United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region VII
POLLUTION REPORT

Date: Monday, December 15, 2003
From: Dan Garvey, Eric Nold

To: Marie Rabenau, U.S.E.P.A. Dan Garvey, U.S.E.P.A.
Eric Nold, U.S.E.P.A.

Subject: Omaha Lead
Greater Omaha Area, Council Bluffs, Carter Lake, Greater Omaha Area, NE
Latitude: 41.1997000
Longitude: -95.9303000

POLREP No.:	11	**Site #:**	NESFNO703481
Reporting Period:	12/06 thru 12/13/2004	**D.O. #:**	
Start Date:	8/18/2003	**Response Authority:**	CERCLA
Mob Date:	8/18/2003	**Response Type:**	Time-Critical
Demob Date:	12/20/2003	**NPL Status:**	NPL
Completion Date:	12/20/2003	**Incident Category:**	Removal Action
CERCLIS ID #:	NESFN0703481	**Contract #**	
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 streets, 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
The plan is to continue the implementation of this removal action that includes excavating lead-contaminated soil from residential properties with one or more non-foundation soil concentrations greater than 2,500 mg/kg.

On November 4, 2003, an Action Memorandum Amendment was signed. This amendment changes the scope of work to identify a highly contaminated property as a residence with a soil concentration of 1,200 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg) or greater instead of the previously approved 2,500 mg/kg threshold approved in the original Action Memorandum.

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.

There were 4 homes that were excavated and 7 homes that were back-filled this week operating with two crews under this removal action. A total of 5 homes were excavated and 8 homes back-filled under both removal actions during this reporting period.

Attached is a table that lists the work progress for this reporting period including project totals.

Planned Removal Actions

Continued prioritization will be given to those residences where children six years of age or younger live.

Next Steps

Work activities are scheduled to continue until December 20, 2003. Then the site will shut-down for approximately 3 months. This shut-down is needed due to the sub-contractor who supplies and lays the sod not being able to cut the sod during the winter months.

The Missouri River Treatment facility is expected to allow the EPA to utilize a portion of the facility all of next year. The city has already offered to extend the current access agreement with EPA that presently expires in May 2004.

Some equipment and supplies will be secured and stored at the facility during the winter break.

Key Issues

There is a list of over 400 properties, greater than 1,200 ppm lead, that is currently being prioritized for the next phase of the project, currently scheduled for March/April 2004.

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
ERRS - Cleanup Contractor	$4,362,241.00	$1,630,698.00	$2,731,543.00	62.62%
RST/START	$137,759.00	$42,000.00	$95,759.00	69.51%
Intramural Costs				
Total Site Costs	$4,500,000.00	$1,672,698.00	$2,827,302.00	62.83%

* 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

The fourth 1,000 cubic-yard stockpile has been sent to the Loess Hills Regional Sanitary Landfill located in Malvern, Iowa 51551.

A fifth 1,000 cubic-yard stockpile has been sampled and is scheduled for transportation and disposal starting December 12, 2003.

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POLREP #11 Last Updated 5/5/2004