

**United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region V
POLLUTION REPORT**

Date: Thursday, December 9, 2004

From: Bradley Benning

To:	Linda Nachowicz, ERB	Bradley Benning, ERB
	Bill Bolen, ERB	William Messenger, ESS
	Mick Hans, Public Affairs	John Maritote, ESS
	Bruce Everetts, Illinois EPA	Marc Colvin, Health&Safety
	debbie Regel, EESS	Cynthia Kawakami, ORC
	david Chung, Hdqt	

Subject: Enforcement Removal Action
R. Lavin and Sons
2028 S. Sheridan Road, North Chicago, IL
Latitude: 42.3228000
Longitude: -87.8417000

POLREP No.:	4	Site #:	B52E
Reporting Period:	October - November 04	D.O. #:	
Start Date:	11/7/2002	Response Authority:	CERCLA
Mob Date:	11/7/2002	Response Type:	Time-Critical
Demob Date:		NPL Status:	Non NPL
Completion Date:		Incident Category:	Removal Action
CERCLIS ID #:	ILD097271563	Contract #	
RCRIS ID #:			

Site Description

The property is located at 2028 South Sheridan Road in North Chicago, Lake County, Illinois. Coordinates for the site are latitude 42 degrees 19' 22.6" North and longitude 87 degrees 50' 30.1" West, as determined by Arcview or Landview III. It is located in an industrial neighborhood with surrounding residential and commercial areas. The Site is approximately 17.5 acres and is located adjacent to Pettibone Creek which discharges to Lake Michigan.

R. Lavin & Sons, Inc. began operating a secondary copper and brass recovery facility in 1941. Scrap copper and brass in many forms were imported from off-site sources, melted and refined in furnaces, and then poured into ingots that were shipped to customers. R. Lavin & Sons, Inc. fell under SIC Code 3341 and had approximately 200 employees. The facility was upgraded several times in advance of and in response to environmental regulations. Upgrades included installation of several baghouses; improvement of a closed-loop, cooling water recirculating system; implementation of surface run-off containment and control measures. Currently R. Lavin & Sons, Inc. is non-operational and in a liquidating bankruptcy with its assets being sold for cash by its creditors. Areas of concern on-site include the three open top storage tanks with 2.6 million gallons of capacity, the two retention ponds that directly discharge to the storm sewer, the process pit, the slag piles most of which are outside and uncovered, and the numerous baghouses throughout the facility.

Releases of contaminants to the storm sewer have been and continue to be an ongoing problem at this Site. Wastes generated by furnace clean-outs, flue dust collection, and contact cooling water treatment have been subject to heavy precipitation that has resulted in contaminated runoff being released to the ground and then to the groundwater and/or storm sewer that runs to Pettibone Creek and then to Lake Michigan. In addition, large volumes of slag were stored outside and were exposed to rainfall. A 1994 study by Illinois EPA compared sediment concentrations of certain metals upstream and downstream of the Site's outfall into the Creek. The contaminants, copper, lead, and zinc were increased by 2387%, 3932%, and 2769%, respectively, downstream of the Site.

Current Activities

Minimal activity occurred over this time period.

The accumulated waste in the roll-offs have been transported off-site for disposal.

The northeast tank still contains sludge as the financial resources have apparently been exhausted.

EPA met with officials from the City of North Chicago to look at various options to continue cleanup of the site under Cercla if the City moves forward to purchase the property.

The south tank was being dismantled and should be off the site by this date.

Planned Removal Actions

Awaiting completion of the northeast tank, which will complete the action required under the AOC.

Additional actions have been identified should additional resources become available through various insurance settlements.

- 1) Retention Ponds
- 2) Drums, containers of oils, hazardous substances
- 3) Laboratory Chemicals
- 4) Baghouses
- 5) Interior contamination (furnaces)
- 6) Cupola Slag

Next Steps

Continue work required under the AOC.

Conduct additional work based on financial resources.

Continue to work with the City of North Chicago to cleanup the site and redevelop the property.

Key Issues

None

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
Intramural Costs				
Total Site Costs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%

* 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.

response.epa.gov/RLAVIN

POLREP #4 Last Updated 12/9/2004