



ecology and environment, inc.

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International Specialists in the Environmental Sciences

DATE: December 22, 1982
TO: File/USEPA Region V
FROM: Don Mueller
SUBJECT: Preliminary Assessment
Indiana/TDD#R5-8212-02A
East Chicago/U.S.S. Lead Refining
IND047030226

*has interim RCRA Status
Pending*

05-IN-0020

Attached is EPA's Preliminary Assessment Form 2070-12 for the above referenced site.

Primary information was gathered from the following source(s):

1. Ecology and Environment FIT Files
2. Ecology and Environment On-Site Inspection Report
3. Field Investigation of Uncontrolled Hazardous Waste Sites, Task Report to EPA

Information indicates the following responsible parties should be listed. They are listed here because of space limitations:

1. U.S.S. Lead Refining
2. Joel Smolen, Plant Manager
- 3.

Presently, data gaps or no verification exists in the following key area(s):

1. Contamination of drinking water
2. Extent of air contamination
- 3.

A review of the available data indicates that additional information will be necessary to assess the impact(s) on:

1. Samples should be withdrawn semi-annually from: Grand Calumet River
2. Both upstream and downstream of the U.S.S. Lead Refining facility, the marsh adjacent the site
3. property to the south; the access canal into
4. the site from the Grand Calumet River
- 5.

Suggested methods/sources for obtaining additional information are:

1. Dr. Robert Gnaedinger, EPA - Region V
2. Mr. Ron Lillich, Biologist - Region V
3. Mr. Ali Khan, East Chicago Air Quality Control Agency

Notice of an apparent need for emergency action was transmitted to _____ on _____

by _____



POTENTIAL HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE
PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT
PART 1 - SITE INFORMATION AND ASSESSMENT

I. IDENTIFICATION

01 STATE 02 SITE NUMBER
IN 0047030226

II. SITE NAME AND LOCATION

01 SITE NAME (Legal, common, or descriptive name of site) U.S.S. Lead Refining		02 STREET, ROUTE NO., OR SPECIFIC LOCATION IDENTIFIER 5300 Kennedy Ave.			
03 CITY East Chicago	04 STATE IN	05 ZIP CODE 46312	06 COUNTY Lake	07 COUNTY CODE 089	08 CONG. DIST. 1
09 COORDINATES LATITUDE 41° 36' 50".0		LONGITUDE 87° 27' 15".0		Highland Quad	

10 DIRECTIONS TO SITE (Starting from nearest public road)

Tri-State to Cline Ave. Cline Ave. Exit North to Rt. 20. Rt. 20 west to Kennedy Ave. Kennedy Ave. north about 1/4 mile. Site will be on right

III. RESPONSIBLE PARTIES

01 OWNER (If known) USS Lead Refining		02 STREET (Business, mailing, residential) 5300 Kennedy Ave.			
03 CITY East Chicago	04 STATE IN	05 ZIP CODE 46312	06 TELEPHONE NUMBER (219) 397-1012		
07 OPERATOR (If known and different from owner) USS Lead Refining, Inc.		08 STREET (Business, mailing, residential) E			
09 CITY S.A.M.E.	10 STATE	11 ZIP CODE	12 TELEPHONE NUMBER (219) 397-1012		

13 TYPE OF OWNERSHIP (Check one)

☒ A. PRIVATE ☐ B. FEDERAL ☐ C. STATE ☐ D. COUNTY ☐ E. MUNICIPAL
☐ F. OTHER: (Specify) ☐ G. UNKNOWN

14 OWNER/OPERATOR NOTIFICATION ON FILE (Check all that apply)

☒ A. RCRA 3001 DATE RECEIVED: 8.18.80 MONTH DAY YEAR ☐ B. UNCONTROLLED WASTE SITE (CERCLA 103 c) DATE RECEIVED: NONE MONTH DAY YEAR ☐ C. NONE

IV. CHARACTERIZATION OF POTENTIAL HAZARD

01 ON SITE INSPECTION ☒ YES DATE 4.8.80 MONTH DAY YEAR ☐ NO 4.28.81		BY (Check all that apply) ☐ A. EPA ☒ B. EPA CONTRACTOR ☐ C. STATE ☐ D. OTHER CONTRACTOR ☐ E. LOCAL HEALTH OFFICIAL ☐ F. OTHER: (Specify) CONTRACTOR NAME(S): Ecology & Environment, Inc.			
02 SITE STATUS (Check one) ☒ A. ACTIVE ☐ B. INACTIVE ☐ C. UNKNOWN		03 YEARS OF OPERATION 1906-1 present BEGINNING YEAR ENDING YEAR ☐ UNKNOWN			

04 DESCRIPTION OF SUBSTANCES POSSIBLY PRESENT, KNOWN, OR ALLEGED

Heavy metals (toxic/persistent), bases (Calcium sulfate from acid neutralization), lead and lead slag.

05 DESCRIPTION OF POTENTIAL HAZARD TO ENVIRONMENT AND/OR POPULATION

Spill into surface water (environment and population), percolate into groundwater due to high permeability of soils (environment and population)

V. PRIORITY ASSESSMENT

01 PRIORITY FOR INSPECTION (Check one. If high or medium is checked, complete Part 2 - Waste Information and Part 3 - Description of Hazardous Conditions and Incidents)

☐ A. HIGH (Inspection required promptly) ☐ B. MEDIUM (Inspection required) ☐ C. LOW (Inspect on time available basis) ☐ D. NONE (No further action needed, complete current disposition form)

VI. INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM

01 CONTACT Dr. Robert Gnagedinger, Jr.		02 OF (Agency/Organization) USEPA, Chicago		03 TELEPHONE NUMBER (312) 886-7572	
04 PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR ASSESSMENT	05 AGENCY	06 ORGANIZATION	07 TELEPHONE NUMBER ()	08 DATE / / MONTH DAY YEAR	



POTENTIAL HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE
PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT
PART 3 - DESCRIPTION OF HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS AND INCIDENTS

I. IDENTIFICATION

01 STATE 02 SITE NUMBER
IN 0047030226

II. HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS AND INCIDENTS

01 ☒ A. GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION

03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: _____

02 ☒ OBSERVED (DATE: 8-27-80)

04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

☒ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

Possible contamination due to runoff from site into drainage ditches.
Flow is SSW from south. High permeability of sandy soils.

01 ☒ B. SURFACE WATER CONTAMINATION

03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: _____

02 ☒ OBSERVED (DATE: 8-27-80)

04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

☒ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

Chemical analyses show lead at a concentration of 3400 ppb flowing outward from plant.

01 ☒ C. CONTAMINATION OF AIR

03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: _____

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: _____)

04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

☐ POTENTIAL

☒ ALLEGED

Flue dust may be picked up by wind. Workers at site wear masks to filter particles.

01 ☐ D. FIRE/EXPLOSIVE CONDITIONS

03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: _____

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: _____)

04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

☐ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

01 ☒ E. DIRECT CONTACT

03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: _____

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: _____)

04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

☐ POTENTIAL

☒ ALLEGED

Through wind blowing flue dust off site.

01 ☒ F. CONTAMINATION OF SOIL

03 AREA POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: _____
(Acres)

02 ☒ OBSERVED (DATE: 8-27-80)

04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

☒ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

Soil samples found to contain as much as 1670 Lead. Flue dust casually hauled around with excessive loss by spill or by wind.

01 ☐ G. DRINKING WATER CONTAMINATION

03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: _____

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: _____)

04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

☐ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

01 ☒ H. WORKER EXPOSURE/INJURY

03 WORKERS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: _____

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: _____)

04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

☐ POTENTIAL

☒ ALLEGED

Workers wear masks to filter particles, but is unknown how efficient they are.

01 ☒ I. POPULATION EXPOSURE/INJURY

03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: _____

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: _____)

04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

☐ POTENTIAL

☒ ALLEGED

Population exposed through blowing of flue dust off site and through contact with lead pollution in the Calumet River.



POTENTIAL HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE
PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT

PART 3 - DESCRIPTION OF HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS AND INCIDENTS

I. IDENTIFICATION

01 STATE 02 SITE NUMBER

IN 0047030226

II. HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS AND INCIDENTS (Continued)

01 ☐ J. DAMAGE TO FLORA
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: _____)

☐ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

01 ☐ K. DAMAGE TO FAUNA
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (include name(s) of species)

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: _____)

☐ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

01 ☐ L. CONTAMINATION OF FOOD CHAIN
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: _____)

☐ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

01 ☒ M. UNSTABLE CONTAINMENT OF WASTES
(Spills/runoff/standing liquids/leaking drums)

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: _____)

☒ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: _____ 04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Flue dust casually hauled around with excessive loss by spill or by wind.

01 ☐ N. DAMAGE TO OFFSITE PROPERTY
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: _____)

☐ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

01 ☐ O. CONTAMINATION OF SEWERS, STORM DRAINS, WWTPs
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: _____)

☐ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

01 ☐ P. ILLEGAL/UNAUTHORIZED DUMPING
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: _____)

☐ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

05 DESCRIPTION OF ANY OTHER KNOWN, POTENTIAL, OR ALLEGED HAZARDS

III. TOTAL POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: _____

IV. COMMENTS

One of the more hazardous aspects of the site is the lead-flue dust, which appeared to have been casually hauled around in a front end loader, for example, with excessive loss by spill or by wind. Lead, arsenic, flouride may be moving into Grand Calumet River.

V. SOURCES OF INFORMATION (Cite specific references, e. g., state files, sample analysis, reports)

AIT files, sample analysis
Ecology & Environment-Chicago, IL