United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region VII
POLLUTION REPORT

Date: Saturday, April 17, 2004
From: Davis, Garvey, Nold

To:

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Eric Nold, U.S.E.P.A.	Robert Sink, City of Omaha
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Eric Jenkins, Fed. Emerg. Mgmt. Agency	Joe Davis, U.S.E.P.A.
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Subject: Omaha Lead Site
Greater Omaha Nebraska Area, Omaha, NE
Latitude: 41.2033000
Longitude: -95.9308000

POLREP No.:	16	**Site #:**	NESFN0703481
Reporting Period:	April 12-17, 2004	**D.O. #:**	0006
Start Date:	9/25/2003	**Response Authority:**	CERCLA
Mob Date:	3/22/2004	**Response Type:**	Time-Critical
Demob Date:		**NPL Status:**	NPL
Completion Date:		**Incident Category:**	Removal Action
CERCLIS ID #:	NESFN0703481	**Contract #**	68-S7-02-04
RCRIS ID #:			

Site Description
The site is located in the Omaha metropolitan area and encompasses Council Bluffs, Iowa, Carter Lake, Iowa, and east Omaha. It is centered around downtown Omaha, Nebraska.

ASARCO Incorporated (ASARCO) operated a lead refinery at 500 Douglas Street in Omaha, Nebraska, for over 100 years beginning in the 1870s. The operation of the refinery ceased in 1997. As a routine part of the refinery operation, lead particles were emitted into the atmosphere at the refinery. In addition, the Gould Incorporated Lead Battery Recycling Plant was located at 555 Farnam street in Omaha and was a secondary smelter of lead from discarded lead batteries. The blast furnace used to smelt the lead at the Gould plant emitted lead particles into the air from that refinery. The Gould plant closed in 1982.

Several other facilities in the Omaha area used lead in their manufacturing processes. A few of these included Carter White Lead at 21st and Locust Street which produced white lead paint bases and red lead and litharge protective coatings until 1936, Omaha Shot and Lead which later became Lawrence Shot and Lead, and then became National Lead Company which manufactured lead shot by melting pig lead, Grant Storage Battery Company, Storage Battery Factory, and Exide Corporation which manufactured lead storage batteries.

Numerous other locations in the Omaha area such as foundries, iron works, metal salvaging companies and other manufacturers used or processed lead at their facilities.

Current Activities
On March 25, 2004, an Action Memorandum Amendment was signed. This amendment changes the scope of work to include daycare facilities and elevated blood levels (EBLs) that were previously addressed under the first action memorandum, however, still addresses highly contaminated properties with soil concentrations of 1,200 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg) or greater.

Continued activities are being centralized from the Missouri River Treatment Plant located at 5600 S 10th Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68107-3501. The city of Omaha has partnered with the EPA to allow the use of a portion of the facility.

On April 17, 2004, OSC Dan Garvey attended a training session concerning lead paint, facilitated by Cheryl Weston, at the Omaha Small Business Center, located at 2505 N 24th Street, Omaha, Nebraska.

There were ten properties this week that have been excavated and either completed or are in the final stages of completion.

Planned Removal Actions
Continued prioritization will be given to EBLs, day care facilities, and highly contaminated properties where children seven years of age or younger live.

Next Steps
The Missouri River Treatment facility has encouraged the EPA to continue to utilize the same areas of the facility for another year under the existing terms as stated in the access agreement that currently expires in May 2004.

The EPA was informed that a request for extension, allowing the EPA access to May 2005, would need to be prepared and sent to the city of Omaha. OSC Dan Garvey completed that document and it has been submitted to the city for their review.

Key Issues
There is a list of 570 properties, with greater than 1,200 ppm lead, that is currently being prioritized for this phase of the project.

An additional list of 10 EBLs and 4 day cares was received and are receiving the highest priority. Pre-walk thru property visits are being scheduled and excavation began on those properties on April 12, 2004.

After those prioritized properties have been cleaned up, geographic locations will be utilized to maximize available resources concerning the greater than 1,200 ppm lead properties.

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
ERRS - Cleanup Contractor	$3,955,065.00	$2,103,416.00	$1,851,649.00	46.82%
START	$337,740.00	$134,739.00	$203,001.00	60.11%
Intramural Costs				
Total Site Costs	$4,292,805.00	$2,238,155.00	$2,054,650.00	47.86%

* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

Disposition of Wastes
All of the lead contaminated soil that is being removed from the day cares, EBLs, and greater than 1,200 ppm properties is being stockpiled at the Missouri River Treatment Plant.

The contaminated soil is accumulated in 1,000 cubic yard piles.

Once a 1,000 cubic yard pile is created, a composite sample is taken and analyzed for Toxic Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) lead and total lead. The first 1,000 cubic yard pile is scheduled to be disposed of next week.

At this time, the contaminated soil will be sent to the Loess Hills Regional Sanitary Landfill located in

Malvern, Iowa 51551.

Discussions are on-going with the city of Omaha, Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ), and EPA concerning a new disposal location at the Papillion Creek Waste Water Treatment Plant's compost facility, located in Bellevue, Nebraska.

response.epa.gov/OmahaLeadPhaseIV

POLREP #16 Last Updated 5/27/2004