U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
USS LEAD-2 - Removal Polrep
Final Removal Polrep

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region V

Subject: **POLREP #3**
USS LEAD-2
053J
East Chicago, IN
Latitude: 41.6256760 Longitude: -87.4615570

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From: Fredrick Micke, On-Scene Coordinator
Date: 12/15/2011
Reporting Period:

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	053J	**Contract Number:**	
D.O. Number:	0097	**Action Memo Date:**	9/12/2011
Response Authority:	CERCLA	**Response Type:**	Time-Critical
Response Lead:	EPA	**Incident Category:**	Removal Action
NPL Status:	NPL	**Operable Unit:**	
Mobilization Date:	10/24/2011	**Start Date:**	10/24/2011
Demob Date:	12/9/2011	**Completion Date:**	12/9/2011
CERCLIS ID:	IND047030226	**RCRIS ID:**	
ERNS No.:		**State Notification:**	
FPN#:		**Reimbursable Account #:**	

1.1.1 Incident Category

Time-Critical Removal Action at the USS Lead Site in East Chicago, IN

1.1.2 Site Description

The US Smelter and Lead facility (USS Lead) was a primary and secondary smelter of lead in the East Chicago, Indiana area. It began operations around 1906 and ended in 1985. From about 1920 until 1973, USS Lead was a primary smelter of lead. This included a refining process to create high quality lead free of bismuth. From 1973 until its closure in 1985, USS Lead was a secondary smelter and a reprocessor of car batteries.

1.1.2.1 Location

The USS Lead Site includes the residential area north of the US Smelter and Lead facility in East Chicago, Indiana. The area is roughly bounded by Aster Street, Chicago Avenue, Parish Avenue, and 151st Street. It includes about 1200 homes, a small number of parks, open space as a part of the railroad right-of-way, schools, and public buildings. Some properties in the residential area have levels of lead elevated above U.S. EPA cleanup levels. The likely source for the lead contamination is the USS Lead facility and other

industrial sources in the East Chicago, Indiana area.

The East Chicago neighborhood around USS Lead has been an area of intense industrial activity dating back to the early 1900's. Smelting and other metal related processes dominated the activities in the area. Many of the companies involved in metal work included lead-related processes which operated smelting and lead compound production facilities. As a part of their activities, the companies in the area generated lead product or waste in a particulate form. The potential emission sources at these facilities included: furnace stacks, waste piles, and spills of lead products. Chronic airborne pollution from USS Lead and other facilities in the area is the probable source of the lead contamination in the area.

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

Conditions at the Site may pose an imminent and substantial endangerment to public health or welfare or the environment, based upon factors set forth in the National Contingency Plan (NCP), 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Section 300.415 (b)(2). These conditions include:

i) Actual or potential exposure to nearby human populations, animals, or the food chain from hazardous substances or pollutants or contaminants.

ii) Elevated levels of hazardous substances or pollutants or contaminants in soils largely at or near the surface.

iii) Weather conditions that may cause hazardous substances or pollutants or contaminants to migrate or be released.

iv) The availability of other appropriate federal or state response mechanisms to respond to the release.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

See above

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

Removal action activities at this Site will include, but are not limited to, excavation and proper disposal of lead-contaminated soils. The removal action for this Action Memorandum Amendment will conduct lead-contaminated soil removals at 5 East Chicago Public Housing addresses and 9 residential properties . In addition, 2 properties that were not remediated in the prior Removal Action conducted in 2008 because of access issues will be remediated during this removal action if access can be obtained.

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

The Removal Action started on October 24, 2011. As of close of business, on Nov. 16, 2011, all 5 addresses of the East Chicago Public Housing were completed. Seeding at the 5 Public Housing addresses occurred on Nov. 15 and 16. As of close of business on Dec. 9, 2011 the remaining 11 residential properties were completed (excavated, backfilled, and seeding). The residential work started on Nov. 10. Therefore, the project is complete. The total quantity of low-level lead contaminated soil removed was 1913 tons. Please note, that funds have been left in the project to perform additional seeding in the spring of 2012, if needed.

2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)

For administrative purposes, information concerning the enforcement strategy of the Site is contained in the Enforcement Confidential Addendum.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

R5 Priorities Summary		
This is an Integrated River Assessment. The numbers should overlap.	Miles of river systems cleaned and/or restored	N/A
	Cubic yards of contaminated sediments removed and/or capped	N/A
	Gallons of oil/water recovered	N/A
	Acres of soil/sediment cleaned up in floodplains and riverbanks	N/A
Stand Alone Assessment	Acres Protected	4
	Number of contaminated residential yards cleaned up	16
	Human Health Exposures Avoided	48
	Number of workers on site	14

Waste Stream	*Medium*	*Quantity*	*Manifest #*	*Treatment*	*Disposal*
low level lead	soil	1913 tons		N/A	landfill

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

The Time-Critical Removal Action will directly address actual or potential releases of hazardous substances on Site, which may pose an imminent and substantial endangerment to public health, or welfare, or the environment

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

Removal activities on Site will include:

a) Develop a Work Plan for the lead-contaminated soil assessment of the site.

b) Develop and implement a site health and safety plan.

c) Develop and implement an air monitoring plan.

d) Develop and implement site security measures.

e) Conduct land surveying to the extent necessary to establish a grid system to locate all property boundaries, special features (pipes, storage tanks, etc.), and sample locations.

f) Based upon soil results, remove, transport and dispose of all characterized or identified hazardous substances, pollutants, wastes or contaminants at a RCRA/CERCLA approved disposal facility in accordance with the U.S. EPA off-site rule.

g) The soil clean-up criterion is 400 mg/kg lead unless analyzes indicate the existence of additional contaminants, hazardous substances, pollutants or waste.

h) Backfill excavated areas with clean material and topsoil with seeding as needed. The removal action will be conducted in a manner not inconsistent with the NCP.

The OSC has initiated planning for provision of post-removal Site control consistent with the provisions of Section 300.415(l) of the NCP and the response actions proposed herein are consistent with any long-term remedial actions which may be required. However, elimination of all threats presented by hazardous substances in the vicinity of the residences is expected to minimize the need for post-removal Site controls.

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

The project was completed on Dec. 9, 2011. Because of the onset of winter, funds have been left in the project to perform addtional seeding in the spring of 2012, if needed.

2.2.2 Issues

There are no known community or congressional issues concerning this Site.

2.3 Logistics Section

The field office is no longer in use and all needed equipment for the project has been demobed.

2.4 Finance Section

2.4.1 Narrative

The present Delivery Order (0097) is in the amount of $700,000.

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
ERRS - Cleanup Contractor	$700,000.00	$634,422.06	$65,577.94	9.37%
TAT/START	$65,000.00	$42,600.00	$22,400.00	34.46%
Intramural Costs				

Total Site Costs	$765,000.00	$677,022.06	$87,977.94	11.50%

* 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.

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

The Health and Safety Plan is complete. Safety issues will be addressed as they are discovered.

2.5.2 Liaison Officer

The City of East Chicago was notified of the project start.

2.7 Information Officer

2.7.1 Public Information Officer

2.7.2 Community Involvement Coordinator

Janet Pope is the Community Involvement Coordinator (CIC) for the Site.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

All Unified Command positions are held by the On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) for this U.S. EPA Fund-Lead Removal Action.

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

IDEM
City of East Chicago

4. Personnel On Site

1 On-Scene Coordinator
1 START Weston
1 Response Manager
1 Field Cost Accountant
14 Cleanup Techs and Operators

5. Definition of Terms

N/A

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

Refer to www.epaosc.org/usslead2

6.2 Reporting Schedule

Additional Reports will not be issued. If project is complete.

7. Situational Reference Materials

Refer to the EPA OSC website under document links for this Site.