

Uncovering the Human Health Crisis Brought on by the Gulf Oil Spill

The BP Gulf Oil Spill Help Desk discusses the problems faced by response workers and others following the 2010 Gulf Oil Spill.

SAN DIEGO, CA, USA, March 20, 2014 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The effects of the massive [oil spill](#) in the Gulf of Mexico in 2010 are still being felt by many area residents and business owners today. Although oil giant BP has set aside sums for compensating victims for damages, many have found themselves in a continual legal battle to receive what's fair. Last month, plaintiffs overcame a major hurdle when a federal appeal's court upheld a judge's approval of a multibillion-dollar settlement.

BP Gulf Spill Settlement Approval Upheld By Federal Appeals Court

"Over BP's objections, a federal appeals court on Friday upheld a judge's approval of the company's multibillion-dollar settlement with lawyers for businesses and residents who claim the massive 2010 oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico cost them money."

For more information about the BP Gulf Spill Settlement, please visit http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/01/11/bp-gulf-spill-settlement_n_4581202.html.

Although it seems that with court rulings such as the recent one, many of those impacted by the spill may be closer to being compensated for damages, there is one affected group that has yet to find any restitution: injured response workers. Many of those who responded to the call to help with cleanup initiatives following the spill are part of what some have labeled a major human health crisis and don't know where to turn.

Investigation: Two Years After the BP Spill, A Hidden Health Crisis Festers

"In August 2011 the Government Accountability Project (GAP) began its investigation of the public health threats associated with the oil spill cleanup, the results of which will be released this summer. "Over twenty-five whistleblowers in our investigation have reported the worst public health tragedies of any investigation in GAP's thirty-five-year history," - Shanna Devine, GAP legislative campaign coordinator.

For more information about the Government Accountability Project (GAP) investigation, please

visit <http://www.thenation.com/article/167461/investigation-two-years-after-bp-spill-hidden-health-crisis-festers#>.

Included in the complaints made by some whistleblowers are a range of ailments experienced by response workers as a result of contact with crude oil and the chemical dispersant used during cleanup. Respiratory problems, skin lesions, liver and kidney damages, and an increased risk for the development of certain cancers are among the reported health concerns. Several health impact studies are now in the works by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) to determine the complete scope of the health crisis; however, it has been noted that making the determination could take years.

According to the BP Gulf Oil Spill Help Desk, as more information about the plight of injured oil spill response workers comes to light, legal advocates and health officials are pushing for a proposed settlement to see that they too are justly compensated by BP. Individuals who have sustained injuries as a result of [participation in cleanup](#) of the spill can contact the help desk for more information about how they may benefit from the proposed settlement. The BP Gulf Oil Spill Help Desk offers free case reviews for injured oil spill response workers. Those who need help can contact them today.

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