

*Via Electronic Mail*

June 17, 2024

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Doug Petroff  
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Email: [dpetroff@idem.IN.gov](mailto:dpetroff@idem.IN.gov)

**Re: Monthly Progress Report for May 2024  
Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study  
USS Lead Superfund Site, Operable Unit 2, East Chicago, Indiana**

Dear Ms. Patterson and Mr. Petroff:

U.S. Smelter and Lead Refinery, Inc. (USS Lead) submits this monthly progress report to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), Region 5, and the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) as described in Task 8 of the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) Statement of Work (SOW) in Appendix A of the Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent (ASAOC) for Operable Unit (OU) 2 at the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago, Indiana (the Site). This progress report summarizes efforts by the USS Lead and its Contractor (Environmental Resources Management; ERM) to fulfill the requirements of the ASAOC during the May 2024 reporting period. The monthly progress reports will be submitted only in electronic form, as agreed to with USEPA on January 10, 2018.

**1. Activities Completed During This Reporting Period**

- A. IDEM sent ERM information regarding access and sampling of the monitoring wells at the Voluntary Remediation Program (VRP) site at 405 East 151<sup>st</sup> Street on May 6<sup>th</sup>;
- B. USS Lead and ERM received additional information on the EQUIS electronic data deliverables (EDDs) from USEPA on May 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>;
- C. USS Lead and ERM participated in a conference call with USEPA's OU1 Zone 1 remedial project manager, IDEM, and representatives of IDA and Verdantas to discuss the status of the Zone 1 remediation/re-development work and the schedule for the replacing the Zone 1 monitoring wells on May 13<sup>th</sup>;
- D. USS Lead and ERM received an invite for a follow up conference call, scheduled for June 24<sup>th</sup>, to discuss the status of OU1 Zone 1 activities on May 13<sup>th</sup>;
- E. USS Lead and ERM received a letter summarizing the meeting in Chicago on April 11<sup>th</sup> from USEPA on May 13<sup>th</sup>;
- F. USS Lead submitted the Monthly Progress Report for April 2024 on May 15<sup>th</sup>;
- G. USS Lead submitted a response to USEPA's letter dated May 13<sup>th</sup> on May 24<sup>th</sup>;
- H. USS Lead and ERM received an email responding to the response letter sent to USEPA and IDEM on May 23<sup>rd</sup> on May 24<sup>th</sup>; and
- I. USS Lead and ERM continued to prepare an addendum to the Field Sampling Plan in response to comments received from USEPA.

**2. Results of Sampling and Tests and Other Data**

- A. USS Lead continued to collect and submit data and information to IDEM pursuant to the RCRA Post Closure Permit.

**3. Work Plans, Procedures, and Deliverables**

- A. USS Lead submitted the Monthly Progress Report for April 2024 on May 15, 2024.

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#### **4. Actions Projected for the Next Reporting Period**

- A. USS Lead and ERM will participate on a conference call with USEPA, IDEM, and representatives of IDA and Verdantas to discuss the replacement of the OU1 Zone 1 monitoring wells;
- B. USS Lead and ERM will continue to prepare an Addendum to the Field Sampling Plan Addendum in response to comments received from USEPA; and
- C. USS Lead will prepare the Monthly Report for June 2024.

#### **5. Progress and Schedule Report**

- A. In accordance with the schedule provided by USEPA, USS Lead submitted the Monthly Progress Report for April 2024 on May 15, 2024.

If you have questions regarding this monthly progress report or related project matters, please contact me or the Project Coordinator (Tim Barber) at 216-526-2965.

Respectfully yours,



Norman Johnson, Vice-President  
U.S. Smelter and Lead Refinery, Inc.

cc (via email):

Mary Gade, Esq.  
Tim Barber, ERM  
Tom O'Connell, ERM  
Michael Baum, USS Lead  
Saroj Kandel, TechLaw