouse at BioLab's Conyers facility on Sunday, September 29.
- This has been a complex process that has required careful planning and execution, with the health and safety of the community and responders top of mind.
- The first priority was to extinguish the fire at the warehouse, which stored raw chemicals and components. Since completing that, the focus has been on neutralizing the wet chemical product that contributed to the visible haze over the area surrounding the facility.
- The Unified Command is now in the late stages of its cleanup efforts.

This deck is intended to provide members of the community with an overview of the cleanup process that has occurred, with photos and short descriptions, through October 13.



Debris smolders on the BioLab incident site in Conyers, Georgia, on Oct. 5, 2024.

Expected cooler nightime weather conditions led Rockdale County to proactively issue nightly shelter-inplace orders—first for Rockdale County residents and then, on Oct. 7, only for residents living within a 2mile radius of the facility.



Responders move material for processing at the BioLab incident site in Conyers, Georgia, on Oct. 6, 2024.

The materials are collected, managed to reduce the risk of oxidation and chlorine release, and safely disposed off-site.



Debris sits prepared for removal and processing at the BioLab incident site in Conyers, Georgia, on Oct. 7, 2024.

Responders employed a methodical process to segregate debris to ensure safe off-site disposal.

Responders are consistently monitoring the site and surrounding communities for air quality to inform potential safety measures.



Stacks of cleared debris sit at the staging area at the BioLab site in Conyers, Georgia, on Oct. 8, 2024.

All materials are processed to ensure proper disposal and mitigation of environmental impact.



Response crews clear materials from the BioLab facility grounds on Oct. 9, 2024.

Crews used specialized equipment to ensure the careful handling and transport of debris and waste. Each step in the cleanup is guided by strict safety protocols to protect workers and the community.



Heavy machinery is deployed to expedite debris removal at the BioLab site in Conyers, Georgia, on Oct. 10, 2024.

All materials are processed to ensure proper disposal and reduce environmental impact. Specialized crews are working to safely clear materials for disposal.



An overhead drone photo taken on Oct. 11, 2024 shows responders managing residual products at the BioLab facility in Conyers, Georgia.

Residuals are managed to reduce the risk of oxidation and chlorine release, and safely disposed off-site.



Aerial footage from Oct. 12, 2024, highlights response crews actively clearing debris and waste from the site at BioLab in Conyers, Georgia.

The photo underscores the importance of the United Command's coordinated teamwork in the cleanup effort.



Drone imagery from Oct. 13, 2024, shows carefully organized debris piles, ensuring materials are sorted efficiently for removal from the BioLab site in Conyers, Georgia.

Proper staging helps maintain safety and meet environmental standards during cleanup.