



RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
LANSING



DAN WYANT  
DIRECTOR

November 4, 2011

Via E-Mail

Mr. Brian Kelly, Acting Section Chief  
Emergency Response Branch 1  
Emergency Response Section 2  
U.S. EPA - Region 5  
9311 Groh Road  
Grosse Ile, Michigan 48138

Mr. Jeff Lippert  
Federal On-Scene Coordinator  
Emergency Response Branch  
U.S. EPA - Region 5  
9311 Groh Road,  
Grosse Ile, Michigan 48138

Dear Mr. Kelly and Mr. Lippert:

Subject: Abrigador Trail Lead Contamination Site,  
Plainfield Charter Township, Kent County, Michigan

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), Remediation Division is seeking the US Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) assistance with the subject project. During excavation for the installation of a watermain in the right-of-way of Abrigador Trail, the excavation contractor encountered a large number of broken automobile battery casings. After consultation with the MDEQ, the excavation contractor analyzed the soils from the battery debris area using total and TCLP methods for lead. The soils failed the toxicity characteristic for lead.

The contractor over-excavated the area where the watermain was placed and transported the excavated soils and battery casings to an approved hazardous waste disposal facility in Detroit, Michigan. Based on observations by the contractor and MDEQ staff, the battery casing disposal area likely extends onto the adjacent property at the corner of Abrigador Trail and Lovers Lane and perhaps further into the right-of-way of Abrigador Trail. The excavation contractor described the area with the battery casings as being limited in extent.

The property adjacent to the battery casing disposal uses an individual well for its water supply as do several other homes in the area.

The MDEQ is requesting assistance of the US EPA Emergency Response Branch in defining the extent of the remaining lead contamination and if possible removing the lead contaminated soils and battery casing debris. To further discuss this site you may contact me at 616-356-0226, [odonneld@michigan.gov](mailto:odonneld@michigan.gov), or at the Grand Rapids District Office, MDEQ, Remediation Division, 350 Ottawa Avenue NW, Unit 10, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503-2341. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David O'Donnell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "D" at the beginning.

David O'Donnell, District Supervisor  
Remediation Division  
Grand Rapids District  
616-356-0226