

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Loewenthal Metals - Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region V

Subject: POLREP #10
Progress
Loewenthal Metals
C5C2
Chicago, IL
Latitude: 41.8552702 Longitude: -87.6498706

To: Sam Borries, U.S. EPA
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From: Steven Faryan, On-Scene Coordinator

Date: 8/28/2013

Reporting Period: 8/26/2013-8/30/2013

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	C5C2	Contract Number:	EP-S5-09-05
D.O. Number:	0121	Action Memo Date:	4/22/2013
Response Authority:	CERCLA	Response Type:	Time-Critical
Response Lead:	EPA	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	6/24/2013	Start Date:	6/24/2013
Demob Date:		Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:	ILP00510081	RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	
FPN#:		Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

Time Critical Removal Action

1.1.2 Site Description

Based on historical aerial photos, the Site was home to a large smelting facility and associated railroad spur which operated during the 1940s. In the 1940 Standard Metal Directory, Loewenthal Metals Corporation is listed under aluminum, antimonial lead. The smelter ceased operations in the early 1950s. It appears that the building was razed after that time and all of the demolition debris was buried on site and covered with soil. The building demolition debris was used to fill the basement.

1.1.2.1 Location

The Site is located at 947 West Cullerton Street in Chicago, Cook County, Illinois (Figure 1-1). It is situated near the center of the Pilsen neighborhood, a primarily residential area. The coordinates of the Site are 41°51'19" North latitude and 87°39'0.6" West longitude.

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

Metal constituents found at the Site which exceeded the U.S. EPA Regional Screening Levels (RSLs) include lead, arsenic, copper, mercury, and zinc. Lead and Cadmium were detected in the soil above the RCRA characteristic values.(See Action Memorandum for Threats)

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

See POLREP 1

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

On August 26, 2013, crews loaded 12 trucks with treated soil from Pile D for off site disposal. Crews also treated and excavated soil in Grid 6 to approximately 65" bgs. START conducted XRF screening of Grid 6 and collected confirmation sample.

On August 27, 2013, crews loaded 6 trucks with treated soil from Pile D for off site disposal. Crews treated

and excavated area just north of Grid 6, and treated and excavated Grid 7.

On August 28, 2013, crews excavated additional material from Grid 3 after confirmation sample came back >500ppm. START conducted XRF screening of Grids 3 and 7, and collected 2 confirmation samples. Crews began to back fill Grids 1 and 2.

On August 29, 2013, clean engineered sand is delivered from Ozinga and backfilled into the former basement and foundation. One truck load of Free Flow 100 is delivered to site to chemically fixate the remaining contaminated soil and debris. A permit was obtained from the City of Chicago to use the fire hydrant for water supply on site. The site will be secured and piles covered for the holiday weekend. The analytical tests were all below regulatory levels for lead and other RCRA 8 metals and Pile E was approved for shipping to Newton County Landfill. Trucks will be lined up for Tuesday September 3 and the loading of the trucks with Pile E will begin at 0700.

During all Site operations, START operated and maintained DataRam and Personal DataRam (pDR 1500) units to monitor all dust/particulates on and off Site. The personal data ram has been deployed to the cab of the excavator to monitor dust levels near on-site personnel. All personal data ram readings have been near or at back ground dust levels for the area (10-100 ug/m3). Average concentrations of dust have been 15-45 ug/m3. All site operations are being conducted using a water fog with a fire hose to minimize dust levels. The action level for nuisance dust is 500 ug/m3.

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

US EPA's contractor Environmental Restoration is in the process of treating and excavating soil from 2 feet below ground surface to the original building's concrete foundation (approximately 5-5.5' below grade). Treated and excavated soil is being staged on the eastern edge of property for off-site disposal. Crews are then backfilling excavated areas with engineered sand.

Samples collected from the treated soil and demolition debris were analyzed and results indicate that the constituents of concern are under regulatory limits.

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

The owner of the property has been identified, but has been non-responsive to repeated attempts to arrange for access to the property.

The U.S. EPA has obtained a warrant from a U.S. Magistrate to conduct the Site Assessment and Emergency Removal Action.

U.S. EPA has recently identified that an investment firm, Sabre Investments LLC, has purchased the back taxes for the property but has not yet filed the deed.

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

ERRS contractors will continue fixation and excavation of soil until XRF screening confirms cleanliness of remaining soil. The excavated area will continue to be back-filled with engineered sand from a local manufacturer. Also, a layer of top soil will be spread over the sand and seeded to prevent erosion.

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

ERRS will excavate the Site down to approximately 5.5 feet in areas where there is a basement and it will be back-filled with clean material. In areas where there is no basement, test pits have been conducted and the sand and clay layer is at 2.2 to 3.0 feet. The excavated material will be fixated on-site and shipped off for disposal. An XRF analyzer unit will be used to field screen excavated areas and composite confirmation samples will verify that the removal clean-up standard has been achieved.

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

ERRS contractors will continue with the excavation and disposal of soil and concrete as necessary. Free Flow 100 will be used at a 4-5% mix rate to stabilize on site hazardous soil to render the material non-hazardous. Crews will continue to backfill excavated areas. Confirmation Sampling is being conducted in grids where no concrete floor is found. Screening of the concrete is being conducted in the grids with a concrete floor.

2.2.2 Issues

Monitoring of weather forecasts will be included in the morning Site Health and Safety Meeting.

2.3 Logistics Section

No information available at this time.

2.4 Finance Section

2.4.1 Narrative

The ERRS ceiling was raised to \$750,000 and is reflected in the cost summary.

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
ERRS - Cleanup Contractor	\$750,000.00	\$395,642.00	\$354,358.00	47.25%
START	\$40,000.00	\$34,200.00	\$5,800.00	14.50%

REAC	\$2,500.00	\$2,000.00	\$500.00	20.00%
Intramural Costs				
USEPA - Direct	\$25,000.00	\$13,500.00	\$11,500.00	46.00%
Total Site Costs	\$817,500.00	\$445,342.00	\$372,158.00	45.52%

* 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

Nick Michaleas- ERRS Health And Safety Officer
Tonya Balla - START Health And Safety Officer

2.5.2 Liaison Officer

2.5.3 Information Officer

Heriberto Leon has been meeting routinely with the neighborhood community groups. Fact Sheets were handed out in the 1/2 mile square area around the property. A public meeting and open house were held to provide facts and answer questions from the residents. An open house was held at the neighboring Resurrection project apartments to brief the residents and media and answer questions.

U.S. EPA has provided fact sheets, lead fact sheets and protecting your family from lead, gardening with lead contaminated soil to the Pilsen farmers market. All of the fact sheets have been reproduced in English and Spanish.

An open house is planned for September 4, 2013 at the CASA Maravilla at 2021 S. Morgan in Chicago, Illinois from 4-6. A flyer has been posted to the web site and sent to the mailing list generated from the public meeting and last open house that was held.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

US EPA is the lead agency on Site.

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

ATSDR

City of Chicago

4. Personnel On Site

US EPA (1)
ERRS (4)
START (1)

5. Definition of Terms

RSL - Regional Screening Level
RML - Removal Management Level
ERRS - Emergency Removal and Response Services
START - Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team
XRF - X-Ray Fluorescence
ATSDR: Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

www.epa.gov/region5/cleanup/loewenthal/

6.2 Reporting Schedule

POLREPs will be generated on a weekly basis during removal activities on-Site. The POLREPS are posted to the website under a public view.

7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.