

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

**Date:** Friday, December 28, 2007

**From:** Craig Thomas

**To:** Stavros Emmanouil, U.S. EPA ERB 2 Section 2    Michael Harris, U.S. EPA ERB 2 Section 2

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**Subject:** Initiation of Action

ASARCO Taylor Springs Site

Taylor Springs, IL

Latitude: 39.1315620

Longitude: -89.4915720

<b>POLREP No.:</b>	1	<b>Site #:</b>	B5AJRV00
<b>Reporting Period:</b>	11/08/07 - 12/17/07	<b>D.O. #:</b>	
<b>Start Date:</b>	11/8/2007	<b>Response Authority:</b>	CERCLA
<b>Mob Date:</b>	11/8/2007	<b>Response Type:</b>	Time-Critical
<b>Demob Date:</b>		<b>NPL Status:</b>	NPL
<b>Completion Date:</b>		<b>Incident Category:</b>	Removal Action
<b>CERCLIS ID #:</b>		<b>Contract #</b>	
<b>RCRIS ID #:</b>			

#### **Site Description**

The Asarco Taylor Springs Site consists of two parts: a 673-acre industrial property located on the southwest side of Taylor Springs, Montgomery County, Illinois 62089 and an unknown number of residential properties surrounding the industrial property.

The coordinates for the main Site are latitude 38° 39'06.9" north by longitude 90° 05'35.8" west. Of the 673 acres occupied by the main Site, 303 acres are wooded, 189 acres are used for agriculture, and the remaining 181 acres comprise the former and current Site operations area. These 181 acres have been listed on the National Priorities List (NPL)

The Site is bordered to the northwest by cultivated farmland and woodlands, to the northeast by residential areas, to the east by the Taylor Springs waste water treatment plant and cultivated farmland, and to the south and west by cultivated farmland and woodlands. These Pollution Reports (POLREPs), focus on the residential areas surrounding the main industrial site.

The objective of this time critical removal action is to remove metals contamination above health based levels (primarily lead) associated with smelter wastes which were used on residential properties as fill material, as well as collect data which will be used to support the Remedial Investigation for the main site.

U.S. EPA's Emergency Response branch conducted a site assessment of soil lead concentrations in residential and public areas in the Village of Taylor Springs. Access was obtained at approximately half of the residential properties in Taylor Springs, and sampling was conducted in June, 2006. Results of this sampling found that approximately 20 residential or public areas exceeded U.S. EPA's time critical removal action level of 1,200 parts per million (ppm) lead, and an additional 67 properties exceeded the U.S. EPA Region IX Preliminary Remedial Goal for lead of 400 ppm.

This removal action should address the approximately 20 properties, and any previously unsampled residential properties or public use areas with lead concentrations exceeding 1200 ppm.

#### **Current Activities**

On November 8, 2007, the PRP contractors mobilized to the site to obtain access to residential properties, do additional sampling at those properties, and begin constructing an on-site repository at the former ASARCO smelter.

On December 12, 2007, the PRP contractors began excavating on property I.D. #100. To date, properties #100, #25 and #29 have been excavated and are waiting to be backfilled. PRP contractors are currently on property #118. An X-ray fluorescence analyzer(XRF)is being used to guide the excavation depths and width. Approximately 960 cubic yards have been removed to date.

**Planned Removal Actions**

Continue on excavation of properties under the TCRA. Awaiting analytical results so that the PRP contractors can begin to backfill excavated properties.

**Next Steps**

PRP contractors will work on backfilling excavated properties prior to the holiday break. PRP contractors will be mobilizing back to site on January 2, 2008.

**Key Issues**

None.

**Estimated Costs \***

	<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>Total To Date</b>	<b>Remaining</b>	<b>% Remaining</b>
<b>Extramural Costs</b>				
RST/START	\$23,500.00	\$14,680.40	\$8,819.60	37.53%
<b>Intramural Costs</b>				
<b>Total Site Costs</b>	\$23,500.00	\$14,680.40	\$8,819.60	37.53%

\* 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/ASARCOtaylorsprings](http://response.epa.gov/ASARCOtaylorsprings)

POLREP #1 Last Updated 12/28/2007