



USS Lead Superfund Site and the Former DuPont East Chicago Facility



**2018
COMMUNITY
INVOLVEMENT
PLAN**



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Introduction

1

Describes the purpose of this Revised Multi-Site CIP, presents EPA's community outreach objectives and provides a brief history about the sites

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency prepared this Revised Multi-Site **Community Involvement Plan** to inform, engage and support the **Environmental Justice** community affected by the U.S. Smelter and Lead Refinery, Inc. site and the Former DuPont East Chicago Facility in East Chicago, Indiana. Our **community involvement** effort is committed to promoting effective and meaningful communication between the **public** and the Agency. We want to make sure that (1) members of the affected **community** know and understand when and how they can participate in decision making during the **cleanup** activities at these sites and (2) the community's concerns and information needs are considered

and addressed as activities at each site progress.

The initial **CIP** was published in April 2011 with interviews conducted in June 2010. This revised CIP was prepared to include both the USS Lead site and the DuPont Facility because both sites affect the same community. The USS Lead site is being addressed under the **Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation & Liability Act**, also called **Superfund**, while the DuPont Facility is being addressed under the **Resource Conservation and Recovery Act**, or **RCRA** program. EPA encourages close coordination among these two cleanup programs to eliminate duplication of effort and streamline cleanup processes. Appendix F

The CIP is a working document that will evolve as the investigation and cleanup process continues and input is received from the community. It is intended to be flexible, adaptable and used as a guideline for our communication with the community.



If you are interested in submitting comments or have questions or suggestions concerning this CIP, please contact:

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Information from questions and concerns voiced to EPA through the hotline established for the USS Lead site gave additional insight to the community's concerns and questions.

Visit EPA's web sites to stay informed:

USS Lead Superfund: www.epa.gov/uss-lead-superfund-site

DuPont Facility: www.epa.gov/in/hazardous-waste-cleanup-dupont-facility-east-chicago-indiana

– Comparing RCRA and **CERCLA** – provides more information about these programs.

EPA used several information sources to update this plan, including:

- Information from the previous CIP.
- Information from a site assessment prepared in May 2017.
- Research about the community and the sites.
- Discussions with community members at meetings, information sessions and community interviews.

EPA representatives conducted interviews in June 2018 with 24 community members including local residents, a local official, clergy, members of local community groups, and other parties interested in activities at the sites in East Chicago. EPA mailed out two postcards inviting community

members to participate in the interviews, prepared a fact sheet (see *Appendix I*) explaining the community interview process and delivered packets of information including the Community Interview Fact Sheet and past informational fact sheets to local churches and the president of the East Chicago Calumet Coalition (ECCC) for distribution to community members. (Words in **bold** are defined in *Appendix A*.)

This revised CIP describes EPA's plan for addressing concerns heard from the community and various ways to keep residents informed and involved in investigation and cleanup activities at the sites. We will use this document as a guide to involve and communicate with residents, businesses and the local governments in East Chicago.

EPA's community outreach objectives:

- Assist the public in understanding the decision-making process during the investigation and cleanup and the community's role in that process.
- Give the public accessible, accurate, timely and understandable information about the project as it moves forward.
- Ensure adequate time and opportunity for the public to give informed and meaningful input and for that input to be considered.
- Reflect community concerns, questions and information needs.
- Respect and fully consider public input throughout the entire process.



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Letter to the Community:

We appreciate the time that many community members and other stakeholders have taken to meet with EPA and to share their thoughts and concerns regarding the cleanup of the USS Lead and DuPont sites. Those thoughts and concerns have been incorporated into this updated Community Involvement Plan. EPA recognizes the value that an engaged public brings to this project, and it is only through the input of community members and stakeholders that community involvement is truly accomplished.

EPA is committed to carrying out the USS Lead/DuPont cleanups in a safe and protective manner. We are equally committed to public participation at every phase through an open process that encourages affected communities and interested organizations to provide input on the critical issues related to the cleanup. In keeping with that commitment, we have developed a CIP that encourages real dialogue. It was built on the input provided by the community during interviews, meetings, workshops and dialogue with EPA staff.

We have heard your views on how to move forward in an inclusive way. You have reaffirmed the need for accurate, timely and understandable information about the issues that concern you, and you appreciate the opportunity to provide input on them. It is clear that we all share a common goal, a healthy and beneficial community, and that you want to be involved in the project in a constructive way.

Through the many resources described in this updated CIP, EPA will help to enhance your understanding of the project. Just as important, we will ensure that there is adequate time and opportunity for you to provide meaningful input and for us to consider that input.

Again, we thank everyone who has contributed to the updating of this Plan through interviews, meetings, workshops and information sessions, and in many other ways. We hope you will continue to be involved.

Janet L. Pope

Charles Rodriguez

Rafael Gonzalez



Visit EPA's web sites to stay informed:

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DuPont Facility: www.epa.gov/in/hazardous-waste-cleanup-dupont-facility-east-chicago-indiana

Brief Site Background

See Section 5 for a more complete background of each of the sites.

USS Lead Superfund Site

The USS Lead Superfund Site is located in the city of East Chicago, Ind. The site has been divided into two cleanup areas that EPA refers to as **operable units**, or **OUs**. OU1 is a 322-acre residential area bounded by East Chicago Avenue on the north, East 151st Street on the south, the Indiana Harbor Canal on the west and Parrish Avenue on the east. OU1 has been further subdivided in Zones 1, 2 and 3 (see *Figure 1 on Page 5*). OU2 includes the 79-acre former USS Lead facility on 151st Street, as well as groundwater beneath the entire site. **Contamination** in OU1 is largely derived from historic operations at three nearby facilities: (1) the USS Lead facility; (2) a facility formerly located in Zone 1 and owned and operated by subsidiaries of the Anaconda Copper and Mining Co.; and (3) the E.I. Du Pont de Nemours facility located just southeast of OU1.

Former DuPont East Chicago Facility

The Former DuPont East Chicago Facility is located at 5215 Kennedy Ave. in East Chicago and is approximately 440 acres (see *Figure 1 on Page 5*). The property is bounded to the south by the East Branch of the Grand Calumet River, to the east and north by residential and commercial areas and to the west by an industrial area. Though property ownership was transferred to The Chemours Company, a wholly-owned subsidiary of DuPont, in February 2015, it is still referred to and known as the DuPont Facility within the community.

Effective June 29, 2018, Chemours conveyed title to the Former DuPont East Chicago Facility to East Chicago Gateway Partners, LLC. All parties are involved in the cleanup of the site with EPA oversight.

Because of the size of the site, EPA has divided the site into five areas:

- **Natural Area/Eastern Area:** This undeveloped area occupies approximately 172 acres and contains original plains/dunes **geomorphology** and associated plant communities.
- **Buffer Zone Area:** This area occupies approximately 20 acres and is located directly east of the Open and Redevelopment Areas and separates these areas from the adjacent Natural Area.
- **Redevelopment Area:** This area occupies approximately 155 acres and encompasses the former manufacturing area located in the central and west portions of the property.
- **Open Area:** This area occupies approximately 50 acres and includes an approximately 30-acre former solid waste landfill.
- **Leased Area:** DuPont leased this 30-acre active manufacturing area to W.R. Grace & Co. and Grace Division in early 2000; Chemours maintains ownership of this area.

Contaminants of concern

At the USS Lead site, **lead** and **arsenic** are the main **contaminants** of concern. Results from several investigations at the DuPont Facility



Figure 1 shows the boundaries of OU1, OU2 and the DuPont Facility.

indicate arsenic, lead, **zinc** and **cadmium** are the primary pollutants in the soil from about 0 to 10 feet below ground. Arsenic is the primary contaminant in the groundwater because of how it is distributed and its high concentrations.

EPA continues to provide fact sheets and other informational documents to help the community understand

the concerns about lead and how they can reduce exposure to lead in their community (see *Appendix H* for more information).

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Community Engagement is Essential to the Success of Superfund and RCRA Cleanups

Ongoing input and involvement by the community is essential to our efforts to provide effective **community engagement**. We have learned that its decision-making ability is enhanced by actively seeking input and information from the community. Community members need to be involved in all phases of the investigation and cleanup so that the contamination is addressed in a way that protects people and the environment now and in the future.

Residents, business owners and local government officials may be able to provide valuable information about a hazardous site that can help us

determine the best way to clean it up. Information can help determine the location of contamination, how people may be exposed to the contamination and perhaps sources of the contamination.

Local residents, clergy and city officials educated EPA about their community and told EPA about their concerns, which are presented in the Section 2 - Community Concerns, beginning on the next page.



Community Concerns

2

Summarizes what community members are concerned about, the questions they asked and what they told EPA

What We Heard

We learned about concerns, questions and informational needs related to the USS Lead Superfund site and DuPont Facility by speaking with and/or conducting interviews with residents and other interested community members.

During June 2010, EPA conducted in-person interviews with 25 East Chicago residents and other interested parties to identify their questions, concerns and information needs regarding the USS Lead site. A Spanish translator participated in the interviews for those residents who were more comfortable speaking Spanish.

In March 2017, EPA asked their support contractor to conduct

a situation assessment to better understand factors impacting community engagement efforts for the USS Lead Superfund site and explore ways to strengthen and enhance those efforts. In March and April 2017, the contractor interviewed 15 people from all three Zones by telephone. One of the results of this assessment was EPA scheduling regular meetings at the former Carrie Gosch Elementary School. Prior to the meetings, conference calls with community leaders were held to find out what information the residents wanted to hear at the meetings and to make sure EPA invited the right people to answer the questions at the meeting.

Note to readers: *This section is intended to faithfully record and reflect the issues and concerns expressed to EPA by residents and others interviewed during the community interviews. By necessity, this is a collection and summary of thoughts and observations and, in some cases, opinions. Please be cautioned that the statements contained in this section may or may not be factual and that the opinions and concerns expressed may or may not be valid.*

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CIC Charles Rodriguez talks with local resident about the sites.

On June 11-15, 2018, EPA conducted 22 in-person and two telephone interviews with people who have an interest in the USS Lead Superfund site and DuPont Facility site, including residents, city officials, church leaders and neighborhood association representatives. Again, a Spanish translator was available for residents who were more comfortable talking in Spanish. EPA also received a letter from a daughter of residents that were interviewed voicing a list of concerns and questions.

The table below shows the representation from each Zone at the interviews.

Zone	2010	2018
2	8	12
3	15	11
Outside of Site Area	2	1

We mailed two postcards – one in May 2018 and a second one in June

2018 – to residents informing them of the community interviews and asked them to schedule an interview with the Agency. In addition to the mailings, EPA hand-delivered information about the interviews to several of the local city churches and to a member of the ECCC and asked them to distribute the information to their parishioners and members.

The interviews were conducted in a discussion format and each interviewee was asked questions from a list and follow-up questions were suggested by the discussions. *(Note: The total number of responses does not always add up to the number of interviewees, because based on the discussions, not all questions were asked of everyone, or at times, interviewees preferred not to answer a specific question.)* The site **Remedial Project Managers, On-Scene Coordinators** and **Community Involvement Coordinators** participated in the interviews. EPA's contractor provided notetaking support during the interviews.

Some concerns expressed in 2010 were carried over in 2018, but there were also several differences in the concerns voiced. The table below summarizes the topics that were discussed during both interview sessions. Following the table is a summary of the additional questions and concerns expressed that were different from the 2010 interviews. The reason there are differences in the questions is that through the years, EPA has learned more about what is important to community members and has included those topics in current interviews. More importantly, the community has become more knowledgeable



and involved in site activities. Interviews during both sessions were conducted in a discussion format and in 2010, each interviewee was

asked approximately 16 questions (See Appendix J) and in 2018 there were 29 questions (questions and

USS Lead Superfund Site

COMPARISON OF CONCERNS FROM 2010 CIP AND 2018 CIP

June 2010 Concerns	June 2018 Concerns
KNOWLEDGE OF SITE	
<p>Overall, there did not seem to be a high level of concern from the community about the USS Lead site though many of the residents interviewed expressed concerns about other issues in their area such as drugs and gang problems.</p> <p>Most people said that they knew little or nothing about the site though some said that they heard there could be lead contamination from the site and a few people either had samples taken at their property or knew of someone who had samples taken.</p> <p>Some residents said their concern was not with USS Lead, but with DuPont, which they believe had caused flooding problems in the area and wondered if the lead could leach into the standing water.</p> <p>A few residents commented that there was a lot of garbage and waste around the public housing area and people attributed the problems to prior industrial activity in the area.</p>	<p>Everyone interviewed knew about the USS Lead Superfund site and expressed concern about the contamination, including health effects and property values.</p>

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DuPont Facility: www.epa.gov/in/hazardous-waste-cleanup-dupont-facility-east-chicago-indiana

June 2010 Concerns	June 2018 Concerns
HEALTH EFFECTS	
<p>Some people did not have any health concerns about the site and said that having the industry nearby was "just a fact of living in the area and no one really paid attention."</p> <p>Other residents did express concerns about children in the area being exposed to lead and some asked if exposure to the lead could have caused cancer or birth defects in some of the children.</p> <p>Residents were also concerned about gardens, and they wondered if the vegetables would be contaminated with lead.</p>	<p>Everyone interviewed expressed concerns about the health effects from lead exposure, especially the effects on children.</p> <p>Some interviewees asked if the lead contamination could cause cancer, one resident said her husband had lung issues and others said they knew of several people with cancer and other health issues.</p>
PROPERTY VALUES	
No one interviewed expressed any concern about property values because of site contamination.	Several people interviewed expressed concern over low property values because of site contamination and being in a Superfund site.
COMMUNICATION WITH LOCAL RESIDENTS AND OFFICIALS	
<p>Overall, people were satisfied with the information received from EPA and said they believe they were kept adequately informed. However, many negative comments were received about past communications. Those interviewed said that the information looked like "junk mail" and they threw it out. People did remember the yellow postcard announcing the interviews because it stood out.</p> <p>During the interviews it was noted several times that people would not know to look for information about the site under the name USS Lead. It was suggested that the site name reference East Chicago, as it would be more recognizable to area residents.</p>	<p>Most people said they have been kept adequately informed about site activities and progress, and the information received from EPA is clear and easy to understand. Some people commented that the communications look like "junk mail" and they throw it out. People said larger font should be used and more graphics/visuals are needed.</p>
Below are the specific questions EPA asked and a summary of the answers that were provided during the community interviews in June 2018.	



1. Do you live or work on or near the site? If no, are you affiliated with any organization that has an interest in the site? [What organization?]

Almost everyone interviewed lives near the site, and two people work at local churches. Nine people interviewed said they are members of the ECCC, a local community group; three are members of Calumet Lives Matter and four people are also part of the Community Strategy Group. The two pastors interviewed are part of the Twin City Minister Alliance of East Chicago. (See Page 36 for more information on these stakeholder groups).

2. How long have you been a resident in the area?

Most residents interviewed have lived in the area their entire lives and others have lived in the area for less than 2 years.

3. Have you had any sampling conducted at your property? If so, was the sampling done in your yard or indoors? Did you understand the results? Are there any comments on understanding the results?

Of the people interviewed, 20 people had sampling done in their yard and several had indoor sampling conducted. Of those yards that were sampled, 14 properties had contaminants above the **removal action levels**, or **RAL**. One person said she had private sampling done because of lack of trust with the government. She also suggested that there should be one-on-one meetings to explain results.

4. How do you want to be informed about site activities?

The table below shows how the interviewees want to be kept informed about site activities.

Mail	Email	Phone	Newspaper	Radio	TV	Social Media	Door Hangar	Church
20	5	7	2	0	0	2	8	2

5. What newspapers do you read?

The newspapers most read by the interviewees are the *Northwest Indiana Times* and the *Gary Post Tribune*.

6. Have you seen previously published ads regarding the site?

Some of the interviewees said they had seen the ads and two people thought ads are a good way to announce meetings. A few people thought the ads were too small and that people did not or would not see them in the paper. There was discussion with one person that said putting ads in the legal section of the newspaper is a waste of money because people don't read those. (EPA does not put ads in the legal section of the newspaper so EPA was unsure of what ads the resident was referring to.)



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**7. Where do you currently get your information from about the sites?
From whom? In what form?**

The table below presents how many interviewees said where they get information about the sites from.

Source of Information	Number of Responses
EPA mailings	14
ECCC	6
EPA meetings	6
EPA website	4
Word of mouth (neighbors)	4
Local news	2
Email	2
Own research	2
Church meetings	2
Calumet Lives Matter meetings	1

8. Have you been interviewed before about the sites? Was everyone respectful during your encounter with EPA, contractors, others?

One person said she talked with an EPA contractor, at an EPA open house about the site. (Note: all the people interviewed for this CIP were different than those that participated in interviews in 2010. At one of the open houses, several people talked with the EPA contractor, and even though he talked with several people, only one of those residents participated in the June 2018 interviews.)

9. Who have you talked to (any local, state or federal government agencies) about the site?

Some interviewees said they have talked with community groups that have met with federal and state officials, senators and the Mayor. One person said she talked with the county assessor and he was great.

10. Who would you contact about the site?

The list below indicates who people would contact for questions about the site.

- Janet Pope/Charles Rodriguez – 5
- EPA/Hotline – 5
- City (for lead testing) – 1
- Website – 1



11. Are you on the EPA mailing list for the site?

Everyone interviewed said they were on the mailing list for the USS Lead site, and about half the interviewees thought they were on the list for the DuPont facility, though many of those were not sure what they would have received. Everyone interviewed wants to be sure to be on both mailing lists.

12. Is the information you have received from EPA clear and easy to understand?

Most people responded that the information received from EPA was clear and easy to understand, though a couple of people said they don't always understand the wording. One person said, "the documents are not too technical, and they are easy to read and understand." Two people said, "if you take the time to read it, it would be clear." One family said they understand the Spanish documents except for "a word or two that is too technical." On the other hand, three people said the information was not easy to understand and is "too technical." One person said that the look of print was intimidating and the use of more graphics and less words would help. Another person said bigger print and visuals should be used on documents so seniors can see better.

13. Do you feel you have been kept adequately informed about either site progress?

Sixteen interviewees said they have been kept informed about the site progress, one person did not want to answer and four people don't think they have been kept informed. A city official said she believes that EPA has done a good job of keeping people informed but thinks that some constituents think EPA should do more. She said, "You can put the information out there, but they have to read it." A resident said that "EPA is doing good." Two people said they get more information from the ECCC or Calumet Lives Matter than from EPA. One person said EPA should be more proactive on updates for individual properties and that perhaps a timeline would be helpful. Another interviewee suggested that EPA should attend the ECCC and other community group meetings to stop miscommunication.

14. Have you participated in any public meetings and /or community group meetings for each of the sites? Why or why not?

Seventeen people said they have attended meetings for the USS Lead site and of the three people who said they had not, it was because they are new to the area and one person said the meetings are "redundant/nonsense." Eight people have attended meetings regarding the DuPont site, while 13 people said they have not attended meetings either because they were not aware of the meetings, their schedule didn't line up or they are new to the area.

Visit EPA's web sites to stay informed:*USS Lead Superfund: www.epa.gov/uss-lead-superfund-site**DuPont Facility: www.epa.gov/in/hazardous-waste-cleanup-dupont-facility-east-chicago-indiana***Will you attend meetings in the future? If not, what prevents you from attending?**

USS Lead site: Seventeen people said they would attend meetings, three people said they will not attend and two people said they might attend.

DuPont site: Ten people said they would attend, four people said they would not attend and nine people said they might attend.

The reasons given for not or maybe attending were "not worth the time," or their schedule did not allow attendance.

15. What days, times, and locations would be best for public meetings?

Several different times, dates and locations were offered. The majority said that Saturdays were good days to have meetings during the day and some people said evenings during the week were also a good option (but not Friday). Several interviewees said the times and locations should be varied so different people could attend.

The former Carrie Gosch Elementary School was identified by most interviewees as a good place for meetings, followed by local churches (First Baptist and Friendship Church were named). The Martin Luther King Center and the library were also identified, and one person said that Riley Park was a good location, while one person did not have a preference.

16. What type of format do you prefer? Public meeting, open house/information session?

Seven people said the type of meeting would depend on the information that was being given but combining a **public meeting** with an open house is usually a good way. A few interviewees said that some people don't like to ask questions in a big public forum but would ask one-on-one. Other people said they like the public meeting format because then everyone hears the same answers to questions. Three people did not have a preference.

17. Are you aware of EPA's web pages for each site? Have you been on it? Is it easy to navigate?

USS Lead: Fourteen people said they were aware of the USS Lead website and one person was not. Of those aware of the site, 11 people have been on the site and 3 have not.

DuPont: Ten people said they were aware of the DuPont website and four people were not. Nine people have visited the DuPont website.

Both web pages: Four people said they were easy to navigate and two people found them difficult to navigate. One person





said he wasn't always sure where to find a document and it seemed like you have to "bounce around" a lot to find things.

18. Do you understand EPA's Superfund program / RCRA program?

Four people said they understand the Superfund program and 12 people said they did not understand the RCRA program. Two people said they understood a little about Superfund and one person stated they were not interested in either program. (To help attendees understand the two programs, they were provided the Comparing RCRA and CERCLA fact sheet [see Appendix F] during the interviews.)

19. Information repositories for both sites are located at the East Chicago Public Library and the Robert A. Pastrick Library Branch – have you ever looked at the information there? If so, did you find the information you needed?

USS Lead: Eleven people have never looked at the repository while three people said they have and two of those people said they did not get what they were looking for because the information was redacted. One resident said that files that were originally in the repository have now been redacted. She also said that a lot of files are out of order and "can't find stuff."

DuPont: Ten people have not looked at the repository for information, but three people have; one person did not find the information they wanted.

20. Are you aware of any community groups supporting the USS Lead site?

Fourteen people said they have heard of the ECCC and four people said they have not. Two people said they have not received any information from the ECCC. One person said they believe that the ECCC focuses on Zone 3 and not the other neighborhoods.

21. Do you know what a Technical Assistance Grant, or TAG is? Do you know that ECCC applied for a TAG?

Six interviewees said they knew what a **Technical Assistance Grant, or TAG** is, and are aware that the ECCC applied for a TAG. Eight people replied they did not know what a TAG is, and four people said they were not aware that ECCC applied for a TAG. One person said they don't care because they are not part of that group.



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OTHER CONCERNS EXPRESSED

(March 2017 Assessment and June 2018 Interviews)

Communication

One interviewee said, "There should have been better communication. EPA should have done a better job explaining the process and identifying priorities." One resident suggested that a flow chart showing what agency is responsible for what would be helpful. Another interviewee suggested that more information be given, specifically define EPA's role with East Chicago and provide more information on what EPA is doing. Other interviewees said they don't have concerns because they believe EPA is taking care of things and is doing a good job in keeping people informed and cleaning up the properties. One interviewee appreciated the opportunity to have the interview. Many people interviewed said that door-to-door canvassing is the best way to get information out to the community. One interviewee said that EPA should engage with community members while working – "talk with the residents." A couple of people interviewed said it would be a good idea to get the pastors of the local churches involved to hand out information at church services, or perhaps include information in the Sunday bulletins.

Contamination and cleanup

Interviewees expressed concern and lack of understanding as to why connecting yards are not contaminated or why their front yard may be contaminated, but not their back yard. One resident said they still don't understand the "checkerboard"

results – "how can contamination skip properties?" One homeowner said they were hoping that EPA would change their mind about cleaning their property if sampling results were below the management levels, but after talking with EPA, they now understand why they can't.

Concern was also expressed that the properties are not being cleaned up to the proper standards and that the **potentially responsible parties** are allowed to do what they want, and what they want is not what is best for the community. A few residents said they don't like the **PRP** making decisions. One resident said they are concerned that the sampling did not get the right spots, so there could still be contamination. One person asked if EPA was going to clean abandoned buildings and vacant areas and another asked if all the contamination would be gone from Zone 1. Another interviewee asked, "What is going to happen in Zone 2? Am I dealing with gentrification? Are they going to tear down houses?" A resident from Zone 3 does not believe that Zone 3 is a priority for EPA.

One resident asked when basements would be tested and another asked if there are air quality issues in the area.

One resident commended the EPA team because of the cleanup and said they are making a difference in the community. Another interviewee said that EPA has gone beyond expectations in the cleanup and is very pleased.

"It was hurtful to have to move out of Zone 1 – left a lot of memories behind and children were separated from friends."

Former Resident

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An interviewee said that if Carrie Gosch is not fit to be a school, why is the facility being used now? They said that most people think that the school closed because of the lead contamination.

Divided communities

Some interviewees said they believe that when EPA allowed the PRPs to divide the community into Zones 1, 2 and 3, it caused conflict among the neighborhoods. However, many other interviewees said that the labeling of the zones did not cause a divide between the communities and that the nature of the types of neighborhoods was why there is a division. They said the public housing, African-American neighborhood and the Hispanic/Latino neighborhood naturally cause a division. One interviewee said that EPA should help support efforts to ease tensions between Zones, "which is due to the PRPs."

Another resident said that there is a divide between the Calumet and Harbor neighborhoods and that the Mayor does things for the Harbor neighborhoods but not Calumet. One other resident said that "It's like living in the 1970s here – there is a division in a lot of things, especially with the Blacks and Latinos."

DuPont Facility

Some of the people interviewed expressed concerns about the DuPont property. One interviewee said there used to be animal wildlife on the DuPont property, but a few weeks ago he saw four dead deer on the property and he wondered if the dead deer were related to the contamination. Another interviewee said they believe that the DuPont

property causes different dangers to the residents. During the interviews, a resident asked if the DuPont property is affecting the water or air quality in Zone 3 and asked if anyone was monitoring the water or air. Another interviewee wanted more clarification of what is happening at the DuPont property, including:

- Did the fence get repaired? Was signage put up? Thinks there should be other signs – "high toxic" or "poison" – so people know what they are living next to.



Photo shows property after cleanup and restoration was completed.

- Thinks cameras should be put in area to monitor trespassing or activity on at the DuPont site.
- Are there piles of chemicals onsite at DuPont?

Another resident stated they did not have any issues with EPA, however they do not trust DuPont at all.

One interviewee said he was disturbed that DuPont is not part of the Superfund site, and because

An interviewee said that seeing the property restoration has given hope to this community. They are proud to turn on their street and see the newly-restored properties – it makes the community look much better.

Visit EPA's web sites to stay informed:*USS Lead Superfund: www.epa.gov/uss-lead-superfund-site**DuPont Facility: www.epa.gov/in/hazardous-waste-cleanup-dupont-facility-east-chicago-indiana*

of that, there seems to be a delay in getting it cleaned up. He also stated that not a lot of information comes to the community regarding the DuPont Facility.

Health

During the 2017 assessment and 2018 interviews, most interviewees

talked about long-term health concerns and health-related effects of lead contamination at the site. People were especially concerned about the effects of lead on the development of children. Many people also asked if the lead contamination was related to the many incidents of cancer in the area. One interviewee said her husband had lung cancer. Another resident said, "Finish the cleanup, so that I feel safe and healthy again."

One resident said that she lives next to the Marathon gas pipeline and wanted to know if there are issues that she should know about because she doesn't want her son's health to get worse.

Lack of trust

Interviewees discussed how local politics impact community engagement efforts at the site. Many people in the community have expressed a distrust of local politics, EPA and other neighborhood groups within the community. Residents talked about their concerns that the city of East Chicago possibly knew that there was contamination in the soil at the housing complex (Zone 1) and they built it anyway, endangering the health of residents, especially children. There is also mistrust about the public health efforts at the site. One interviewee said, "EPA knew about the contamination for years" and others questioned why it has taken so long to have anything done about the contamination. One resident asked, "Why after all this time [in the last 4 to 5 years] is something being done now? Where were you before?" Another person stated that trust is lacking because



During demolition crews sprayed water to help keep down the dust.



Demolition of Zone 1 nears completion.

Visit EPA's web sites to stay informed:

USS Lead Superfund: www.epa.gov/uss-lead-superfund-site

DuPont Facility: www.epa.gov/in/hazardous-waste-cleanup-dupont-facility-east-chicago-indiana



actions should have been started long before they did – for both sites. One person interviewed said that things are getting better – problems cropped up because of past mayors. One interviewee said that EPA is getting blamed for what the City is responsible for and it seems like there are contradictions between EPA and the City. A resident said that what happened, it's no one's fault – “just need to fix what can be fixed and move on.” An interviewee also expressed that black/brown communities get overlooked.

Regulations

An interviewee stated that he thought the policies in addressing Superfund are outdated and believes polluters should pay 100% of the costs to clean up sites. Another interviewee asked if regulations will be enforced after the cleanup is completed.

Reuse/redevelopment

There was a lot of discussion about the redevelopment and reuse of the properties within the sites. Many want to see the land (DuPont property and the public housing zone) reused. An interviewee said there should be a strategic redevelopment plan put in place. One person said it would be good to have businesses come back to the neighborhood. Others said there should be housing put back where the public housing was demolished, while another said that it would be “ridiculous” to rebuild in Zone 1.

Water concerns

Several people interviewed expressed concerns about the water – a few people buy drinking water because their water comes

out cloudy or they just don't trust drinking the water. One resident said they brush their teeth with bottled water, and that is “completely unacceptable.” Questions were also asked about how the filters work and if they still needed filters after their water lines were changed. One resident said the water cartridge is causing low pressure and it clogs up and has to be taken off to wash dishes. Another resident said that water comes up in their basement and it doesn't seem like that is being addressed. Some residents asked what the process was for the water lines [lead service line replacement program].



Aerial view taken after the Zone I buildings were gone.

Community Involvement Goals and Activities

3

Highlights EPA's goals, activities and timeline to keep residents and local officials informed and involved

When establishing the objectives for a site-specific community involvement program, we consider several factors, including federal requirements and EPA policy that assess the nature and extent of known or perceived site contaminants and known community concerns and requests.

To be effective, our community involvement program is designed to meet the community's need to know, give information in a timely manner and accommodate the community's interests and its willingness to participate in decision-making processes. We must also share information in language the public can understand.

To meet the needs of the community and to respond to information

obtained during meetings, discussions and community interviews conducted with residents and other community members in June 2018, and to meet federal requirements, we have established the following objectives for our community involvement efforts:

- Enlist the support, coordination and involvement of officials from the city of East Chicago, East Chicago Housing Authority, Department of Housing and Urban Development and community leaders.
- Enlist the support, coordination and involvement of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM).
- Enlist the support, coordination and involvement of the Agency

Community involvement is the process of engaging in dialogue and collaborating with community members. The goal of community involvement is to advocate and strengthen early and meaningful community participation during cleanups.



EPA CICs meet with local news media to give an update about site activities.



for Toxic Substances & Disease Registry (ATSDR).

- Monitor community interest in the site and respond accordingly.
- Keep the community well informed of ongoing and planned site activities.
- Explain technical site activities and findings in an understandable format for residents.
- Obtain public input on key decisions.
- Change planned activities, where warranted, based on community input.
- Update EPA's websites regularly and provide useful information on it for the community.
- Update the city of East Chicago officials on a periodic basis, even if no activities are occurring at the site.
- Hold public meetings, within the community to give all residents an opportunity to attend.
- Continue to request property owner satisfaction scores on the cleanup of properties.

EPA has or will put in place the activities described on the following pages to meaningfully and actively engage the community in decisions regarding the investigation and cleanup of the USS Lead Superfund site and the DuPont Facility. The following plan is intended as opportunities for communication between the community and EPA and is a response to key concerns and questions raised during the discussions and community interviews conducted in June 2018.



Specific Community Involvement Activities

To meet federal requirements and to address community concerns and questions described in the Community Concerns section, EPA has conducted (or will conduct) the activities described below. Through these activities, it is our goal to inform, involve and engage the community during site cleanup decisions and efforts. As the needs of the community change, we will modify the community involvement strategies to address them.

- **Maintain point of contact.** The EPA **CIC** is the primary liaison between EPA and the community.

The CIC fields general questions about the site. For technical site issues, the CIC coordinates with EPA's remedial project managers, or **RPMs**, or on-scene coordinators, also referred to as **OSCs**. We will include current contact information for the project staff on all written and electronic information and will notify the community of any contact information changes.

EPA has designated the following people as primary site contacts for local residents:

USS Lead Superfund Site

Janet Pope Community Involvement Coordinator 312-353-0628, Ext. 30628 pope.janet@epa.gov	Charles Rodriguez Community Involvement Coordinator 312-886-7472, Ext. 67472 rodriguez.charles@epa.gov
Tom Alcamo Remedial Project Manager 312-886-7278, Ext. 67278 alcamo.thomas@epa.gov	Dan Haag On-Scene Coordinator 312-886-6906, Ext. 66906 haag.daniel@epa.gov
Jacob Hassan On-Scene Coordinator 312-886-6864, Ext. 66864 hassan.jacob@epa.gov	Sarah Rolfes Remedial Project Manager 312-886-6551, Ext. 66551 rolfes.sarah@epa.gov

Katherine Thomas
Remedial Project Manager
312-353-5878, Ext. 35878
thomas.katherine@epa.gov

DuPont Facility

Rafael Gonzalez Community Involvement Coordinator 312-886-0269, Ext. 60269 gonzalez.rafaelp@epa.gov	Jennifer Dodds Remedial Project Manager 312-886-1484, Ext. 61484 dodds.jennifer@epa.gov
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They can also be reached weekdays toll-free at

800-621-8431 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. using the extensions listed next to their phone number.



Visit EPA's web sites to stay informed:

USS Lead Superfund: www.epa.gov/uss-lead-superfund-site

DuPont Facility: www.epa.gov/in/hazardous-waste-cleanup-dupont-facility-east-chicago-indiana

- **Establish a toll-free number for residents to ask questions and receive information.** EPA staff listed above are located in the Chicago office and can be reached using the toll-free number listed in on the previous page. Ask for them by name or use the telephone extensions. Residents can call as questions or concerns arise instead of waiting for a public meeting or to receive written information. We will provide the toll-free number periodically in local newspaper advertisements and include the toll-free number in all fact sheets and all other communications with the public.
- **Establish a hotline number for residents to ask questions and receive information.** EPA has established a hotline specifically for the USS Lead site. The number is 219-801-2199. EPA also encourages residents to text EPA staff at this hotline number with questions and concerns. We also offered texting as a way for residents to let us know if they were interested in having their property sampled during the 2018 construction season.
- **Establish a local office.** EPA has established a community information office at the former Carrie Gosch Elementary School at 455 E. 148th St. Agency staff are there Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Residents and community members are welcome to stop by during these hours to talk with EPA.
- **Maintain communication with local officials, agencies and community residents.** We will maintain communication with the local officials throughout the investigation and cleanup process. We also interviewed community residents and will continue to update residents on the progress at the site. Beginning in June 2017, EPA has held regular calls with community leaders to discuss and plan agenda topics for monthly Saturday meetings. EPA has also sponsored several tours in Zone 1 for residents affected by the cleanup.
 - » In March 2017, EPA asked their support contractor to conduct a situation assessment to better understand the factors impacting the community engagement efforts at the USS Lead Superfund site and to explore ways to strengthen and enhance those efforts. Fifteen people interviewed included residents from Zones 1, 2 and 3, other community leaders and individuals involved with site activities.
 - » In April 2017, EPA prepared the East Chicago Enhanced Communications Plan (on the next page), which outlines steps taken to improve communication and enhance service to residents.
- **Share site information on the Internet.** We will provide information on activities and past communications on the websites for USS Lead and the DuPont Facility. The websites will be updated as events occur.





East Chicago Enhanced Communications Plan

Following U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt's visit to the USS Lead Superfund site in East Chicago last month, EPA has taken several steps to improve communication and enhance service to residents.

To achieve that goal:

- EPA has appointed a dedicated, experienced community involvement coordinator who is well known and trusted by East Chicago residents as the full time point of contact for questions and concerns from residents. She will provide a "one stop shop" for customer service.
- EPA has established an East Chicago hotline number (219-801-2199.) The East Chicago hotline number is included in all outreach materials to residents and will be publicized in a news release and on EPA social media accounts.
- EPA will track all public inquiries and requests in a database to ensure that they are answered in a timely way.
- EPA has established a community information office at the former Carrie Gosch Elementary School where residents can easily stop in to speak to EPA employees.
- In coordination with the lead community involvement coordinator for the site, community involvement coordinators will accompany EPA project managers and cleanup contractors on pre-excavation and sampling meetings with residents to explain the process, answer questions, take note of issues and translate into Spanish where necessary. They will share residents' concerns and requests with the lead community involvement coordinator to make sure they are addressed.
- EPA will hold monthly community meetings to provide updates and answer questions from residents. EPA will invite other local, state and federal agencies to participate.
- EPA will write and distribute FAQs and post them on the USS Lead web page <https://www.epa.gov/uss-lead-superfund-site>.
- EPA will conduct the following meetings with other agencies:
 - weekly meeting with the City of East Chicago utilities director to coordinate activities;
 - a biweekly multiagency team meeting with local, state and federal agencies and health experts. Participants are EPA, Indiana State Dept. of Health, Indiana Dept. of Environmental Management, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development, City of East Chicago, East Chicago Housing Authority, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service, and the University of Illinois Chicago Great Lakes Center for Pediatric Environmental Health;
 - a biweekly call between EPA's Office of Regional Counsel and City of East Chicago attorneys.
 - biweekly call with congressional staff.
- EPA has posted an interactive map of residential soil and dust sampling data that is available on the USS Lead web page.
<https://epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=d45c8610b7364b8f931fdbb748d607c1>

Visit EPA's web sites to stay informed:*USS Lead Superfund: www.epa.gov/uss-lead-superfund-site**DuPont Facility: www.epa.gov/in/hazardous-waste-cleanup-dupont-facility-east-chicago-indiana*

Site-Specific Information Repositories



East Chicago Public Library
2401 E. Columbus Dr., East Chicago



**East Chicago Public Library
Robert A. Pastrick Branch**
1008 W. Chicago Ave., East Chicago

- **Update and maintain the site mailing list.** We have established a mailing list of local residents, organizations, businesses and officials for the site. This list will be used for mailing fact sheets, site updates, invitations to public meetings and events and other site-related information mailed to the community. We will update the list regularly to reflect address changes and changes in elected officials and to add new people interested in site activities.
 - » We use the site mailing list to distribute written information such as fact sheets and meeting notifications. This is a way to ensure that those that do not have access to the Internet or other information sources still have a way to receive information directly about the site and are notified about important meetings. The mailing list is for EPA use only and is not shared with outside entities. If a community member is interested in being placed on the mailing list, they can contact Janet Pope, Charles Rodriguez, or Rafael Gonzalez (CICs, for the sites.)

- **Prepare and distribute fact sheets and site updates.** We will prepare and distribute fact sheets, letters and site updates to those on the site mailing and e-mail lists summarizing current information about the site and describing upcoming activities. These documents are written in non-technical language and typically done to coincide with important site activities. Based on the needs of the community, all documents will be translated into Spanish and

made available to the community in both English and Spanish.

- » We use these types of documents to give the community detailed information in a relatively quick, simple and easy-to-understand manner. In addition to being shared with individuals on the site mailing list, we also place the fact sheets and site updates in the **information repository** and post them on EPA's websites.
 - » Community members interviewed suggested that distributing information door-to-door is an effective way to get the information out to the community. As appropriate, EPA may conduct door-to-door efforts. Community members also suggested giving information to the churches to distribute, and as appropriate, EPA will work with church leaders to distribute information.
- **Establish and maintain a site-specific information repository.** We have set up local information repositories for the site at the following locations listed left:
 - » The repository is a collection of site information available to the public for reading and photocopying. Documents include fact sheets, technical reports, the CIP, general Superfund information, RCRA information and other documents. EPA adds new documents about the site as the documents become available. Information repositories give residents local access to site information in forms that can be



easily read and photocopied for future use. An online information repository is also available on the USS Lead site's web page at www.epa.gov/superfund/uss-lead-site and on the DuPont facility site's web page at www.epa.gov/in/hazardous-waste-cleanup-dupont-facility-east-chicago-indiana, to access information electronically. Documents should not be taken from the binders or folders at the repositories. If copies of the information are needed, one of the CICs should be contacted for assistance.

- **Establish and maintain the administrative record.** A copy of the **administrative records** for the USS Lead site and DuPont Facility can be found at the libraries listed on Page 26 and at the EPA Region 5 Records Center in Chicago (see *Appendix C*). We will update the administrative record(s) as necessary. The administrative record gives residents a paper trail of all documents EPA relied on, or considered, to reach decisions about the site cleanup.
- **Conduct public meetings, hearings and information sessions.** Based on community interest and request, EPA has held regular meetings at the former Carrie Gosch Elementary School on Saturday mornings. Different topics, based on community input and questions, are highlighted each month. (See *Appendix G - USS Lead Timeline of Community Involvement Activities*). There were a few exceptions to the schedule based on information that needed to be shared with the community.

EPA has also held meetings and workshops at the library.

- » A public meeting is an opportunity for EPA to present specific information and a proposed course of action. EPA staff is available to share information and answer questions. A public meeting



Residents had the opportunity to talk one-on-one with different agencies at the Multi-Agency Open House.



First regular meeting at the former Carrie Gosch Elementary School provided an update on site activities and future plans.



EPA held a public meeting to discuss the Explanation of Significant Differences for the USS Lead Superfund site.

is not a formal public hearing where testimony is received. Instead, it might be a meeting to exchange information or comments. In addition, we may hold an informal open-house style meeting, called an availability session, where residents can meet EPA experts one-on-one to discuss the activities at the site. Either type of meeting allows community members an opportunity to express their concerns and ask questions of the Agency, state or local government officials. Public meetings or availability sessions can be held at various times throughout the investigation and cleanup process. We typically

schedule a meeting when there are technical milestones or the community has expressed an interest in having a meeting.

A public hearing is a formal meeting where we hear the public's views and concerns about an EPA action or proposal. There are specific regulations about when the Agency is required to consider such comments when evaluating its actions. Public hearings are recorded by a professional transcriber and become part of the administrative record. The comments are also posted on the Web.

- » The RCRA program held two public hearings in January and March 2018 to give community members the opportunity to provide public comments and express any concerns about its proposed cleanup plan for the DuPont Facility.

EPA will consider conducting additional meetings at different times and different locations throughout the community to give all residents an opportunity to attend as needed.

- **Continue to work with the residents and community groups.** EPA will continue to work with several stakeholder groups that have been identified (See Section 4 - The Community for a listing of the stakeholder groups.) and will continue to be available to residents at the community office in East Chicago. Members of these groups include local leaders, residents of Zones 2 and 3 and other people interested in site activities.



EPA attends CAG meeting to give updates and answer questions on site activities.

- **Provide training and additional tools for community as needed.**

EPA has held workshops for community members to help them understand different programs and processes. EPA will continue to hold these types of workshops and provide other programs as needed tools to help the community understand different programs that will assist the community. Some of the Superfund workshops held included:

- » A Community Resources program in October 2016 which provided attendees information on the **Technical Assistance Services** for Communities, or **TASC**, and the TAG programs (See *Appendix K for more information on these programs*).
- » A "Superfund for Communities" workshop in February 2017 to help community members understand the Superfund process and how they can participate in the cleanup process.
- » A Superfund Jobs Training Initiative program in April 2017 where 15 residents of East Chicago completed the program. Graduation was held for the participants and was attended by EPA officials and local clergy.

- **Write and distribute news releases and public notices.**

We will prepare and release announcements to the local newspaper such as the *Northwest Indiana Times*, and the *Gary Post Tribune*, to share information about events such as significant site investigation findings, **public comment periods**, public



EPA attends CAG meeting to give updates and answer questions on site activities.



Fifteen residents of East Chicago completed the SuperJTI program. Ten graduates were hired as workers on the USS Lead site (6 hires in Zone 2 and 4 hires in Zone 3).

meetings and completion of major milestones such as the proposal of a cleanup plan. We will also provide this information to the city of East Chicago officials for posting on their respective websites as well as publishing in any community newsletters. Community members interviewed also suggested hanging flyers announcing meetings or significant findings at churches in the neighborhood. As appropriate, EPA may hang flyers at the locations recommended and any other locations identified.

- » News releases allow us to reach large audiences quickly. We will also post the news releases



Super JTI graduate with CICs Rodriguez and Pope on the job.



Visit EPA's web sites to stay informed:

USS Lead Superfund: www.epa.gov/uss-lead-superfund-site

DuPont Facility: www.epa.gov/in/hazardous-waste-cleanup-dupont-facility-east-chicago-indiana

EPA awards Technical Assistance Grant to community group

On September 25, 2018, EPA awarded a \$50,000 Technical Assistance Grant, or TAG, to the East Chicago Calumet Coalition **Community Advisory Group** Inc. to provide technical assistance at the USS Lead Superfund site in East Chicago, Ind.

"EPA is committed to keeping the East Chicago community informed and involved in the cleanup process at the USS Lead site," said Regional Administrator Cathy Stepp. "By providing funding to hire a technical advisor, this grant will help the community participate in Superfund cleanup decision-making."

TAGs are available to non-profit community groups near **National Priorities List** sites where Superfund cleanup work is underway. These grants provide funding for groups to hire their own qualified technical advisor to interpret and explain technical documents so community members can participate in Superfund decision-making processes and share information. TAG recipients must provide a 20 percent match in funds or in-kind contributions. EPA reimburses TAG recipients for eligible costs.

For more information about TAGs: <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/technical-assistance-grant-tag-program>.

For more information about the USS Lead Superfund site: <https://www.epa.gov/uss-lead-superfund-site>.

on the website, www.epa.gov/superfund/uss-lead-site and www.epa.gov/in/hazardous-waste-cleanup-dupont-facility-east-chicago-indiana.

» EPA will issue news releases and public notices as site activities progress. We will also put copies of the news releases and public notices in the site information repositories.

- **Evaluate community involvement and outreach efforts and make adjustments as warranted.** The original CIP prepared in 2011 was designed to consider site- and community-specific factors as well as to comply with federal requirements. EPA updated the CIP based on interviews with residents and information received from meetings and discussions with community members. Within the CIP, community concerns, the objectives of the community involvement program for the site and the specific activities to address these concerns are

based on information obtained during discussions and interviews with local residents and other community members. We recognize that changes in areas such as community perceptions, information needs and population demographics can occur over time and that such changes may necessitate a revised approach to conducting community involvement activities. For this reason, as well as to determine whether the activities in this revised plan are achieving their intended objectives, we will conduct periodic reviews to determine whether additional activities are warranted or whether changes to current methods of starting up the activities outlined in this revised plan are necessary. As the needs of the community change, we will modify the community involvement strategies to address them in a CIP revision.



Another way that EPA ensures that residents are happy with the remediation is by asking the property owner to complete a post-construction questionnaire and owner satisfaction survey. The post-construction questionnaire confirms that the property has been restored and that all work has been completed according to the **remedial design**. The owner satisfaction survey rates EPA and our contractors on the entire remediation process, including the resident's interactions with crew members and the final restoration. For the 2018 construction season, Zone 2's owner satisfaction survey is 9.9 out of 10 and Zone 3's owner satisfaction survey is 9.85 out of 10. Property owners have indicated on their surveys that the on-site workers have been respectful, kept the yards clean by spraying and sweeping, and that residents are happy with the restoration of their property. They also voiced appreciation of EPA's responsiveness to their concerns regarding restoration issues.

Health Event



EPA, working with partners, ATSDR, Indiana State Department of Health and the East Chicago Health Department sponsored "Help Your Super Hero Kids Stay Healthy" on October 11, 2018. An onsite HealthLinc Mobile Unit was there to do blood lead-level testing on children from the neighborhoods. Over 40 children under the age of 7 had their blood tested.



Mark Johnson, ATSDR, talks with the news media about the importance of the children getting blood lead tested.



CICs talk with resident about the blood testing.



Parents take their children inside the mobile unit to have their blood tested for lead.



Resident registers for testing.



Visit EPA's web sites to stay informed:

USS Lead Superfund: www.epa.gov/uss-lead-superfund-site

DuPont Facility: www.epa.gov/in/hazardous-waste-cleanup-dupont-facility-east-chicago-indiana

Community Involvement Activities

Maintain point of contact	COMPLETED
Establish a toll-free number	COMPLETED <i>Publish on written materials and EPA website</i>
Establish site hotline	COMPLETED
Establish a local community information office	COMPLETED
Maintain communication with local officials, agencies and community residents	ONGOING <i>Regular calls with community leaders</i>
Share site information on the Internet	COMPLETED <i>Update as needed</i>
Update and maintain the site mailing list	ONGOING <i>Update as needed</i>
Prepare and distribute fact sheets and site updates	PREPARE AS NEEDED
Establish and maintain a site-specific information repository	COMPLETED <i>Update as needed</i>
Establish and maintain the administrative record	COMPLETED <i>Update as needed (same locations as information repositories)</i>
Conduct public meetings, hearings and information sessions	CONDUCT AS NEEDED
Continue to work with residents and community groups	ONGOING
Provide training and additional tools for community as needed	ONGOING
Write and distribute news releases and public notices	PREPARE AS NEEDED
Evaluate community involvement and outreach efforts and make adjustments as warranted	Periodically throughout the cleanup process and update as needed

Points of Contact

Janet Pope

312-353-0628

pope.janet@epa.gov

Charles Rodriguez

312-886-7472

rodriguez.charles@epa.gov

Rafael Gonzalez

312-886-0269

gonzalez.rafaelp@epa.gov

Toll Free Number

800-621-8431

Site Hotline

219-801-2199

Local Community Office



Former Carrie Gosch Elementary School

455 E. 148th St, East Chicago

Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Websites

www.epa.gov/uss-lead-superfund-site

www.epa.gov/in/hazardous-waste-cleanup-dupont-facility-east-chicago-indiana

Information Repository



East Chicago Public Library

2401 E. Columbus Dr., East Chicago



Robert A. Pastrick Branch Library

1008 W. Chicago Ave., East Chicago

The Community

4

Describes the composition and history of the city of East Chicago and the neighborhoods of the USS Lead Superfund site and DuPont Facility

The community surrounding the USS Lead Superfund site and Former DuPont Facility is a proud and very diverse community located in the city of East Chicago, Ind. (see *Figure 2, right*). This community is faced with environmental challenges that raise environmental justice concerns (see *Appendix D for more information on environmental justice*).

The neighborhood is referred to as the Calumet neighborhood and is bisected by the Indiana Harbor Belt Railroad. The area west of the tracks is referred to as Calumet proper or as “West Calumet,” and included the public housing complex, which has since been torn down. The area east of the tracks is known as “East Calumet.” The residential area of Calumet is surrounded entirely

by industrial land, including the Indiana Harbor and Ship Canal to the west, the Chicago Avenue industrial corridor to the north, a Citgo tank farm to the east and the DuPont Facility and USS Lead site to the south (see *Figure 3, the next page*).

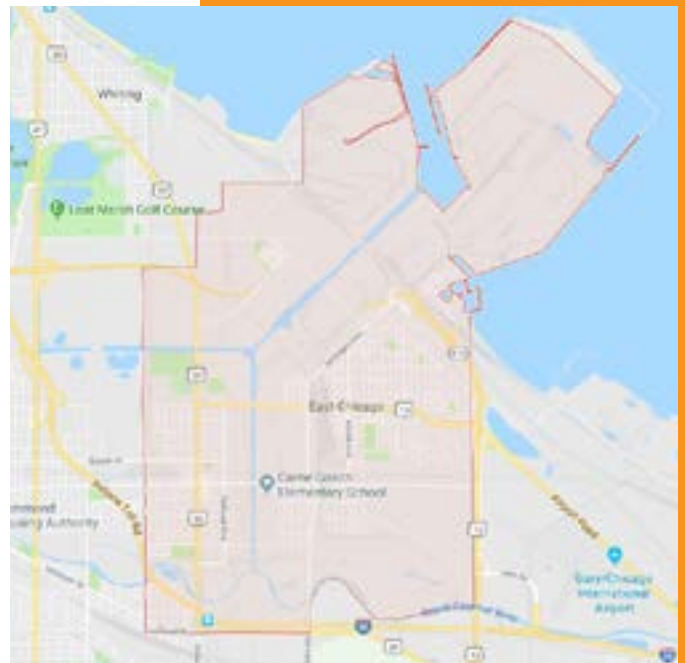


Figure 2 shows the location of the USS Lead Superfund site within the city of East Chicago.



Figure 3 indicates the industrial areas surrounding the USS Lead Superfund site.

The USS Lead Superfund site is a very high-profile site and continues to have a lot of media coverage. Federal and state officials have visited the site. On February 9, 2017, Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb issued an Executive Order for Declaration of Disaster Emergency in East Chicago and renewed the order for an additional 30 days on March 2017. As part of the Executive Order, the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority was ordered to develop a web page (<https://www.in.gov/myihcda/eastchicago.htm>) to provide status updates, progress reports and other information from state, federal and local partners.

In a Region 5 news release in December 2017, EPA announced that the site was being put on a “list of sites targeted for immediate, intense attention.” On January 17, 2018, EPA issued another news release stating that the USS Lead site (Zone 1) is on the Region 5 Superfund Redevelopment List.

The Northwest Indiana Times covers site activities on a continual basis. One article included a timeline of the history of the USS Lead Superfund site in East Chicago (https://www.nwitimes.com/timeline-history-of-the-uss-lead-superfund-site-in-e/article_eb369585-9e14-5a88-98c0-74c0fbaba5ea.html), plus many other articles. *The Gary-Post Tribune* also covers the site (<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/ct-ptb-east-chicago-lead-meeting-st-0925-20160924-story.html>) with articles about EPA meetings held updating the community on site activities.



HISTORY

East Chicago, nicknamed the Twin City, was incorporated in 1893 as a steel and railroad town and was one of Northwest Indiana's first industrial cities. The city was originally known as the Twin City because of the rail yards that divided the area into two halves. Inland Steel dominated the city's economy from 1903 through the 1990s. A rivalry developed between Indiana Harbor, the "East Side," home of Inland Steel and most working-class families, and East Chicago's "West Side," the residential area of the native-born business community. Locals talked about how the residential and class divisions are at the heart of the town's identity as the "Twin City." According to Wikipedia.org, the name remains to this day. According to the city of East Chicago's website, the construction of an overpass on Columbus Drive in the 1930's brought all of East Chicago together. (Source: <http://www.eastchicago.com/page80/page101/index.html>)

During the Industrial Revolution, the city was known as the most industrialized municipality in the country because of its many factories. During World War I, East Chicago was known as the "Arsenal of America." (Source: <http://www.eastchicago.com/page80/page101/index.html>). East Chicago was America's ultimate melting pot where four out of five citizens were foreign-born.

After World War I broke out in 1914, there was a labor shortage in East Chicago. Several thousand Mexicans immigrated to East Chicago in the 1910s to work in the mills. Most of



these immigrants were single men who had planned on returning to Mexico, but many stayed in East Chicago and were eventually joined by their families. However, during the 1930s and 1950s, this community was targeted for voluntary deportation and 1,800 people were deported in 1932. Those who remained paved the way for Latino immigration after 1965.



A local resident provided this picture of homes in Calumet in 1937.

The industries that dominated East Chicago, Indiana for most of the 20th century left a legacy of toxic pollution in neighborhoods across the city. In 2009, an area including the West Calumet, Calumet, and East Calumet neighborhoods was declared an EPA Superfund Site.
(Courtesy East Chicago Library)

Historical population		
Census	Pop.	%±
1890	1,255	—
1900	3,411	171.8%
1910	19,098	459.9%
1920	35,967	88.3%
1930	54,784	52.3%
1940	54,637	-0.3%
1950	54,263	-0.7%
1960	57,669	6.3%
1970	46,982	-18.5%
1980	39,706	-15.3%
1990	33,892	-14.8%
2000	32,414	-4.4%
2010	29,698	-8.4%
Est. 2016	28,418 ⁽¹⁾	-4.3%

Source: US Census Bureau



Each community has its own personality and characteristics that make it unique. When we asked interviewees, "What is special or important to you about your community," We overwhelmingly heard "It's family." Other responses included, "it's a great working-class community – the melting pot of Northwest Indiana." "People – good, good people." "People look out for each other here." "We have enormous talent in the area – there are a lot of amazing people." "Love that it is a mixed community of all ages – that is such value!"

Many people said, "this is home – have never lived anywhere else. It is where I raised my children." "There is a community feel here." "It's hometown." "There is a lot of community pride." "It's a very old neighborhood." "It's a Black historic community."

"Even when people leave and comeback – it's like coming home – you know you will get love - it's really unexplainable."

Visit EPA's web sites to stay informed:

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DuPont Facility: www.epa.gov/in/hazardous-waste-cleanup-dupont-facility-east-chicago-indiana

In the 1910s and 1920s, Black Americans began to arrive as part of the "Great Migration,"¹ and this continued from the 1940s to 1960s. A demographic survey in 1959 showed there were 1,000 Mexican families, 10,000 African American families and 3,000 Polish families. Many of the families identified as Puerto Rican, Romanian, Serbian, Italian, Lithuanian and Croatian. During this time, more than 70 nationalities lived in East Chicago, each with their own ethnic-based church, neighborhoods and stores.

Population in East Chicago peaked in 1960 at 57,669, however, by 1970, the population had decreased to 47,000; 34,000 in 1990, and 29,000 by 2010. The decrease in population is attributed to the steel crisis in the country from 1974 to 1986. In 1969, Inland Steel employed 25,000

people and by 1998, only 9,000 were employed.

Northwest Indiana is home to the nation's largest steel mill, U.S. Steel's Gary Works and East Chicago Tin, a steel finishing facility in North America's largest integrated steelmaking complex, the Indiana Harbor and Ship Canal complex; ArcelorMittal Indiana Harbor in East Chicago and the newest integrated steel mill in the country, ArcelorMittal Burns Harbor (https://www.nwitimes.com/business/steel/indiana-leads-nation-in-steel-production/article_def40810-528e-5a98-acc2-ebab79de08a2.html). East Chicago is also home to ArcelorMittal's Global Research & Development Center, which employs top scientists from around the world. The Global R&D Center just celebrated its 50th year (<https://usa.arcelormittal.com/what-w-do/research-and-development>).

Stakeholder groups

During the March 2017 assessment and June 2018 interviews, several community stakeholder groups were identified by interviewees. They described conflict between some of the stakeholder groups as a competition for resources and the spotlight. Another source of conflict described the different priorities across each of the zones and within the zones represented by the groups. One interviewee noted

that in one zone, "it is the property owners versus the renters." Another interviewee described each group as having its own agenda. During the 2018 interviews, some of the same concerns were expressed about the groups. Only three of the following stakeholder groups were discussed in the 2018 interviews (ECCC, Calumet Lives Matter and the Community Strategy Group).

¹ The Great Migration was the movement of 6 million African-Americans out of the rural Southern United States to the urban Northeast, Midwest, and West that occurred between 1916 and 1970. Until 1910, more than 90 percent of the African-American population lived in the American South. In 1900, only one-fifth of African-Americans living in the South were living in urban areas. By the end of the Great Migration, 53 percent of the African-American population remained in the South, while 40 percent lived in the North, and 7 percent in the West, and the African-American population had become highly urbanized. By 1960, of those African-Americans still living in the South, half now lived in urban areas, and by 1970, more than 80 percent of African-Americans nationwide lived in cities. Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Migration_\(African_American\)#cite_note-1](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Migration_(African_American)#cite_note-1).



East Chicago Calumet Coalition (ECCC)

ECCC identifies itself as the community advisory group of the USS Lead site. Led by Maritza Lopez, the group is composed of a mixture of current Zones 2 and 3 residents and former Zone 1 residents. Interviewees also described the ECCC as the “most active” group. Many people described Maritza Lopez as very knowledgeable about site activities and community engagement. ECCC has several subcommittees, which are led by residents from each of the zones. Many interviewees said ECCC primarily focuses on homeowner issues and may not take renter-related issues sufficiently into account. One interviewee also suggested that the group may be perceived as too closely aligned with EPA. During the 2018 interviews, several people said they had not received information from the ECCC and a couple people did not know it existed. Others reported that they get all their information and updates from the ECCC and attend the ECCC meetings.

Community Strategy Group (CSG)

CSG is led by Reverend Cheryl Rivera and Thomas Frank. Interviewees described CSG as very active and “anti-establishment.” Some interviewees noted that many CSG members do not live in the zones but are actively involved with residential



issues on site. One interviewee described CSG as primarily focused on the West Calumet Housing Complex. Two interviewees described CSG meetings as having a set agenda. One interviewee said that, at one meeting, members were asked to read scripts to describe residents’ issues and experiences.

Calumet Lives Matter (CLM)

CLM was described as a “private group” with participation by invitation only. Interviewees described CLM as primarily concerned with issues pertaining to the West Calumet Housing Complex. One interviewee described CLM as “militant” and suggested the

EPA participated in the 2018 Calumet Days celebration. It was an opportunity to talk with residents about site activities and answer questions.

What is special or important about my community?

“Calumet Days! It pulls people from all over the country to come to the celebration.”

-2018 Interviewee/Resident



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DuPont Facility: www.epa.gov/in/hazardous-waste-cleanup-dupont-facility-east-chicago-indiana

group does not want other groups to receive resources. Interviewees mentioned several CLM leaders, including Sherry Hunter, Senator Lonnie Randolph and Byron Florence. CLM appears to have been the first community group developed because of community demand for more information about the lead contamination. CLM has designated co-chairs who lead various committees within CLM including: housing, health, research, action and legal. Interviewees described a positive working relationship between CLM and CSG, however one interviewee said that “residents are not making decisions in those groups.”

We the People for East Chicago

Interviewees mentioned We the People for East Chicago several times. However, people did not share many specifics regarding its activities. One interviewee mentioned that

the group is working with CLM. The group is led by Carlyle Edwards.

National Nurses United (NNU)

Interviewees described NNU as “organizers” and “independent.” One interviewee described NNU as similar to ECCC in terms of its structure and focus. The interviewees did not discuss NNU in depth, but talked about the group as being involved in community education efforts. The group is led by Sheilah Garland.

The Twin City Minister Alliance of East Chicago

The Twin City Minister Alliance of East Chicago is a group of ministers that cross denominational, gender and cultural lines to do kingdom work and to enhance the life for people in the community.

Also special to this neighborhood is “Calumet Days,” which has been held in Riley Park (one of the largest parks in East Chicago) since 1994.

Demographics

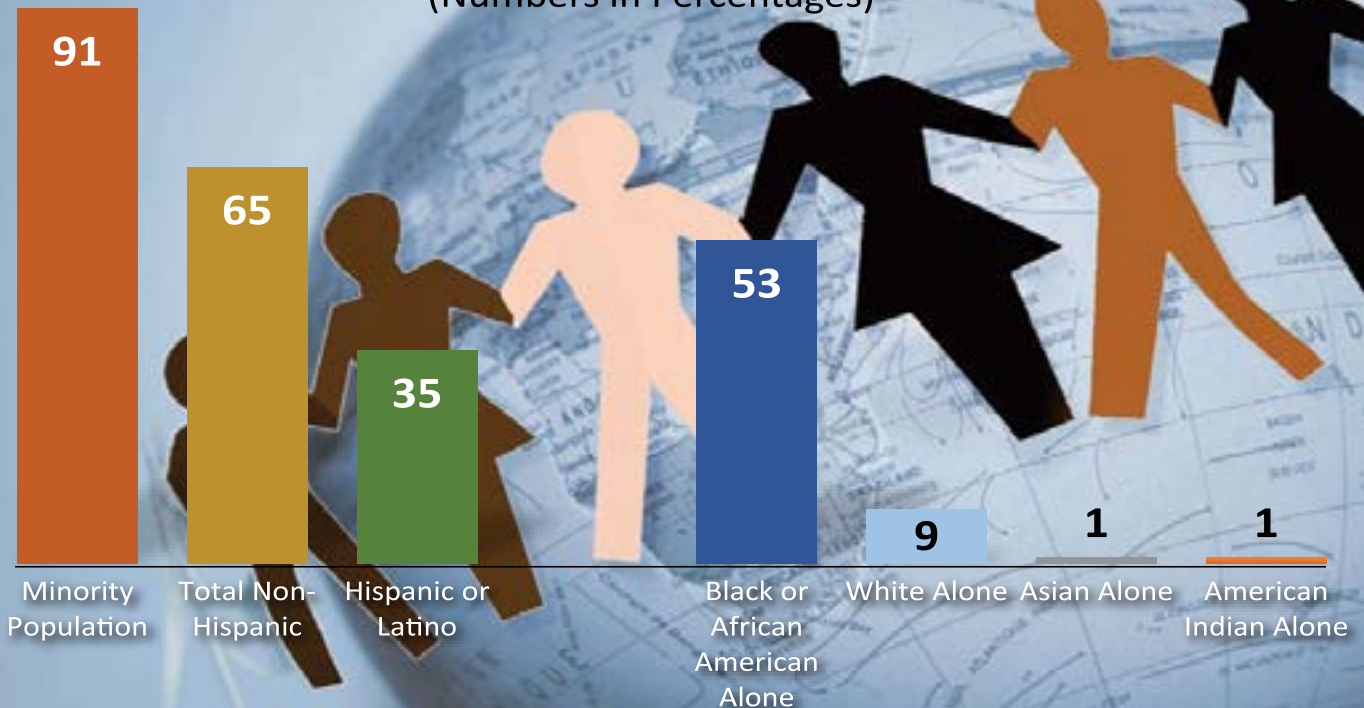
Population, age distribution, economic status, cultural heritage and language are key factors to consider when developing and implementing programs that serve the local community. These factors are discussed in this section.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau², the population of the Site Area (Zones 2 and 3) is 2,495. The graphics on the following pages show the racial makeup and population for

the Site Area. As there is a large Hispanic population, Spanish translation services for meetings and documents are provided to support transparent communication with this community. Figure 4 on Page 41 provides a comparison of the Site Area’s demographics to the city of East Chicago.

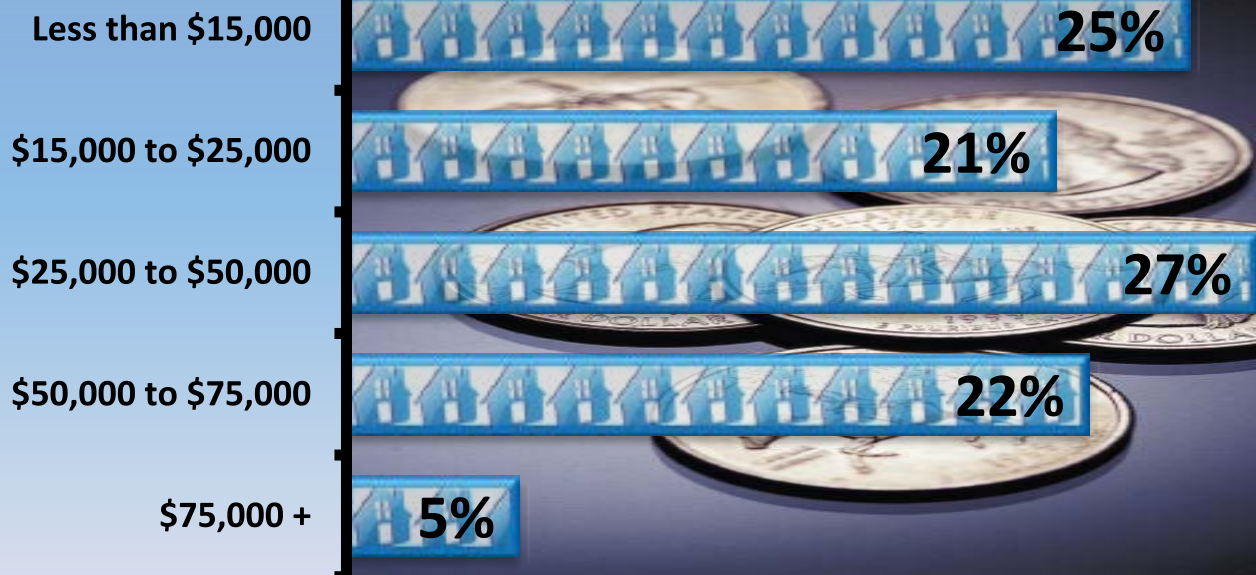
² Information was generated from EPA’s EJSCREEN, which gets demographic information from American Community Survey (ACS) statistics. These statistics came from the 2011-2015 ACS. The ACS is conducted by the U. S. Census Bureau.

Population and Races* in Zones 2 and 3 (Numbers in Percentages)



The U.S. Census Bureau considers the Hispanic/Latino designation an ethnicity and not a race. The population self-identified as Hispanic/Latino is also represented within the "Race" demographic.

Household Income Level in Zones 2 and 3



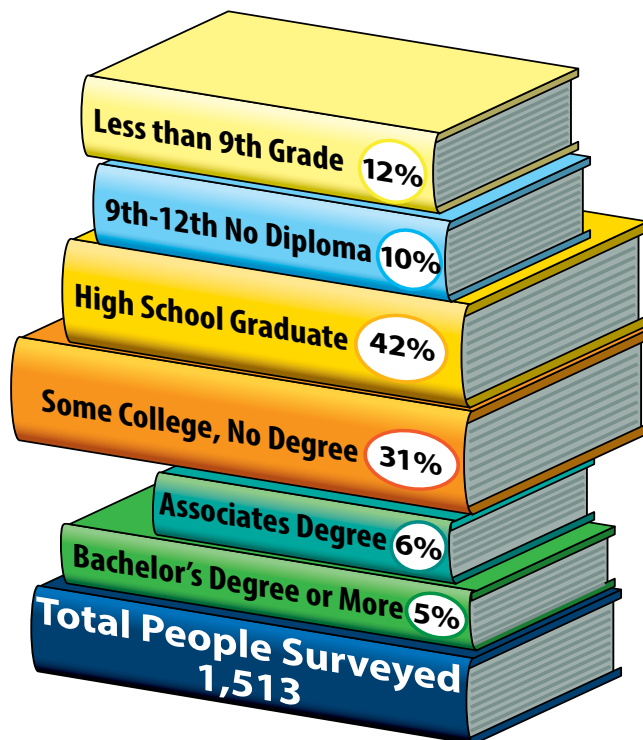


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DuPont Facility: www.epa.gov/in/hazardous-waste-cleanup-dupont-facility-east-chicago-indiana

Education Levels for People Aged 25+ Zones 2 and 3



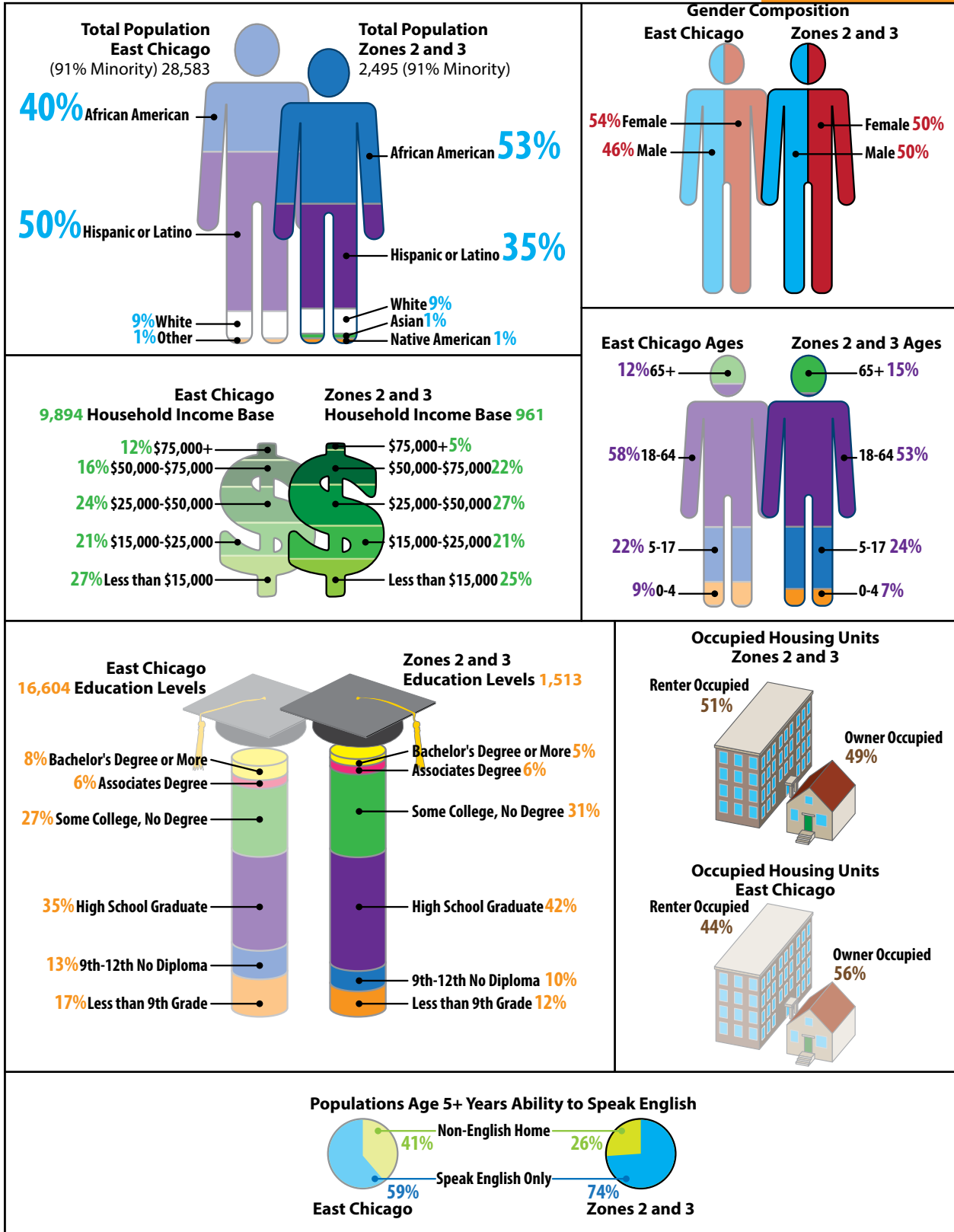


Figure 4 shows demographic comparisons between the Zones 2 and 3 and the city of East Chicago.

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DuPont Facility: www.epa.gov/in/hazardous-waste-cleanup-dupont-facility-east-chicago-indiana

Government structure

The city of East Chicago, located in Lake County of northwest Indiana, is approximately 20 miles southeast of Chicago, Ill. It encompasses an area of 12 square miles.

East Chicago is governed by a mayor, who is elected every four years, and a city council, whose members are elected every two years. Six district council members and three at-large council members make up the Common Council who meet every second and fourth Monday of the month. The USS Lead Superfund site and DuPont Facility site are represented by two districts – District 3 (Councilmember Brenda Walker) and District 4 (Councilmember Christine Vasquez). The city is assisted by a city clerk, township assessor, and township trustee. East Chicago has a health department which has been kept informed of activities at the site. The East Chicago

Redevelopment Authority and the East Chicago Housing Authority are also active in the community. The East Chicago Housing Authority has played a key role in the site, especially with the relocation and demolition of the West Calumet Public Housing Complex (Zone 1). East Chicago is served by a full-time fire department and police department.

The main daily newspapers in the area are *The Northwest Indiana Times* (formerly *The Hammond Times*) and *The Gary Post Tribune*. The main television stations include WLS-TV, WMAQ-TV, WTTW, WFLD, WGN-TV, and WBBM-TV. The local cable channel, E.C. TV provides local coverage. Multiple AM and FM radio stations from the Chicagoland area service the East Chicago area. A list of local media sources can be found in Appendix B.



The Sites

5

USS Lead Superfund Site

The U.S. Smelter and Lead Refinery, Inc. Superfund Site is located in the city of East Chicago, Indiana. The site has been divided into two cleanup areas that EPA refers to as operable units, or OUs. OU1 is a 322-acre residential area bounded by East Chicago Avenue on the north, East 151st Street on the south, the Indiana Harbor Canal on the west and Parrish Avenue on the east. OU1 has been further subdivided in Zones 1, 2 and 3. OU2 includes the 79-acre former USS Lead facility, on 151st Street, as well as groundwater beneath the entire site. OU1 is divided into three zones (*see Figure 5 on page 44*).

Contamination in OU1 is largely derived from historic operations at three nearby facilities: (1) the USS Lead facility; (2) a facility formerly located in Zone 1 and owned and operated by subsidiaries of the

Anaconda Copper and Mining Co.; and (3) the E.I. Du Pont de Nemours facility located just southeast of OU1.

The USS Lead facility was constructed in 1906 and used an electrolytic process (the Betts process) to refine lead bullion. Because lead refining produces a number of byproducts, the USS Lead facility also included various secondary metal treatment operations, such as secondary lead smelting, and operated a weed killer (lead arsenate) plant. In addition, throughout its history, the USS Lead facility accepted scrap lead from a variety of sources for treatment in its secondary lead smelting operations involving a blast furnace. In 1972, the USS Lead facility stopped refining lead bullion and instead increased its blast furnace capacity to treat more scrap lead material. Operations at the USS Lead facility ceased in 1985.



Figure 5 shows the boundaries of OU1, OU2 and the DuPont Facility.

Among other sources of contamination from the USS Lead facility, **slag** from the blast furnace was routinely placed in piles on the ground and left exposed to elements. Lead and arsenic particulate was released into the environment as fumes from operations, as dust from the baghouses and as dust from lead waste piles (e.g., slag and baghouse dust) stored on the grounds.

The Anaconda facility operated three inter-related processes. In 1912, a lead refinery was built on the site and used a **pyrometallurgical process** to refine lead bullion. In 1919, a plant was constructed to produce white lead for use as an ingredient in lead

paint. Finally, in 1922, a zinc oxide plant was added to the facility.

As with the USS Lead facility, the Anaconda facility also operated numerous secondary metal treatment processes. Byproducts of the operations included slag, lead waste and arsenic. Among other sources of contamination, arsenic was burned off and was supposed to be recovered in flues and a baghouse. In addition, lead and arsenic particulate was released into the environment in the same manner as with the USS Lead facility. Operation of the white lead process generated additional releases.



Significant quantities of lead were refined from 1912 until 1946, when refining operations at the Anaconda facility ceased. However, secondary smelting and white lead production continued into the 1950s. The Anaconda facility was demolished over the course of the 1960s and early 1970s. In 1972, the West Calumet Housing Complex was constructed on the facility's footprint.

The DuPont Facility was constructed in 1892 to manufacture various organic and inorganic chemicals. Over the course of its operations, the DuPont facility produced over one hundred different chemicals, including lead and calcium arsenate (1910-1949) and zinc chloride (1900-1969). Among other sources of contamination, lead and arsenic particulate generated from these operations was released into the environment as stack emissions, precipitator dust and dust from exposed waste piles stored on the grounds of the site. General operations at the facility contracted significantly during the 1980s and 1990s. The DuPont facility is undergoing corrective action under federal RCRA authorities. See Page 49 for more details on the DuPont Facility.

The residential area north of the plant consists of approximately 1,100 properties, including homes, various commercial businesses, parks, schools and public buildings. The residential areas in Zones 1-3 have been sampled by different groups – EPA in 1985, Entact in 1999, EPA/IDEM in 2002, EPA in 2003, 2006 and 2009. In 2003, EPA sampled soil in the residential area north of USS Lead as part of a RCRA corrective

action investigation. Results from the testing showed high levels of lead contamination in some residential yards. In 2004, EPA's RCRA corrective action program referred USS Lead to the federal Superfund program for further investigation.

In April 2006, EPA's Superfund program collected additional data from certain residential properties sampled in 2003. EPA identified 15 properties that contained soil with lead concentrations exceeding the regulatory removal action level of 1,200 mg/kg in the top 6 inches of soil. In 2008, EPA's emergency response program cleaned up the soil at 13 of the 15 properties that granted EPA access to conduct the cleanup.

In June 2009, EPA began a **remedial investigation/feasibility study**, or **RI/FS**, study at the site. As part of the RI, EPA collected soil samples from 88 properties, including parks and schools, in an area between East Chicago Avenue and 151st Street, and between the Indiana Harbor Canal and Parrish Avenue. Sampling in the residential area was done on a widely-spaced sampling grid to determine the extent of lead-contaminated soil at residences, schools, parks, vacant lots and other areas where children may come into contact with contaminated soil. The samples were analyzed in the field with a field screening device that can detect metal concentration. Sampling results were sent to the homeowners.

As part of the investigation, additional sampling was conducted to further assess areas where sensitive populations may be exposed and to address spatial data

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gaps. Samples were collected from baseball diamonds, the walking path west of the now former Carrie Gosch Elementary School, Kennedy Gardens Park, the grounds of St. Joseph's Carmelite Home for Girls and several additional residences.

In 2011, EPA's emergency response program conducted a second cleanup action at 16 properties (two of which were identified during the 2008 action and not cleaned up due to access issues) with elevated lead in soil concentrations. The response action consisted of removing lead-contaminated soil from five East Chicago Public Housing addresses and 11 residential properties.



Contaminated soil is dug up and removed from yard.



Clean soil is placed after excavation.



New sod is placed to restore yard.

In 2012, the FS, which is a document that screens and evaluates cleanup alternatives, for Zones 1-3, was completed. In November 2012, EPA issued a **Record of Decision**, or cleanup plan, for OU1 Zones 1-3 of the site. The final cleanup plan consisted of removing contaminated soil up to 2 feet below ground from yards with lead levels exceeding 400 milligrams per kilogram and/or arsenic levels exceeding 26 mg/kg. The soil would be disposed of at an off-site facility and clean soil would be placed in the yards, along with 6 inches of topsoil and sod and/or other landscape features (such as plants removed during the cleanup).

In the summer of 2016, EPA conducted two **removal actions**³ in the West Calumet Housing Complex (Zone 1), one to cover bare soil spots with mulch to prevent direct contact with contamination, and the second to conduct the interior cleaning of dust from about 270 living units. Between August and November 2016, EPA conducted in-home deep cleaning of about 270 households in Zone 1. This process included cleaning floors and walls, all window covers, and steam cleaning

³Removal actions are immediate, short-term responses intended to protect people from immediate threats posed by hazardous waste. Remedial actions are long-term cleanups designed to prevent or minimize the release of hazardous substances to reduce the risk and danger to public health or the environment.



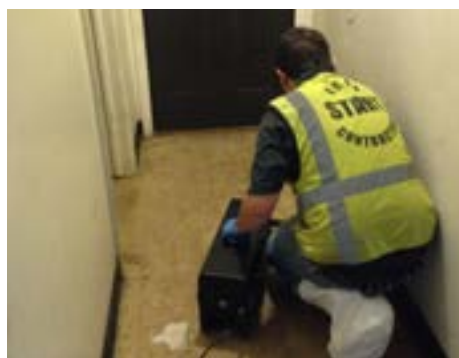
upholstery and carpeting. Vents and accessible portions of the ducts were also cleaned, and HVAC system filters were replaced. Residents were temporarily relocated to hotels while their homes were cleaned.

In mid-2016, EPA began sampling and cleaning properties in Zones 2 and 3. The sampling data collected was used to determine the extent of cleanup required for each property. EPA began the cleanups in mid-2016 at properties that had high levels of lead (1,200 ppm) and/or arsenic (68 ppm) in the top six inches of soil or had sensitive populations (pregnant women and/or children 6 years or younger staying at the residence) with lead and/or arsenic concentrations above action levels. EPA conducted a removal action in Zone 2 to address elevated concentrations of lead and/or arsenic in soil at 17 priority properties and began a remedial action in Zone 3 to address elevated lead and/or arsenic levels in soil at 38 priority properties including a city park. In conjunction with yard cleanup, EPA offered indoor dust sampling to residents as a part of the cleanup. Samples were collected and evaluated for lead and/or arsenic in the dust. Homes with sampling results above screening levels were scheduled for indoor cleaning.

EPA conducted continuous air sampling and air monitoring to ensure that workers and residents were not exposed to site contaminants during the sampling and cleaning of the properties. Air monitoring stations were set up at various locations in all three zones and throughout all phases of the site work. EPA also took drinking water

samples before, during and after excavation activities. In 2017, the city of East Chicago worked with IDEM to provide residents living in Zones 2 and 3 of the site with water filters for their kitchen faucets.

EPA prepared an Enhanced Communications Plan (*See Page 25*) in 2017 to revamp communication and enhance service to the residents of the site. Several improvements were made, including publishing a dedicated hotline number for the site, appointing a dedicated and experienced CIC as the full time point-of-contact for residents and establishing a community information office at the former Carrier Gosch Elementary School.



EPA contractors sampling indoors.



EPA contractors checking air sampling equipment.



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DuPont Facility: www.epa.gov/in/hazardous-waste-cleanup-dupont-facility-east-chicago-indiana

In October 2017, EPA began an RI in OU2 of the site. The RI in OU2 will focus on a sitewide groundwater study as well as an ecological assessment and additional sampling in the wetlands area of the former USS Lead facility. Field work is expected to begin in fall 2018.

The following is a status of the cleanup activities at the USS Lead Superfund site.

Zone 1

The Department of Housing and Urban Development and the East Chicago Housing Authority made the decision to demolish the former West Calumet Housing Complex, part of Zone 1 of the Superfund site. All residents have moved out. EPA worked closely with ECHA and HUD to ensure demolition of the complex did not pose environmental or health risks to the surrounding neighborhoods. ECHA and HUD agreed to safety measures including air-quality monitors, dust-control, truck-washing stations, storm water run-off control and street sweepers. EPA reviewed and commented on the demolition plan prior to the beginning of work. EPA monitored the demolition to ensure the safety and engineering measures were effective.

The cleanup plan selected in 2012 was to clean up the contaminated soil at the housing complex without displacing residents or tearing down any buildings. Because of the decision to demolish the complex, EPA revised the feasibility study to evaluate cleanup options based on the City of East Chicago's stated intention to zone this parcel of land for residential use.

On Nov. 12, 2018, EPA began a 60-day public comment period on a proposed cleanup plan for Zone 1. EPA's proposal to clean up the site to residential standards involves removing more than 160,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil and replacing it with clean soil and seed or sod. Soil below 2 feet would remain undisturbed and in place. EPA's preference is based on its determination that digging deeper is not meaningfully more protective of residential users and does not justify the additional cost. Excavated soil would be disposed at an approved off-site landfill.

Digging restrictions and other controls would be instituted to protect future site users from unacceptable risks related to exposure to remaining contaminated soil. Because some contaminated soil would be left in place, EPA would conduct five-year reviews of the cleanup as required by the Superfund law.

Zone 2

There are 596 properties in Zone 2 and cleanup activities resumed on, May 29, 2018. Contractors for the potentially responsible parties, or PRPs, are conducting the cleanup work under a legal agreement, called a **Unilateral Administrative Order**⁴. The contractors had an initial goal to excavate and restore 140 properties in 2018; the actual number of properties cleaned in the 2018 construction season was 178. EPA is onsite to monitor their work

⁴There are two legal agreements that the PRPs are working under – one is for the interior work for both Zones 1 and 2 and the other UAO is for the exterior cleanup work being done in Zone 2.



and answer any questions residents may have.



When EPA contractors found a ring in the bushes during cleanup, they gave it to the homeowner. She was overcome with joy! The ring belonged to her husband who had recently passed away. It was his Master's ring from the University of Chicago and had been missing for 10-15 years. She told EPA she was going to send it to her son.

Dust sampling activities resumed in Zone 2 in mid-June, after the cleanup and restoration activities scheduled for 2018 had been completed. Contractors for the PRPs will be conducting the interior sampling and cleanings under the **UAO** and will schedule the interior sampling with the residents.

Zone 3

There are 481 properties in Zone 3. On May 15, 2018, cleanup and restoration work began in Zone 3. EPA met its original goal of cleaning up 120 properties this year. EPA is currently pursuing access to properties where soil has not yet been sampled and plans to sample the soil at those properties in 2018 when access is received.

Dust sampling activities resumed in Zone 3 in mid-June after the cleanup and restoration activities scheduled for 2018 had been completed. Contractors for the PRPs are currently conducting the interior sampling and cleanings under a UAO. Interior sampling is scheduled once restoration work is under way. Interior sampling and cleaning activities will continue throughout the winter of 2018-2019.

DuPont Facility Site Background

Former DuPont East Chicago Facility

The Former DuPont East Chicago Facility is located at 5215 Kennedy Ave. in East Chicago and is approximately 440 acres (see Figure 6 on page 50). The property is bounded to the south by the East Branch of the Grand Calumet River, to the east and north by residential and commercial areas and to the west by an industrial area. Though property ownership was transferred to The Chemours Company, a wholly-owned subsidiary of DuPont, in February 2015, it is still referred to and known as the DuPont facility within the community. Effective June

29, 2018, Chemours conveyed title to the Former DuPont East Chicago Facility to East Chicago Gateway Partners, LLC. All parties are involved in the cleanup of the site with EPA oversight.

Because of the size of the site, EPA has divided the site into five areas:

- **Natural Area/Eastern Area:** This undeveloped area occupies approximately 172 acres and contains original plains/dunes geomorphology and associated plant communities.
- **Buffer Zone Area:** This area occupies approximately 20 acres



Figure 6 shows the five areas of the DuPont site.

and is located directly east of the Open and Redevelopment Areas and separates these areas from the adjacent Natural Area.

- **Redevelopment Area:** This area occupies approximately 155 acres and encompasses the former manufacturing area located in the central and west portions of the property.
- **Open Area:** This area occupies approximately 50 acres and includes an approximately 30-acre former solid waste landfill.
- **Leased Area:** DuPont leased this 30-acre active manufacturing area to W.R. Grace & Co. and Grace Division since early 2000; Chemours maintains ownership of this area.

A comprehensive evaluation of soil and groundwater conditions at the facility was performed as part of the corrective action process

under RCRA. In 1997, EPA issued an **Administrative Order on Consent**, which specified DuPont to conduct a **RCRA Facility Investigation**, or **RFI**, to determine the nature and extent of any releases of **hazardous waste** from the facility. The company was also required to implement interim remedial measures where necessary and submit a corrective measures study to identify and evaluate cleanup alternatives.

Two areas in the eastern portion of the site, including the Natural Area/Eastern Area and the Buffer Zone Area, were cleaned up under a separate corrective action **Final Decision** and a long-term monitoring plan in 2014.

Development of the East Chicago property was largely confined to the western portion of the site. The southern section of the developed area was used for



chemical manufacturing, while the northwestern section and northeastern edge of the site were used for waste management. All previously active manufacturing areas, except for the Leased Area, have been decommissioned and production facilities removed. Industries facilities continue to operate in the 30-acre Leased Area. This area is included in the current proposed plan, or **Statement of Basis** for the Industrial Area.

In the fall of 2017, EPA released the 2017 Industrial Area Statement of Basis for public comment. The public comment period was from November 27, 2017 until March 12, 2018. EPA reviewed all comments and selected a final cleanup plan and the "Final Decision with Response to Comments" on July 18, 2018.

On Nov. 16, 2018, EPA announced that the current and previous owners of the former DuPont chemical manufacturing plant agreed to a \$26.6 million cleanup of the facility.

E.I. du Pont Nemours and Company, Chemours Company FC, LLC, and East Chicago Gateway Partners, LLC agreed to conduct the cleanup under a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) order. Work is expected to begin in 2019.

Why is the DuPont Facility under the RCRA program?

Questions have been raised at public meetings regarding RCRA's regulation of the DuPont Facility. Concern has been expressed that the facility was not or could not be regulated by RCRA because DuPont withdrew its RCRA facility treatment storage and disposal permit application for this facility

On August 19, 1980, as required by RCRA, DuPont submitted a RCRA "Part A" Permit Application that identified the East Chicago facility as both a large quantity generator of hazardous waste and a treatment, storage and disposal facility for waste solvents. On March 17, 1982, DuPont withdrew that Part A Permit Application and its treatment, storage and disposal facility status claiming that, after 1980, the East Chicago facility did not treat, store or dispose of hazardous wastes.

Despite withdrawing its permit application, DuPont was and continues to be subject to RCRA corrective action cleanup requirements at the East Chicago facility. These cleanup requirements apply to facilities that, at any time, had RCRA interim status, as well as facilities that operated without a RCRA permit when they should have had one. Any facility that had or should have obtained "interim status" (a status conferred by operation of statute) is subject to RCRA's corrective action requirements. Indeed, EPA's 1997 Corrective Action Order to DuPont recognizes "[Dupont] is the owner or operator of a Facility that has operated, is operating, should be, or should have been operating under interim status subject to § 3005(e) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6925 (e)." Pursuant to that Corrective Action Order, DuPont has been carrying out RCRA Facility Investigations, Corrective Measures Studies, and Interim Corrective Measures. Following consideration of and response to public comments on EPA's proposed remedy, and issuance of a final remedial decision, EPA anticipates that DuPont/Chemours will enter into an agreement to



Visit EPA's web sites to stay informed:

USS Lead Superfund: www.epa.gov/uss-lead-superfund-site

DuPont Facility: www.epa.gov/in/hazardous-waste-cleanup-dupont-facility-east-chicago-indiana

undertake the RCRA-required cleanup work and institutional controls required by the final Statement of Basis for the Western Area/Industrial Portion of the East Chicago facility.

It should be noted that there has been no interruption in the IDEM's or EPA's regulation of Dupont's generation, treatment, storage and disposal of wastes at the East Chicago facility.

Contaminants of concern

Results from several investigations indicate arsenic, lead, zinc and cadmium are the primary pollutants in the soil from about 0 to 10 feet below ground. Arsenic is the primary contaminant in the groundwater because of how it is distributed and its high concentrations.

EPA announces final decision and response to comments

On July 18, 2018, EPA announced the selected remedy and final corrective measures for the Former DuPont Facility. The objectives of the plan are to:

- Control direct contact with contaminated soil to reduce exposure
- Dig up, treat and dispose of some contaminated soil
- Treat soil below the water table within the source area to further reduce the arsenic source to groundwater
- Treat in-situ (in-place) groundwater plumes to reduce or eliminate additional arsenic migration beyond the northern and southern boundaries

- Proceed with final closure of the on-site solid waste landfill
- Put a long-term monitoring and maintenance plan for the site in place
- Record, implement and maintain EPA-approved institutional controls that will be developed with IDEM
- Maintain site access controls (such as fencing and signage)
- Implement health and safety plans at the facility, as necessary, to minimize unacceptable risk associated with human exposure to facility contaminants.

For more details on the final decision and response to comments, visit www.epa.gov/in/hazardous-waste-cleanup-dupont-facility-east-chicago-indiana or the administrative record at the East Chicago Public Library (see Appendix C for location information).

Appendix A

Glossary – Initials -Acronyms



Administrative Order on Consent. A legal agreement through which a violator agrees to pay for correction of the violations and take actions to correct the problem. The agreement is enforceable in court.

Administrative Record. A file that contains reports, studies and other site-related documents the Agency relies on to make a cleanup decision. This file is usually housed in a local library.

Arsenic. An element of varying appearance found naturally in the environment. Arsenic has been used in the production of boric acid, pharmaceutical products and pesticides. It is a byproduct of copper, zinc and lead smelting. Exposures over a long period of time have caused birth defects and genetic damage in test animals. There is evidence that it can cause skin, lung, liver and bladder cancer in humans. More information can be found on the following website: www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/tfacts2.pdf.

Cadmium. A heavy metal that accumulates in the environment. Cadmium is a byproduct of zinc production and can be found in some industrial paints. Exposure to this metal may cause flu-like symptoms, and more severe exposures can cause respiratory and kidney problems, which can be fatal. More information can be found on the following website: <https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/tf.asp?id=47&tid=15>.

CAG. See Community Advisory Group.

CERCLA. See Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act.

CIC. See Community Involvement Coordinator.

CIP. See Community Involvement Plan.



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Cleanup. Actions taken to deal with a release or threat of release of a hazardous substance that could affect humans and/or the environment. The term “cleanup” is sometimes used interchangeably with the terms “remedial action,” “remediation,” “removal action,” “response action,” or “corrective action.”

Community. An interacting population of various types of individuals, or species, in a common location; a neighborhood or specific area where people live.

Community Advisory Group. A committee, task force, or board made up of citizens affected by a hazardous waste site. CAGs provide a public forum for community members to present and discuss their needs and concerns about the decision-making process at site affecting them.

Community Engagement. The process of involving communities in all phases of the cleanup process. Communities are asked to provide input on how the cleanup will be conducted and how it may affect community plans and goals. See also Community Involvement.

Community Involvement. The term used by EPA to identify its process for engaging in dialogue and collaboration with communities affected by Superfund site. EPA's community involvement approach is founded in the belief that people have a right to know what the Agency is doing in their community and to have a say in it. Its purpose is to give people the opportunity to become involved in the Agency's activities and to help shape the decisions that are made.

Community Involvement Coordinator. The EPA official whose lead responsibility is to involve and inform the public about the Superfund process and response actions in accordance with the interactive community involvement requirements set forth in the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan.

Community Involvement Plan. A plan that outlines specific community involvement activities that occur during the investigation and cleanup at the site. The CIP outlines how EPA will keep the public informed of work at the site and the ways in which residents can review and comment on decisions that may affect the final actions at the site. The document is available in the site's information repository maintained by EPA. The CIP may be modified as necessary to respond to changes in community concerns, information needs and activities.

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act. A federal law passed in 1980 and modified in 1986 by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act. Commonly known as Superfund, CERCLA is intended to protect people's health and the environment by investigating and cleaning up abandoned or uncontrolled hazardous waste site. Under the program, EPA can either:

- Pay for site cleanup when parties responsible for the contamination cannot be located or are unwilling or unable to do the work; or



- Take legal action to force parties responsible for site contamination to clean up the site or pay back the federal government for the cost of the cleanup.

Contaminant(s). Any physical, chemical, biological or radiological substance or matter that has an adverse effect on air, water or soil.

Contamination. Introduction into water, air and soil of microorganisms, chemicals, toxic substances, wastes or wastewater in a concentration that makes the medium unfit for its next intended use. Also applies to surfaces of objects, buildings and various household use products.

Environmental Justice. Equal protection from environmental hazards for individuals, groups, or communities regardless of race, ethnicity, or economic status. This applies to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. It implies that no population of people should face an unfair amount of negative environmental impacts of pollution or environmental hazard due to a lack of political or economic strength levels.

Emergency Response Action. Steps taken by EPA to respond to a site that poses an immediate threat to public health or the environment.

Explanation of Significant Differences. A document outlining minor changes in the original remedy selected at a site as described in the Record of Decision, such as a contingent remedy.

Feasibility Study. The feasibility study is an analysis of the practicality of a proposal and evaluates alternatives and costs for their effectiveness in protecting human health and the environment.

Final Decision. Issued pursuant to the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by RCRA and the Hazardous Solid Waste Amendments of 1984

FS. See Feasibility Study.

Geomorphology. The study of the origin and evolution of land and water features created by physical, chemical, or biological processes happening near earth's surface. Scientists look to understand why landscapes look the way they do, and to predict changes through field observations, experiments, and modeling.

Hazardous Substance(s). Any material that poses a threat to human health and/or the environment. Typical hazardous substances are toxic, corrosive, ignitable, explosive or chemically reactive. Any substance designated by EPA to be reported if a designated quantity of the substance is spilled in the waters of the United States or is otherwise released into the environment.

Hazardous Waste. Byproducts that can pose a substantial or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly managed. Hazardous wastes usually possess at least one of four characteristics (ignitability, corrosivity, reactivity or toxicity) or appear on special EPA lists.

Information Repository. A file containing current information, technical reports and reference documents regarding a site. The information repository usually is located in a public building convenient for local residents such as a public school, town hall or library.



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Lead. Lead is a naturally occurring bluish-gray metal found in small amounts in the earth's crust. Lead can be found in all parts of our environment. Much of it comes from human activities including burning fossil fuels, mining, and manufacturing. Lead has many different uses. It is used in the production of batteries, ammunition, metal products (solder and pipes), and devices to shield X-rays. Because of health concerns, lead from paints and ceramic products, caulking, and pipe solder has been dramatically reduced in recent years. The use of lead as an additive to gasoline was banned in 1996 in the United States. Exposure to lead can happen from breathing workplace air or dust, eating contaminated foods, or drinking contaminated water. Children can be exposed from eating lead-based paint chips or playing in contaminated soil. Lead can damage the nervous system, kidneys, and reproductive system. More information can be found on the following website: www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/tfacts13.pdf.

National Priorities List. This is a list of Superfund sites nationwide.

On-Scene Coordinator. The designated EPA official who coordinates and directs Superfund removal actions.

Operable Unit. A term for each of several separate activities undertaken as part of a Superfund site cleanup.

OSC. See On-Scene Coordinator.

OU. See Operable Unit.

PA/SI. See Preliminary Assessment/Site Investigation.

Potentially Responsible Parties. Any individual or company – including owners, operators, transporters, or generators – potentially responsible for, or contributing to, a spill or other contamination at a Superfund site. Whenever possible, through administrative and legal actions, EPA requires potentially responsible parties to clean up hazardous sites they have contaminated.

Preliminary Assessment/Site Investigation. Process of collecting and reviewing available information about a known or suspected waste site or release to determine steps to be taken.

Proposed Plan. A plan for a site cleanup that is available to the public for comment.

PRP. See Potentially Responsible Parties.

Public Meeting(s). Formal public sessions that are characterized by a presentation to the public followed by a question-and-answer session. Formal public meetings may involve the use of a court reporter and the issuance of transcripts.

Public. The community or people in general or a part or section of the community grouped because of a common interest or activity.

Public Comment Period. The time allowed for the public to express its views and concerns regarding an action by EPA (for example, a cleanup plan for a site or a public notice of a draft permit).



Pyrometallurgical Process. A process that uses high heat or other techniques to extract metals, such as lead, from natural ore to get a purer lead product, that can be sold.

RAL. See Removal Action Levels.

RCRA. See Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

RCRA Facility Investigation. The owner or operator of a facility performs an investigation to get information on the nature, extent and releases of hazardous waste or constituents and then determine if interim corrective measures or a Corrective Measures Study may be necessary.

Record of Decision. A legal, technical, and public document that explains which cleanup alternative will be used at a Superfund NPL site. The ROD is based on information and technical analysis generated during the remedial investigation and feasibility study and consideration of public comments and community concerns.

Remedial Action. The actual construction or implementation phase of a Superfund site cleanup that follows remedial design.

Remedial Investigation. An in-depth study to gather data needed to determine the nature and extent of contamination at a Superfund site; establish site cleanup criteria; identify preliminary alternatives for remedial action; and support technical and cost analyses of alternatives. Usually done with the feasibility study and together referred to as RI/FS.

Remedial Project Manager. The EPA or state official responsible for overseeing on-site remedial action.

Removal Action. Short-term immediate action taken to address releases of hazardous substances that require an expedited response.

Removal Action Levels. Numeric levels for individual substances, which apply generally across most sites, and; Site-specific levels which are determined on a case-by-case basis, using a more detailed analysis at a site.

RD. See Remedial Design.

Remedial Design. The phase in a Superfund site cleanup where the technical specifications for cleanup remedies and technologies are designed.

RFI. See RCRA Facility Investigation.

RI. See Remedial Investigation.

ROD. See Record of Decision.

RPM. See Remedial Project Manager.

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. Gives the EPA the authority to control hazardous waste from start to finish. This includes the generation, transportation, treatment, storage and disposal of hazardous waste. RCRA also sets forth a framework for the management of non-hazardous solid wastes.

SARA. See Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act.



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Slag. A stony waste matter separated from metals by withdrawing or purifying the ore.

Statement of Basis. Documents that describe the process EPA uses under RCRA to select measures for containing or cleaning up a hazardous waste management facility. This includes the RCRA Facility Investigation and Corrective Measures Study if they have been completed. Specifically, these documents include: description and environmental setting of the facility; names and concentrations of contaminants detected at the facility and associated exposure paths; selected solutions; innovative technologies considered in determining the solution; and public involvement requirements under the corrective action.

Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act. Modifications to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, enacted on October 17, 1986.

Superfund. The program operated under the legislative authority of CERCLA that funds and carries out EPA solid waste emergency and long-term removal and remedial activities. These activities include establishing the National Priorities List, investigating site for inclusion on the list, determining their priority and conducting and/or supervising cleanup and other remedial actions.

TAG. See Technical Assistance Grant.

TASC. See Technical Assistance Services for Communities.

Technical Assistance Grant. This grant provides money for activities that help communities participate in decision making at eligible Superfund sites.

Technical Assistance Services for Communities. This program supplies communities with technical help so they can better understand the science, regulations and policies of environmental issues and EPA actions.

UAO. See Unilateral Administrative Order.

Unilateral Administrative Order. A legal agreement that states that EPA can order parties to perform cleanup work if (1) potentially responsible parties do not agree to perform the cleanup work through a judicial consent decree or an administrative order on consent, or (2) potentially responsible parties refuse to perform work they previously agreed to perform under a settlement agreement. These orders require parties to undertake a response action, either short or long-term cleanup. EPA can issue a UAO when it finds there may be an immediate and substantial endangerment to the public health or environment.

Zinc. A chemical element that is a component of brass and is used for coating iron and steel to protect against erosion. Although zinc is an essential requirement for good health, excess zinc can be harmful. Excessive zinc intake can lead to copper deficiency, nerve damage, and anosmia. More information can be found on the following website: www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/tf.asp?id=301&tid=54.

Appendix B

List of Contacts

B

Superfund Project Contacts

Janet Pope

Community Involvement
Coordinator
Superfund Division (SI-6J)
312-353-0628
800-621-8431, ext. 30628
pope.janet@epa.gov

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312-886-7472
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312-886-6551
rolfes.sarah@epa.gov

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Remedial Project Manager
Superfund Division (SR-6J)
312-886-7278
alcamo.thomas@epa.gov

Katherine Thomas

Remedial Project Manager
Superfund Division (SR-6J)
312-353-5878
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Dan Haag

On-scene Coordinator
Superfund Division (SE-5J)
312-886-6906
haag.daniel@epa.gov

Jacob Hassan

On-scene Coordinator
Superfund Division (SE-5J)
312-886-6864
hassan.jacob@epa.gov

U.S. EPA Region 5

77 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604-3590
312-353-2000

RCRA Project Contacts

Rafael Gonzalez

Community Involvement
Coordinator
Land and Chemicals Division (L-17J)
312-886-0269
gonzalez.rafaelp@epa.gov

Jennifer Dodds

Remedial Project Manager
Land and Chemicals Division (LU-16J)
312-886-1484
dodds.jennifer@epa.gov



Visit EPA's web sites to stay informed:

USS Lead Superfund: www.epa.gov/uss-lead-superfund-site

DuPont Facility: www.epa.gov/in/hazardous-waste-cleanup-dupont-facility-east-chicago-indiana

Federal Elected Officials

Senator Joe Donnelly

115 N. Pennsylvania St. Suite 3200
Indianapolis, IN 46204
317-226-5555

720 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-4814
www.donnelly.senate.gov/contact

Senator Todd Young

251 N. Illinois St. Suite 120
Indianapolis, IN 46204
317-226-6700

400 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-5623
www.young.senate.gov/contact

Congressman Pete Visclosky

1st District
7895 Broadway, Suite A
Merrillville, IN 46410
219-795-1844

2328 Rayburn Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
202-225-2461
www.visclosky.house.gov/contact/

State Elected Officials

Governor Eric Holcomb

Office of the Governor
Statehouse
200 W. Washington St., #220
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2797
317-232-4567
www.in.gov/gov/2752.htm

State Senator Lonnie Randolph

2nd District
Indiana State Senate
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
317-232-9532
S2@iga.in.gov

State Representative Earl Harris

2nd District
Indiana House of Representatives
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
800-382-9842
Indianahousedemocrats.org/contact-earl-harris

**State Representative
Mara Candelaria Reardon**

12th District
Indiana House of Representatives
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
800-382-9842
Indianahousedemocrats.org/contact-mara-candelaria-reardon



Local Officials – East Chicago

Anthony Copeland, Mayor

4527 Indianapolis Blvd.
East Chicago, IN 46312
219-391-8200
www.eastchicago.com

Adrian A. Santos, City Clerk

2301 E. Columbus Dr.
East Chicago, IN 46312
219-391-8491
www.eastchicago.com

City Council Members – East Chicago

Myrna Maldonado

1st District
4142 Olcott Ave.
East Chicago, IN 46312
219-973-6630
www.eastchicago.com

Gilda Orange

6th District
3909 Evergreen St.
East Chicago, IN 46312
219-398-0136
www.eastchicago.com

Lenny Franciski

2nd District
5505 Wegg Ave.
East Chicago, IN 46312
219-391-0268
www.eastchicago.com

Richard Medina

At-Large Councilman
4216 Euclid Ave.
East Chicago, IN 46312
219-718-3637
www.eastchicago.com

Brenda Walker

3rd District
4917 Alexander Ave.
East Chicago, IN 46312
219-397-6727
www.eastchicago.com

Emiliano Perez

At-Large Councilman
910 Carrol St.
East Chicago, IN 46312
219-746-7705
www.eastchicago.com

Christine Vasquez

4th District
2011 Joy Ln.
East Chicago, IN 46312
219-391-8524
www.eastchicago.com

Kenneth Monroe

At-Large Councilman
3831 Ivy St.
East Chicago, IN 46312
219-455-7697
www.eastchicago.com

Robert Garcia

5th District
3722 Parrish Ave.
East Chicago, IN 46312
219-218-9854
www.eastchicago.com

East Chicago City Council Office

4525 Indianapolis Blvd.
East Chicago, IN 46312
219-391-8220



Visit EPA's web sites to stay informed:

USS Lead Superfund: www.epa.gov/uss-lead-superfund-site

DuPont Facility: www.epa.gov/in/hazardous-waste-cleanup-dupont-facility-east-chicago-indiana

Local Agencies

East Chicago Health Department

100 W. Chicago Ave.
East Chicago, IN 46312
219-391-8467

Health Department Commissioner

Dr. Gerri C. Browning

Department of Redevelopment

4525 Indianapolis Blvd.
East Chicago, IN 46312
219-391-8513

Frank Rivera

Executive Director
frivera@eastchicago.com

Lyvette Turk

Community Development Programs
Manager
lturk@eastchicago.com

East Chicago Housing Authority

Tia Cauley

Executive Director
4444 Railroad Ave.
East Chicago, IN 46312
219-397-9974, Ext 30

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

James A. Cunningham

HUD
77 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604
312-353-5680

Stakeholder Organizations

Calumet Lives Matter

Sherry Hunter

Senator Lonnie Randolph
www.facebook.com/pg/CalumetLivesMatter

Community Strategy Groups

Reverend Cheryl Rivera

www.facebook.com/CommunityStrategyGroup

East Chicago Calumet Coalition

Maritza Lopez

<https://www.facebook.com/usslead.org/>

We the People for East Chicago

Carlyle Edwards

<https://www.facebook.com/We-the-People-for-East-Chicago-417266285303263/>

National Nurses United

Sheilah Garland

<https://www.nationalnursesunited.org/>

Twin City Ministerial Alliance of East Chicago and Vicinity Pastor Hill, President



Newspapers

Northwest Indiana Times

Que Viva (Hispanic publication)
601 W. 45th Ave.
Munster, IN 46321
219-933-3325

Gary Post Tribune

1433 E. 83rd Ave.
Merrillville, IN 46410
219-648-3000

Radio Stations

WIND 560 AM

25 NW Point Blvd., Suite 400
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007
847-472-8910
www.560theanswer.com

WJOB 1230 AM

7150 Indianapolis Blvd.
Hammond, IN 46324
219-845-1100
www.wjob1230.com

WLS 890 AM

455 N. Cityfront Plaza Dr.
Chicago, IL 60611
312-245-1200
www.wlsam.com

WGN 720 AM

303 E. Wacker Dr.
Chicago, IL 60601
312-222-3879
www.wgnradio.com

Appendix C

Community Resources



Information Repository and Administrative Record

East Chicago Public Library

2401 E. Columbus Dr.
East Chicago, IN 46312
219-397-2453
www.ecpl.org

**East Chicago Public Library
Robert A. Pastrick Branch**

1008 W. Chicago Ave.
East Chicago, IN 46312
219-397-5505
www.ecpl.org

Library Hours:

Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

EPA Region 5 Records Center

Room 711, 7th Floor
Ralph Metcalfe Federal Building
77 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604

EPA Web Pages**Superfund – USS Lead Site**

www.epa.gov/uss-lead-superfund-site

RCRA – DuPont Facility

www.epa.gov/in/hazardous-waste-cleanup-dupont-facility-east-chicago-indiana



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USS Lead Superfund: www.epa.gov/uss-lead-superfund-site

DuPont Facility: www.epa.gov/in/hazardous-waste-cleanup-dupont-facility-east-chicago-indiana

Possible Meeting Locations

East Chicago Public Library

2401 East Columbus Drive

East Chicago, IN 46312

219-397-2453

Robert Pastrick Branch (East Chicago Public Library)

1008 West Chicago Avenue

East Chicago, IN 46312

219-397-5505

Former Carrie Gosh Elementary School

455 East 148th Street

East Chicago, IN 46312

Martin Luther King Community Center

4802 Melville Avenue

East Chicago, IN 46312

219-391-8481

First Baptist Church

4902 McCook Avenue

East Chicago, IN 46312

219-398-2287

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

4756 Melville Avenue

East Chicago, IN 46312

219-397-1107



Neighborhood Churches



Bethel 7th Day Adventist Church
4822 Kennedy Ave.



First Baptist Church
4911 McCook Ave.



Friendship Baptist Church
4756 Melville Ave.



Holy Trinity Croatian Church
4754 Carey Ave.



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DuPont Facility: www.epa.gov/in/hazardous-waste-cleanup-dupont-facility-east-chicago-indiana



Macedonia Baptist Church
4901 Melville Ave.



Metropolitan CME Church
4856 Kennedy Ave.



New Life Outreach Church of God in Christ
4756 McCook Ave.



St. Johns Church
4730 McCook Ave.



USS Lead Superfund Site Information Sources

IMPORTANT: For answers to your questions or to address your concerns,
you can reach us at the USS Lead Hotline 219-801-2199.

Here is a list of other useful numbers you can call to get answers to questions about different topics.

For questions about ...

Environmental issues

The Indiana Harbor Great Lakes Legacy Act cleanup and EPA's investigation of the former DuPont site:
EPA Community Involvement Coordinator Rafael Gonzalez at 312-886-0269

Other EPA projects and environmental concerns:

- U.S. EPA Region 5: 800-621-8431
- Indiana Department of Environmental Management: 800-451-6027 (toll-free within Indiana)
- To report an environmental emergency or a spill, call the National Response Center: 800-424-8802

Health concerns – including childhood lead exposure and blood lead testing

- East Chicago Health Department: 219-391-8467
- Indiana State Department of Health: 317-233-9264
- Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry: 312-391-8258

Drinking water

If you live on the USS Lead Superfund site and need information about drinking water quality contact:

- Indiana Department of Environmental Management: 800-451-6027 (toll-free within Indiana)

For information about lead service line replacements and general questions:

- City of East Chicago: 219-391-8469

For information about drinking water filters call:

- City of East Chicago: 219-512-3158

West Calumet redevelopment

- East Chicago Housing Authority: 219-397-9974 ext. 30

More information online

More information about EPA's cleanup of the USS Lead Superfund site is online at
www.epa.gov/uss-lead-superfund-site

More information about Indiana's environmental programs is online at
www.in.gov/idem/

November 2018



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DuPont Facility: www.epa.gov/in/hazardous-waste-cleanup-dupont-facility-east-chicago-indiana



Fuentes de Información del Sitio Superfund de USS Lead

IMPORTANTE: Para preguntas y sus preocupaciones usted puede comunicarse con nosotros en la Línea Directa de USS Lead 219-801-2199.

Aquí hay una lista de números útiles que usted puede llamar para obtener respuestas sobre diferentes temas.

Para preguntas sobre ...

Problemas medioambientales

La limpieza parte del Acta de Indiana Harbor Great Lakes Legacy y la investigación por parte de EPA del antiguo sitio de DuPont: Coordinador de EPA de Participación Comunitaria Rafael Gonzalez al 312-886-0269.

Otros proyectos de EPA y asuntos medioambientales:

- Región 5 de U.S. EPA: 800-621-8431
- Depto. de Administración Medioambiental de Indiana: 800-451-6027 (lada sin costo en Indiana).
- Reporte una emergencia medioambiental o derrame con el Centro Nacional de Respuesta: 800-424-8802

Inquietudes sobre la salud – incluyendo la exposición de la niñez al plomo y pruebas de plomo en la sangre

- Departamento de Salud de East Chicago: 219-391-8467
- Departamento de Salud del Estado de Indiana: 317-233-9264
- Agencia para el Registro de Sustancias Tóxicas y Enfermedades: 312-391-8258

Agua potable

Si vive dentro del sitio *Superfund* de USS Lead y necesita información sobre la calidad del agua potable, comuníquese con:

- Departamento de Administración Medioambiental de Indiana (IDEM): 800-451-6027 (lada sin costo en Indiana)

Para información sobre el reemplazo de líneas de servicio hechas de plomo y preguntas generales:

- Ciudad de East Chicago: 219-391-8469

Para información sobre filtros de agua llame a:

- Ciudad de East Chicago: 219-512-3158

Reurbanización de West Calumet

- Autoridad de Vivienda de East Chicago (ECHA): 219-397-9974 ext. 30

Más información en línea

Más información sobre la limpieza de EPA del sitio *Superfund* de USS Lead se encuentra en línea en www.epa.gov/uss-lead-superfund-site

Más información sobre los programas medioambientales de Indiana está en línea en www.in.gov/idem/

Noviembre 2018

Appendix D

Environmental Justice



The Environmental Justice Act of 1992 obligates federal agencies to make environmental justice part of its overall mission by “identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations.” Following this order, the Office of Environmental Equity within EPA became the Office of Environmental Justice. EPA’s Office of Environmental Justice ensures that all people, regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, enjoy the same degree of protection from environmental and health hazards and equal access to the decision-making process for a healthy living, learning, and work environment. Ensuring environmental justice means not only protecting human health and the environment for everyone, but also ensuring that all people are treated fairly and are given the opportunity to participate meaningfully in the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. EPA considers the neighborhoods affected by the USS Lead Superfund site and DuPont Facility discussed in this CIP are environmental justice communities, which means they are communities that historically are under-represented minority and low-income areas burdened with significant environmental challenges.

When making decisions about a cleanup and planning its community involvement initiative for a community, environmental justice issues must be taken into account. As part of this effort, the EPA collaborates with the state agencies, representatives from the city of East Chicago and concerned residents in addressing environmental challenges in more effective, efficient, and sustainable ways.

EPA defines environmental justice as the **fair treatment** and **meaningful involvement** of all people-- regardless of race, color, national origin or income-- with respect to development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

Fair treatment means that no group of people should bear a disproportionate share of the negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, governmental, or commercial operations, or the execution of federal, state, local, and tribal programs and policies.

Meaningful involvement means that potentially affected community residents have an appropriate opportunity to participate in decision-making about a proposed activity that will affect their environment and/or health.



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DuPont Facility: www.epa.gov/in/hazardous-waste-cleanup-dupont-facility-east-chicago-indiana

EPA has this goal for all communities and persons across this nation. It will be achieved when everyone enjoys:

- the same degree of protection from environmental and health hazards, and
- equal access to the decision-making process to have a healthy environment in which to live, learn, and work.

For more information on Environmental Justice, visit <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice>

Appendix E

Community Engagement and the Superfund Process



Superfund is an environmental cleanup program enabled by a federal law enacted in 1980 known as the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, also called Superfund. In 1986, another law, the **Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA)** reauthorized CERCLA to continue Superfund cleanup activities. The CERCLA law gives EPA the authority to require those parties responsible

for creating hazardous waste sites to clean up those sites or to reimburse the government if EPA cleans up the site. EPA compels responsible parties to clean up hazardous waste sites through administrative orders, consent decrees and other legal settlements. EPA is authorized to enforce the Superfund laws within Indian reservations, in all 50 states and in U.S. territories. Superfund site identification, monitoring and response activities are coordinated with state, tribal and territorial environmental protection or waste management agencies.

There are several steps involved in cleaning up a contaminated site. Once EPA has been made aware of a contaminated site from individual citizens, local, tribal or state agencies or others, EPA follows a step-by-step process (see Exhibit 1 on the next page) to determine the best way to clean up the site and protect human health and the environment.

If the site poses an immediate threat to public health or the environment, EPA can intervene with an **emergency response action**. In 2008, EPA's Superfund Emergency Response and Removal Program cleaned up soil at 13 of the 15 properties that granted EPA access to conduct the cleanup. The goal of EPA's Emergency Response and Removal Program is to protect the public and the environment from immediate threats posed by the release or discharge of **hazardous substances**. In this case, that involved cleaning up properties that contained soil with lead concentrations exceeding 1,200 mg/kg in the surface



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soil. These removal activities were the first steps in stopping the potential for exposure to contaminants that posed risks to people and the environment.

The Superfund program encourages active dialogue between communities affected by the release of hazardous substances and all of the agencies responsible for carrying out or overseeing cleanup actions. EPA considers community involvement to be an important part of the Superfund program, and opportunities for community involvement occur throughout the process. At each step in the process, there are opportunities for various levels of community involvement (see *Exhibit 2 on Page 4 of this Appendix*).

**Visit these EPA websites for more
information on the Superfund process:**

Superfund:

www.epa.gov/superfund/cleaning-superfund-sites

Cleanup Process:

www.epa.gov/superfund/cleanup/index.htm

Community Involvement:

www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-community-involvement



Exhibit 1: Superfund Process Steps



Legend

- PA/SI** – Preliminary Assessment/Site Investigation
- NPL Listing** – National Priorities List
- RI/FS** – Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study
- ROD** – Record of Decision
- RD/RA** – Remedial Design/Remedial Action
- NPL Deletion** – National Priorities List Deletion

These steps are defined in Appendix A – Glossary – Initials – Acronyms.

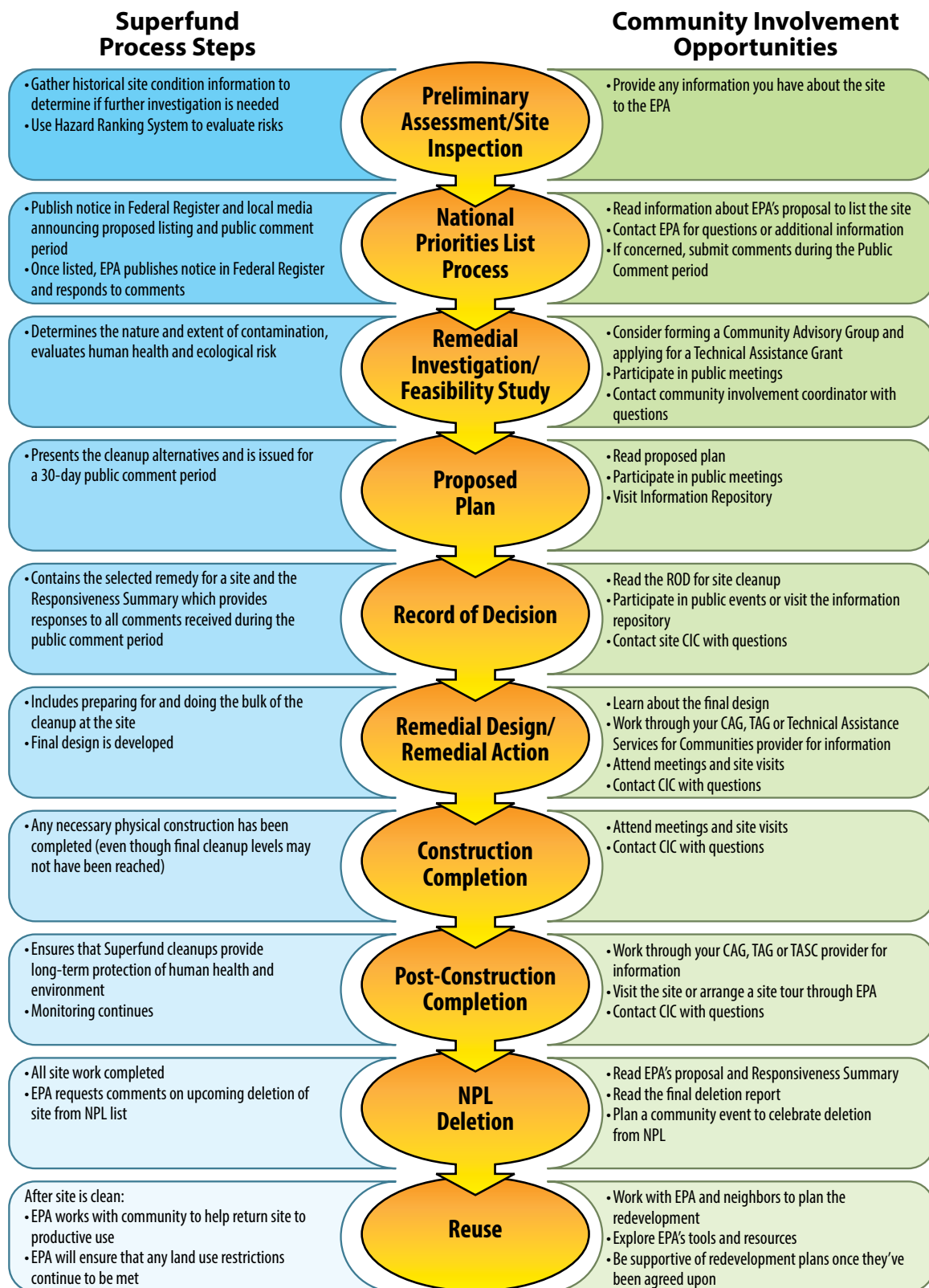


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Exhibit 2. Community Involvement Opportunities During the Superfund Process



Appendix F

Comparing RCRA and CERCLA



The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is working to ensure that contamination from the former DuPont East Chicago facility at 5215 Kennedy Ave. in East Chicago is properly addressed and that people living in the community are protected, informed and involved in the cleanup process. EPA's authority to compel cleanup of contamination at the former DuPont facility is derived from the Resource

Conservation & Recovery Act (RCRA). When RCRA and Superfund, also known as the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation & Liability Act (CERCLA) are related, EPA coordinates the two cleanup programs to eliminate duplication of effort and streamline cleanup processes. EPA encourages close coordination among RCRA and Superfund cleanup programs.

Why the Former DuPont East Chicago Facility is Under RCRA Corrective Action Implementation

RCRA established a system for managing hazardous waste at facilities from the time the hazardous waste is generated until its ultimate disposal. On August 19, 1980, DuPont submitted a RCRA "Part A" Permit Application to EPA that identified the East Chicago facility as both a large quantity generator of hazardous waste and a treatment, storage and disposal facility for waste solvents.

DuPont continues to be subject to RCRA corrective action cleanup requirements at the East Chicago facility. These cleanup requirements

apply to facilities that, at any time, had RCRA interim status, as well as facilities that operated without a RCRA permit when they should have had one. Any facility that had or should have obtained interim status is subject to RCRA's corrective action requirements. In 1997, EPA entered into a Corrective Action Order with DuPont that states, "[DuPont] is the owner or operator of a Facility that has operated, is operating, should be, or should have been operating under interim status subject to § 3005(e) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6925 (e)."



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As required by the 1997 Corrective Action Order, Chemours conducted a facility investigation, limited interim cleanup actions and a corrective measures study at the former DuPont East Chicago facility. Although the facility was historically one of the largest chemical manufacturing operations in the United States, by the early 2000s, DuPont had completely dismantled nearly all of the former manufacturing facilities and ceased operations there. In February 2015, following a corporate reorganization, DuPont transferred the facility property to Chemours, a new wholly-owned subsidiary of

DuPont. After EPA issues a final RCRA cleanup decision and response to public comments, EPA anticipates entering into another corrective action order with DuPont and Chemours that will require them to conduct the remaining cleanup work at the facility.

In response to questions from the East Chicago community about the differences between RCRA and CERCLA, EPA developed the answers to some of the more frequently asked questions (*see page 4*) about how things may or not be different if the efforts were administered under CERCLA rather than RCRA.

Different Statutes, Consistent Outcome

RCRA and CERCLA are two different statutes that govern the federal management and cleanup of hazardous waste facilities (RCRA) and response to abandoned, uncontrolled hazardous waste sites

(CERCLA). They are not identical statutes but there are many similarities that consistently achieve protection of human health and the environment.

Similar Process, Different Terminology

The Superfund and RCRA programs use different terminology to describe similar activities. (*See the diagram on the last page for a side by side comparison of the two programs*). For example, in CERCLA, an investigation (with sampling) is called a "Remedial Investigation" (RI) and an evaluation of the relative feasibility of different remedy options is known as a "Feasibility Study" (FS). In RCRA, these efforts are named a "RCRA Facility Investigation" (RFI) and a "Corrective Measures Study" (CMS). Under CERCLA, when the investigation has been completed and EPA is ready to select a cleanup plan, EPA issues

a **Proposed Plan** identifying the preferred cleanup approach for the site and solicits and considers public comment before issuing a Record of Decision. Likewise, under RCRA, after the RFI and CMS are completed, EPA issues a Proposed Statement of Basis and solicits and considers public comment before issuing a Final Decision and Response to Comments.



Public Outreach

Public outreach and involvement are similar whether work is done under RCRA or CERCLA. Both CERCLA and RCRA encourages public involvement throughout the investigation and cleanup, and requires public participation during the selection of response actions. At certain CERCLA sites, EPA develops a community relations plan, and at both CERCLA sites and RCRA facilities, EPA makes documents available to the public throughout the investigation and cleanup in a public document repository, typically in a public library in the affected community. During the investigation and cleanup at Superfund sites, EPA may also facilitate the formation of a Community Advisory Group (CAG).

When EPA presents the Proposed Plan to the public, the Superfund program holds a public meeting, and prepares a transcript to record the comments. The public may also submit written comments during the public comment period. EPA then prepares a responsiveness summary to respond to the public comments, and that becomes part of the record for the remedy selection.

Likewise, at the former DuPont East Chicago facility, EPA has followed the public involvement and outreach process that is normally conducted at a RCRA Corrective Action site, which has included assignment of a community involvement coordinator, a public notice and comment period, and public meetings.

Different Program Administration

Superfund is managed at EPA Region 5 by the Superfund Division. The RCRA Corrective Action Program is

managed by the Land and Chemicals Division. Both Divisions report to the EPA Region 5 Administrator.

Technical Assistance Differences

A Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) may be awarded to eligible groups at sites listed on the National Priorities List (NPL) or proposed for the NPL where a response action is underway. An initial grant of up to \$50,000 is for a community group to contract a technical advisor to help the community understand CERCLA site documents and actions. The community group manages their TAG and technical advisor. The TAG is not offered under RCRA. However, the Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC) program

may be available for both CERCLA and RCRA programs. TASC provides technical assistance services to communities through a contract managed by EPA.



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Frequently Asked Questions Regarding using RCRA or CERCLA Authority

Would the federal government buy our homes or move us during the remediation?

Section 104j of CERCLA limits the acquisition of real property, which is necessary as part of a permanent relocation, to only that property that the President determines is "needed to conduct a remedial action ..." EPA does not have authority to acquire property for relocation under a CERCLA removal action (a short term, urgent or time sensitive type of cleanup). Thus, EPA can incorporate relocation into a CERCLA remedial action only when EPA has made a finding that relocation of residents is required to successfully conduct the remedial action.

Are there more stringent standards for the remediation under CERCLA that Chemours would be held to if we change the lead program to CERCLA?

There is broad overlap in the process for establishing cleanup standards under CERCLA and RCRA. Both programs stress protection of human health and the environment, and both require that a cleanup meet applicable substantive provisions of State law. The long and short term remedial actions being carried out under RCRA at the site would be consistent with the kind of remedial actions that would likely be required under CERCLA.

Can EPA use RCRA to request a thorough investigation of all areas of concern at a facility without

changing the progress of current activities?

Yes. Under RCRA, EPA can require additional investigative work or submission of information it determines necessary to effectively remediate the facility as well as any contamination released from the facility.

Does the community get to decide how the remediation is conducted if we change programs (RCRA/ CERCLA)?

At the DuPont facility, EPA has decision-making authority over cleanup decisions, in consultation with the community. Input from the community throughout the decision-making process at both CERCLA and RCRA sites is extremely important to achieving effective cleanups. Although the processes are at times different, public participation is important under both statutes. For the former DuPont East Chicago facility, the community outreach and input has been over that which would normally occur at a RCRA corrective action site and is on par to that which would occur under CERCLA. EPA makes the final decision of the remedy to be implemented at the Chemours site, with input from the community.

Will EPA do the remediation and send Chemours the bill if the lead program was changed to CERCLA?

The substantial majority of Superfund cleanups are performed by potentially responsible parties

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under EPA oversight. EPA's Superfund program has an enforcement first principle and seeks to have the responsible parties pay for and perform necessary work, rather than using taxpayer funds. EPA-funded cleanups are generally performed only when there are no viable parties in existence to perform the work. Thus, if this were a Superfund site, EPA's approach would likely be to allow Chemours to perform the cleanup work, either under a CERCLA Consent Decree or, failing that, under an EPA-issued Unilateral Administrative Order.

Comparing RCRA and CERCLA

Specific to USS Lead Superfund Site/DuPont Facility

DuPont/OU2

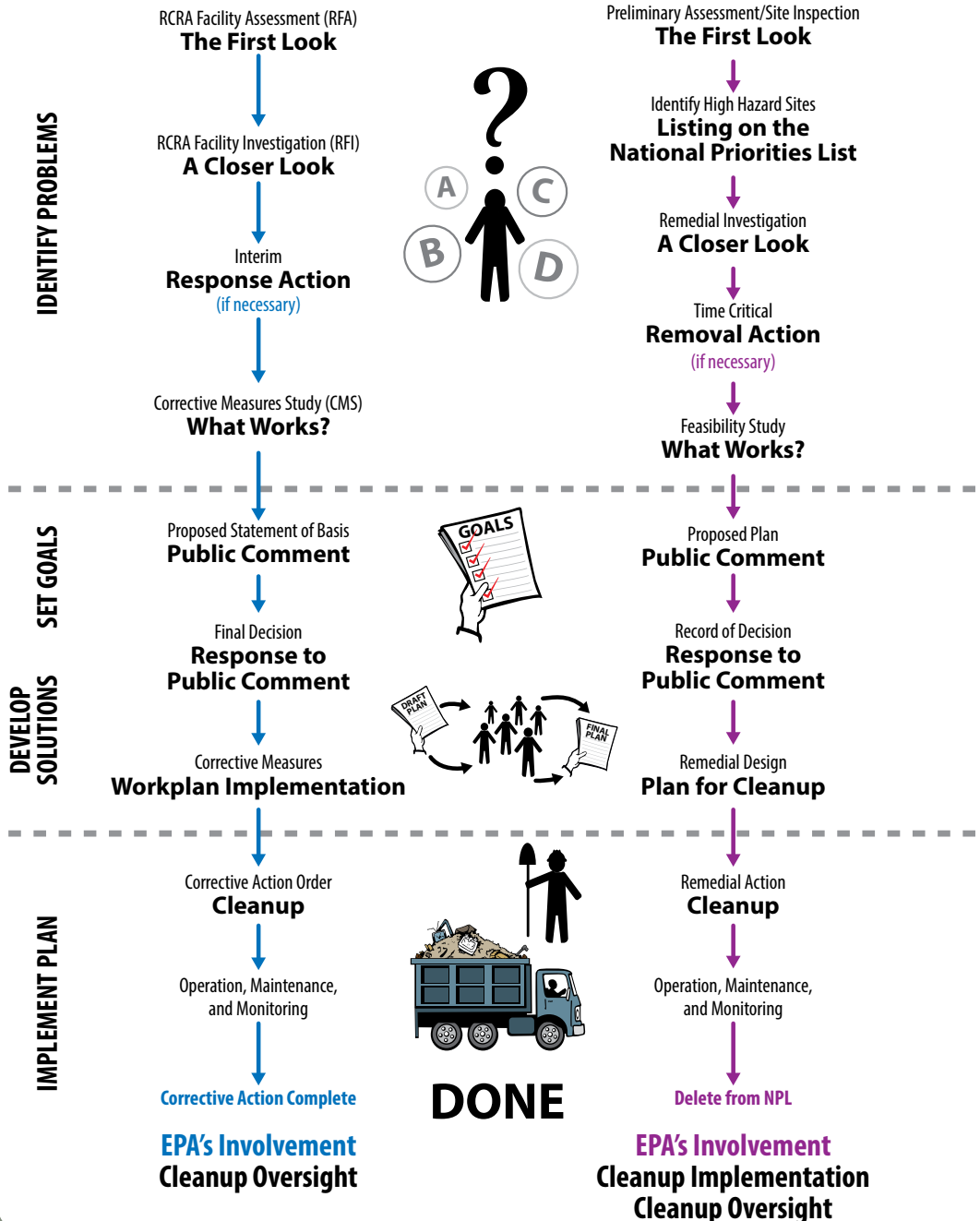
USS Lead/OU1

RCRA Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

CERCLA Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (Superfund)

Ongoing Businesses

Non-operational Facilities and Other Sources of Contamination



Appendix G

USS Lead Superfund Site Community Involvement Activities (2006-Present)



2006

Jan.	Established local repository at East Chicago Public Library; established site web page
Mar.	Mailed fact sheet "EPA to Begin Testing for Lead Contamination in Yards" to site mailing list recipients
Mar. 22-23	Held informal meetings to explain sampling process and obtain access agreements for sampling in Zone 1
Jun.	Provided information to East Chicago council members regarding Superfund process
Dec.	Mailed postcard to residents thanking them for letting EPA take samples from yards in Zone 1

2007

Oct.	Mailed EPA/IDEM fact sheet announcing availability session
Nov. 8	Held Town Hall Meeting in Zone 1
Dec. 5	Held RCRA/Superfund informational meeting in Zone 1

2008

Sep.	Proposed USS Lead site to the National Priority List (NPL)
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2009

Jun.	Mailed postcard "EPA Begins Cleanup" to mailing list recipients in Zones 1-3
Sep. 3	Added USS Lead site to the NPL
Summer	Obtained additional access agreements for properties in Zone 3
Nov. 24	Mailed postcard announcing December 7-8, 2009 information sessions to mailing list recipients in Zones 1-3
Nov. 30	Placed ad in <i>Gary Post Tribune</i> announcing December 7-8, 2009 information sessions for Zones 1-3 Placed Spanish ad in <i>La Raza</i> announcing December 7-8, 2009 information sessions for Zones 1-3
Dec. 7-8	Held informational meetings to discuss sampling activities in Zones 1-3
Dec. 9	Mailed fact sheet "EPA to Begin Testing for Lead Contamination" and "EPA a Comenzar Las Pruebas de Contaminacion de Plomo in Patios" (English and Spanish) to mailing list recipients in Zones 1-3; fact sheet also announced the December 17 informational meeting
Dec. 17	Held informational meeting to explain residential testing process and answer questions for Zones 1-3
Dec.	Collected samples at properties in Zones 2 and 3

2010

Mar. 9	Attended meeting with the city of East Chicago department heads
Apr.	Mailed sampling results from December 2009 sampling event to property owners in Zones 2 and 3
May 23	Placed ad in <i>Northwest Indiana Times</i> announcing community interviews (English and Spanish) for Zones 1-3
Jun. 2	Placed second ad in <i>Northwest Indiana Times</i> announcing community interviews (English and Spanish) for Zones 1-3
Jun. 8-10	Held community interviews with residents from Zones 1-3 to develop Community Involvement Plan (CIP); Spanish translator was on site to assist



- Jul. 24** Participated in Calumet Days and distributed lead-prevention information
- Aug.** Collected additional samples and obtained additional access agreements for properties in Zones 2 and 3

2011

- Apr.** Published Community Involvement Plan
- May** Mailed sampling results from August 2010 sampling event to property owners in Zones 2 and 3
- Oct.** Hand delivered sampling results with color-coded pages explaining results and levels of contamination to residents in Zones 1-3; left "Sorry We Missed You" letters to residents that were not home
- Dec.** Prepared presentation regarding status of USS Lead site

2012

- Jul. 6** Mailed fact sheet "EPA Proposed Cleanup Plan for Residential Area" and "La EPA Propone Plan de Limpieza para Area Residencial" that announced the public comment period and public meeting to mailing list recipients in Zones 1-3
- Jul. 11** Placed ads in *Gary Post Tribune* and *Que Viva* (Spanish) announcing public comment period and public meeting for Zones 1-3
- Jul. 25** Held public meeting regarding proposed plan for Zones 1-3
- Jul. 12-Aug. 11** Held public comment period for Zones 1-3
- Aug. 26** Placed ads in *Gary Post Tribune* and *Que Viva* (Spanish) announcing extension of public comment period for Zones 1-3
- Aug. 11-Sep. 10** Held extended public comment period for Zones 1-3

2013

- Aug.** Two local Walgreens distributed gardening and other information for Zones 1-3
- Riley Park & MLK Center distributed gardening and other information for Zones 2 and 3

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2014

Oct. 2 & 24	Attended Task Force meetings
Nov. 5	Mailed fact sheet "Agreement Helps Start Project to Clean Up Contaminated Soil" to mailing list recipients in Zones 1-3; fact sheet also announced information session for Zones 1-3
Nov. 18-19	Held information sessions to discuss cleanup activities for Zones 1-3
Dec. 10	Mailed letters requesting access agreements and provided information about cleanup for Zone 3

2015

Feb.-Sep.	Went door-to-door to obtain access agreements; left "missed you" flyers on doors where residents were not present in Zone 3
Jul.	Mailed packets to residents in Zone 3 that were not home or those that denied access (packets included access agreement, fact sheet, property values info, ATSDR fact sheet)
Sep.	Met with local health department regarding result letters to residents, and what action they can take
Oct.-Dec.	Provided on-site support in local neighborhood office
Oct.	Received list of owners in Zones 1-3 from East Chicago Water Department and Assessor's Office to find owner names and phone numbers to send packets to (packets included access agreement, fact sheet, property values info, ATSDR fact sheet)
Nov.	Mailed packets to residents in Zone 3 that were not home or those that denied access (packets included access agreement, fact sheet, property values info, ATSDR fact sheet) Called and left messages to obtain access agreements from residents in Zone 3 that were not home or had previously denied access Mailed letter and access agreements to five city of East Chicago councilmen asking for assistance in obtaining access agreements from property owners in Zones 1-3 Mailed letter and access agreements to nine local churches asking for assistance in getting access agreements for Zones 1-3
Dec.	Called and left messages to obtain access agreements from residents in Zone 3 that were not home or had previously denied access



2016

Mar-May	Went door-to-door to obtain access agreements; left "missed you" flyers on doors in Zone 3
Jun.	Met with the city of East Chicago officials and provided them with draft education brochures for their review and comment Established site hotline number for residents to call with questions and concerns: 219-801-2199
Jul. 5	Went door-to-door to the residences of the West Calumet Housing Complex (Zone 1) and left lead prevention flyers that provided ways to avoid exposure to contaminated dirt and mulch; flyers also contained ways to contact the EPA Community Involvement Coordinator
Jul. 11	Established a site trailer at the corner of 149th Street and McCook Avenue, which was staffed by EPA outreach personnel to answer resident questions
Jul. 20	Went door-to-door to the residences of the West Calumet Housing Complex (Zone 1) and left fact sheet "EPA Takes Action to Reduce Exposure to Lead in Soil" that provided ways to avoid exposure to contaminated dirt and mulch; fact sheet also contained ways to contact the EPA Community Involvement Coordinator Placed "Do not play in the dirt or mulch" yard signs throughout the neighborhood of the West Calumet Housing Complex (Zone 1) and left "Don't Let Kids Play in Dirt" flyers and contact information for the EPA Community Involvement Coordinator with residents
Jul. 22	Placed additional "Do not play in the dirt or mulch" yard signs throughout the neighborhood of the West Calumet Housing Complex (Zone 1)
Jul. 25-27	Went door-to-door to residences in Zone 1 to obtain signed access agreements for indoor dust sampling
Aug.	Published Residents Guide to Temporary Relocation for residents in Zone 1 Distributed Temporary Relocation flyer to residents in Zone 1
Aug. 2-6	Canvassed homes in Zone 2 to obtain access for soil sampling
Aug. 3	Attended meeting with mayor and East Chicago Housing Authority



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2016(cont'd)

Aug. 4	Contacted 24 units to date regarding indoor cleaning and temporary relocation in Zone 1; 23 expressed interest
Aug. 8	Attended school district meeting and availability session with ATSDR and school district
Aug. 16	Attended meeting at First Baptist Church with East Chicago Ministers Alliance
Aug. 18	Attended West Calumet Housing Complex resident meeting
Aug. 26	Went door-to-door to residents in Zone 1 and left packets containing Drinking Water Safety: Information for East Chicago Residents and EPA's Home Cleaning Process: What Residents Need to Know
Aug. 29	Hand delivered indoor sampling results letters to residents in Zone 1
Aug. 30	Held Multi-Agency Open House for Zones 1-3 (post card announcement)
Aug. 31	Hand delivered indoor sampling result letters to residents in Zone 1
Sep. 1	Delivered two CD's with Administrative Record to local library repositories
Sep. 7	Participated in HUD Fun Day
Sep. 12	Mailed postcards to residents in Zones 2 and 3 announcing Open House
Sep. 14	Delivered postcards announcing Open House to ECCC president to distribute at Mexican Day Parade Conducted door-to-door canvassing in Zone 2 to obtain access agreements
Sep. 16	Conducted canvassing in Zone 1 to obtain access agreements from non-responsive residents
Sep. 20	Placed yard signs in yards in Zones 2 and 3 announcing Open House
Sep. 24	Held Open House for Zones 2 and 3 to provide information on sampling and cleanup of contaminated soil in yards Distributed factsheets "EPA To Begin Cleaning Up Lead-Contaminated Yards" at the Open House
Oct.	Distributed door hangers "EPA Needs to Meet with You" (Tap Water Sampling/Excavation) in Zones 2 and 3



	Distributed door hangers "EPA Needs to Hear from You" (unit cleanup and interviews) in Zone 1
	Mailed "Tap Water Sampling Instructions" to mailing list recipients in Zones 2 and 3
	Distributed door hangers about tap water sampling and soil excavation to homes slated for cleanup in Zones 2 and 3
	Distributed door hangers about interior cleaning to West Calumet Housing Complex units
Oct. 2	Mailed factsheets "EPA To Begin Cleaning Up Lead-Contaminated Yards" to mailing list recipients in Zones 1-3
Oct. 1-21	Identified priority sites in Zones 2 and 3 and conducted door-to-door canvassing for tap water and dust sampling before excavation activities
Oct. 6	Met with advisors at local community group, ECCC (Superfund and Office of Regional Counsel)
Oct. 13 & 20	Identified priority sites in Zone 1; conducted door-to-door canvassing for indoor sampling and temporary relocation
Oct. 29	Attended ECCC meeting in East Chicago (ORC attorney and CIC)
	Held Community Resources Meeting focusing on Technical Advisor Grant (TAG) and Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC) programs
Nov. 1-8	Conducted door-to-door canvassing of priority sites in Zones 2 and 3 for tap water and dust sampling before excavation activities
	Conducted door-to-door canvassing of residents in Zones 2 and 3 slated for soil cleanup regarding tap water and dust sampling
Nov. 10	Met with advisors to ECCC (ORC and Superfund)
Nov. 17	Met with advisors to ECCC (ORC attorney)
Nov. 30	Mailed postcards "USS Lead Site Open House Set for Saturday, Dec. 10 from 1-4 p.m." in both English and Spanish to mailing list recipients in Zones 1-3
Dec.	Responded to ECCC advisor regarding questions and concerns
Dec. 8	Placed ad in <i>Gary Post Tribune</i> announcing the Dec. 10 Open House (English and Spanish)
Dec. 10	Multi-Agency Open House canceled due to possible lapse of EPA funding; was rescheduled to Jan. 28



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2016(cont'd)

Dec. 15 Mailed fact sheet "Excavation to End for Winter; Community Activities Continue" in English and Spanish to mailing list recipients in Zones 1-3

2017

Jan. 4 Mailed postcard to residents in Zones 1-3 announcing the Jan. 28 Open House

Jan. 25 Placed ad in *Gary Post-Tribune* in English and Spanish announcing the Jan. 28 Open House

Jan. 28 Held Multi-Agency Open House at the former Carrie Gosch School

Jan. 31 Mailed postcard "Superfund Workshop" to mailing list recipients in Zones 1-3

Feb. 18 Conducted "Superfund for Communities" workshop

Apr. 1 Attended ECCC meeting

Apr. 5 Gave NAACP members tour of Zones 1-3
Attended Community Listening Session

Apr. 10-21 Held Superfund Job Training Initiative Program

Apr. 19 Residents met with EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt

Apr. 27 Held meeting with Region 5 Regional Administrator and East Chicago community groups
Held Superfund Job Training Initiative Graduation Ceremony

May 31 Maintained an EPA presence at the former Carrie Gosch Elementary School so residents can easily stop in and speak to EPA employees
Tracked all resident inquiries in a database to ensure responses are provided in a timely manner
Continued to meet regularly with local, state and federal partners to keep officials apprised of EPA's work and data collection in the community
Regularly updated the USS Lead Superfund website and added frequently asked questions

Jun. 12 Mailed postcard announcing monthly Saturday meetings to mailing list recipients in Zones 2 and 3

June Scheduled monthly calls with community leaders to discuss and plan agenda topics for monthly Saturday meetings



Jun. 24	Held first monthly Saturday public meeting at former Carrie Gosch Elementary School Meeting Topic: Updates on past, present and future activities at the site
Jul. 6	Mailed postcard to residents announcing change in time for the second monthly meeting
Jul. 15	Held second monthly Saturday public meeting at former Carrie Gosch Elementary School Meeting Topic: Lead in Drinking Water Provided update on site activities to public meeting attendees
Jul. 26	Mailed postcards to specific list of residents in Zone 3 informing them their property will be cleaned up in 2018
Aug.	CICs hand delivered information packets to residents at Cardinal Terrace Apartments
Aug. 15	Placed ad in <i>Northwest Indiana Times</i> announcing Letter of Intent from ECCC to apply for \$50,000 TAG
Aug. 19	Held monthly Saturday public meeting at former Carrie Gosch Elementary School Meeting Topic: Updates on past, present and future activities at the site
Sep.	Notified ECCC to submit TAG application by EPA TAG coordinator
Sep. 16	Held monthly Saturday public meeting at former Carrie Gosch Elementary School Meeting Topic: Presentation by Land and Chemicals Division on DuPont Facility
Sep. 18	Mailed postcard to residents announcing change in date for October monthly meeting
Oct. 10	Mailed flyer to residents announcing door-to-door outreach efforts regarding groundwater survey
Oct. 14	Held monthly Saturday public meeting at former Carrie Gosch Elementary School Meeting Topic: Updates on past, present and future activities at the site
Oct 18, 19, 25	Conducted door-to-door outreach efforts regarding groundwater survey
Oct. 24 & 25	Director of Environmental Justice Matthew Tajada and EPA representatives met with community groups



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DuPont Facility: www.epa.gov/in/hazardous-waste-cleanup-dupont-facility-east-chicago-indiana

2017 (cont.)

Nov.	Cancelled and rescheduled Multi-Agency Open House at the request of community groups Developed USS Lead Superfund Site Information Resource List (English and Spanish) Developed PUR Filter Installation/Change Fact Sheet (English and Spanish) Mailed postcards (English and Spanish) to residents in Zones 2 and 3 notifying them of cancellation of Nov. 18 Multi-Agency Open House and rescheduled date of Open House for Jan. 20, 2018 Participated in ECCC's Lunch and Learn program Delivered postcards "EPA Needs to Meet with You" to homes where there was no response from residents for indoor dust sampling (English and Spanish)
Dec. 5	Mailed Resource List and PUR Water Filter Flyers to residents in Zones 2 and 3 (English and Spanish)
Dec. 11	Placed ad in the <i>Northwest Indiana Times</i> announcing Public Comment Opportunity on the Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) proposed document
Dec. 12	Mailed Notice of Public Comment Opportunity for the proposed document of ESD to residents in Zones 2 and 3 (English and Spanish)

2018

Jan. 5	Mailed postcard to residents in Zones 2 and 3 announcing Jan. 20 public meeting (English and Spanish)
Jan. 20	Held Saturday public meeting at former Carrie Gosch Elementary School Meeting Topic: Explanation of Significant Difference, Unilateral Administrative Orders and Site Updates Delivered copies of the ESD and Unilateral Orders to Information Repositories
Jan. 26	Mailed flyer to residents in Zones 2 and 3 announcing Feb. 15 public meeting regarding the ESD proposed document (English and Spanish)
Jan. 31	Placed ad in the <i>Northwest Indiana Times</i> announcing the Feb. 15 ESD public meeting (English and Spanish)



Feb. 15	Held public meeting at East Chicago Public Library to discuss the ESD proposed document (Estimated Increased Cleanup Costs); court reporter was present to record comments
Mar. 16	Mailed flyer to residents in Zones 2 and 3 announcing the April 7 Construction Kickoff meeting (English and Spanish)
Mar. 28	Placed ad in the <i>Northwest Indiana Times</i> announcing the April 7 Construction Kickoff meeting (English and Spanish)
Apr. 7	Held public meeting and open house at former Carrie Gosch Elementary School Meeting Topic: Construction Update and Open House Held listening session at former Carrie Gosch Elementary School with EPA Region 5 Regional Administrator, IDEM Commissioner and Senior Advisor to Administrator Pruitt
Apr. 17	Conducted East Chicago Calumet Coalition Site Tour of Zone 1
May	Established community outreach office at former Carrie Gosch Elementary School; EPA staff available Monday through Friday; and hotline number is posted if staff not available
May 3	Mailed first postcard to residents announcing community interviews being held in June (English and Spanish)
May 8	Published ad in <i>Northwest Indiana Times</i> announcing the issuance of the USS Lead ESD
May 23	Mailed second postcard to residents announcing June community interviews (English and Spanish)
May	Prepared Community Interview Process Fact Sheet (English and Spanish) Posted the Difference Between RCRLA and CERCLA Fact Sheet (English and Spanish) on site web page
May 31	Delivered packets containing English and Spanish versions of Community Interview Process factsheet and previous factsheets to local churches and ECCC's president for distribution.
Jun. 11-15	Held community interviews with residents, local church pastors, local city official and other interested community members to update Community Involvement Plan (CIP); Spanish translator was on site to assist



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2018 (cont.)

Jul. 28	EPA had a booth and participated at Calumet Days
Aug. 3	Mailed postcard to residents in Zones 2 and 3 announcing the meeting regarding the ATSDR Health Study Update (English and Spanish)
Aug. 18	Held meeting at former Carrie Gosch Elementary School regarding ATSDR Health Study Update
Sep. 25	EPA awarded TAG to ECCC
Sep. 28	Mailed flyer to residents in Zones 2 and 3 announcing Super Hero Kids Blood Lead Testing Health Fair
Sep. 30	Published ad in <i>Northwest Indiana Times</i> announcing the Super Hero Kids Blood Lead Testing Health Fair
Oct. 3	Hand delivered flyers announcing Super Hero Kids Blood Lead Testing Health Fair to local churches and daycares
Oct. 4 & 10	Conducted door-to-door outreach in Zones 2 and 3 to encourage residents to attend the Super Hero Kids Blood Lead Testing Health Fair
Oct. 11	Held Super Hero Kids Blood Lead Testing event at Martin Luther King Community Center
Oct. 26	Mailed postcards announcing the "End of Construction Season" meeting scheduled for Nov. 17
Nov. 6	Mailed Proposed Plan for Zone 1 fact sheet to residents, which announced the Nov. 29 meeting and the public comment period
Nov. 7	Published ad in <i>Northwest Indiana Times</i> announcing the "End of Construction Season" meeting (in Spanish and English)
Nov. 11	Published ad in <i>Northwest Indiana Times</i> announcing the Proposed Plan for Zone 1 public meeting and public hearing and announcing the public comment period (in Spanish and English)
Nov. 12	Began 60-day public comment period for proposed plan for Zone 1 (Nov. 12 – Jan. 14, 2019)
Nov. 17	Held "End of Construction Season" meeting at former Carrie Gosch Elementary School
Nov. 27	Notified community that monitoring wells will be installed week of Nov. 26
Nov. 28	Mailed "End of Construction Season" fact sheet
Nov. 29	Conducted USS Lead site tour with Black Chambers of Commerce Held public meeting and public hearing at Robert A. Pastrick Library

Appendix H

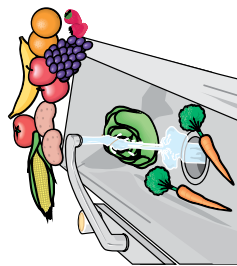
ATSDR Fact Sheet



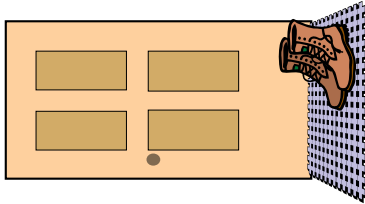
- Don't Let Kids Play in Dirt

DON'T LET KIDS PLAY IN DIRT -- they could be exposed to high levels of lead.

This flyer has information to help keep you safe.



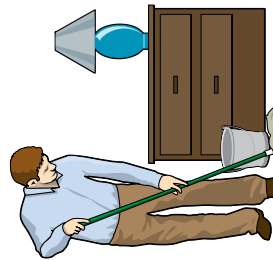
Wash and peel all garden vegetables and fruits and avoid growing root crops (such as carrots, beets, potatoes)



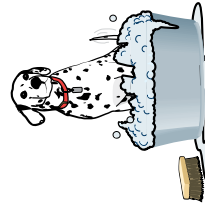
Wipe shoes on doormat or remove shoes



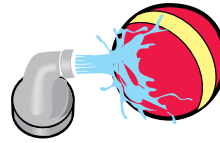
Don't eat food, chew gum, or smoke when working in the yard and wear gloves



Damp mop floors and damp dust counters and furniture regularly



Wash dogs regularly



Wash children's toys and babies' pacifiers regularly



Wash children's hands and feet after they have been playing outside

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**USS Lead Site
Zones 2 and 3**

ATSDR
AGENCY FOR TOXIC SUBSTANCES
AND DISEASE REGISTRY

10/4/2016

What is lead and why is it dangerous?

Exposure to high levels of lead can cause a range of health effects, from behavioral problems and learning disabilities to seizures and death. Children 6 years old and younger are most at-risk because their bodies are growing quickly and the effects of the lead can cause problems. Children often have higher levels of exposure because they play in dirt and may put dirty hands in their mouths. Also, children who lack proper nutrition may absorb more lead and suffer more harmful effects.

Lead is a naturally occurring heavy metal. It is commonly found at low levels in soil. Low levels of lead can be found in the air, water, food and dust in cities because of the widespread use of lead in man-made products. The federal government regulates the amount of lead in the air, water and soil.

Eating or swallowing soil with high lead levels is a common way of getting lead into your body. Children get lead in their bodies when they put their hands, toys or other items covered with lead dust in their mouths. When lead gets into your body, it may cause health problems.

Do not let children play in dirt that contains high amounts of lead.

- Have children play on grass.
- Keep children from playing in bare dirt or mulch.
- Cover bare dirt with grass, bushes or 4 to 6 inches of lead-free wood chips, mulch, soil or sand.

Protect your family from lead-based paint in the yard.

- Keep your family, especially young children, away from areas in the yard where paint is peeling or chipping, such as from old porches, fences, or houses.
- Do not try to remove lead paint yourself unless you have been trained to follow lead-safe work practices. Hire a professional lead specialist who follows lead-safe work practices.
- If you paint over lead-based paint, use special paint that will seal in the old paint.

Keep children's hands and toys clean.

- Wash children's hands before they eat any food if they have been playing outside.
- When eating outdoors, always eat in an area where there is no bare soil.
- Do not let your children put toys, dirty hands, paint chips, or other things that might have lead dust on them into their mouths

Residents may have their children's blood lead tested by calling the East Chicago Health Department at 219-391-8467.

USS Lead Site East Chicago, IN

For further information about the EPA investigation:

EPA Contacts:

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Janet Pope
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Charles Rodriguez
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Questions about lead health concerns, contact:

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Toxicologist
ATSDR-R5
312-886-0840
mjohnson@cdc.gov

WWW.

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Appendix I

Community Interview Fact Sheet



In response to questions and concerns raised from the community and to alleviate their wariness about participating in community interviews, we developed the Community Interview Fact Sheet, which explains the purpose, importance and process of the interviews. EPA does not solely rely on interviews to gather opinions, questions, information and concerns from the community. During meetings, open houses and one-on-one discussions, EPA learns from community members what is important to them and what concerns they have.



Community Interviews Are Important

USS Lead Site and DuPont Facility

East Chicago, Indiana

May 2018

For more information

For questions, comments or for more information contact these EPA team members:

USS Lead Superfund Site

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Community Involvement
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312-353-0628
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Charles Rodriguez

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On the web:

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DuPont Facility

Rafael Gonzalez

Community Involvement
Coordinator
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On the web:

www.epa.gov/in/hazardous-waste-cleanup-dupont-facility-east-chicago-indiana

USS Lead Hotline:
219-801-2199

EPA Region 5 toll-free:
800-621-8431, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm,
weekdays

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is in the process of updating its Community Involvement Plan, or CIP, for the USS Lead Superfund site. This updated CIP will also include the DuPont Facility. Receiving input from the community about how EPA can most effectively share information is crucial to the development of the plan. Under Superfund law, specifically the National Contingency Plan, EPA is required to prepare a community involvement plan. The RCRA Public Participation Manual provides a recommendation that a CIP is prepared. Residents provide valuable information on local history, community involvement activities and site conditions. The purpose of a CIP is to provide EPA with information about community concerns and enhance communication between residents and the Agency. Information gathered from residents helps EPA understand how the community wants to receive information and the type of information they would like to receive. The CIP is a “living” document that is updated based on the needs of the community.

We want to know your thoughts on the USS Lead Superfund and DuPont sites. We value your opinion and hope you will help us better understand your needs regarding these sites. *You do not need to have prior information about the sites, we just want to know any thoughts, concerns and questions you have.*

The EPA team conducts the interviews and is often supported by contractors who assist with some portions of the interviews. The contractor generally schedules the interviews with community members, takes notes and writes up notes summarizing each individual interview.

Below are answers to questions EPA has received about the community interview process.

1. *During the interview, will there be a standard list of questions that each person will be asked?*

Interviews with residents are informal conversations to help EPA better communicate about the Superfund site. There is no right or wrong answer. EPA asks people a standard list of questions to gauge their knowledge about the site, EPA activities and how they best like to receive information. Using the same questions with everyone helps us understand the needs of the community.

(continued on back page)



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(continued from front)

2. ***How will residents know how to answer or what questions to ask on their own if they know very little about these two sites?***

Again, *there are no right or wrong answers*. We are looking for your opinions. During each interview, we always ask people how familiar they are with a site and the environmental activities happening there. If they know very little about the site, we give them a summary.

3. ***It would seem in order to ask and answer questions, residents must be educated about the sites first and how the sites affect them.***

These interviews are informal conversations. We want to know what people know. If someone we talk with doesn't know anything about the site, EPA will acknowledge that and perhaps make future decisions on how to get more information out to more people. We also provide past fact sheets and other helpful information at the community interviews regarding the site.

4. ***Will EPA be canvassing the residential areas and businesses to make sure residents are aware of site issues and how they affect them?***

The purpose of the interviews is to find out what people in the community know about the sites, what their concerns are, how they want to receive information and what type of information they want to receive.

EPA uses the information gathered from these conversations to develop an outreach plan to make sure we reach as many people as we can.

5. ***Will all city officials be contacted or just the mayor?***

We have a large mailing list for invitations to these interviews that includes the mayor, city council, community groups, and residents but we hope YOU will participate as well.

6. ***Will you be sending out post cards about the interviews that look like junk mail?***

We do try to make the postcards look different as much as we can within EPA's style guide. If people think the post cards and mailings look like junk mail, this is the type of feedback and information we are looking for during the interviews. This opinion helps us to respond to the needs of the community.

7. ***It's nice the EPA is updating the CIP, but I'm concerned the Agency must not have been hearing the residents at the monthly community meetings. We have been voicing our concerns on how the EPA can involve and inform people of its cleanup activities.***

EPA does listen and has heard many issues voiced at meetings. The community interview process is another way for EPA to hear concerns from the community and to give residents an opportunity to talk one-on-one with EPA staff. We realize that sometimes people are not comfortable talking in front of a larger meeting and look forward to visiting with EPA officials on an informal basis. If there are other ways you think EPA can inform and involve the community about cleanup activities, the CIP interviews are a good way to share those suggestions.

Appendix J

List of Interview Questions

Community Interviews conducted June 2010



1. How long have you lived/worked in the area?
2. Do you represent or are you a member of a community organization or group?
3. What do you know about the USS Lead site?
4. How did you get information about the site?
5. What concerns, if any, do you have about the problems associated with the USS Lead site for you and your family?
6. How would you characterize the concerns of the community about the USS Lead site?
7. Who have you talked to (any local, state, or federal government agencies) about the site? What kind of response did you receive?
8. How are you currently receiving information about the site? Would you like to be on EPA's mailing list or email list?
9. How would you like to get information about the site cleanup? Fact sheets; workshops; Internet; public notices; news media; public meetings
10. Have you participated in any public meetings and/or community group meetings for the site? If so, how many?
11. Are you aware of EPA's website? Have you been on it? Is it easy to navigate?
12. What days, times, and locations would be best for public meetings?
13. What newspapers do you read?
14. Is English widely understood in this community? What other languages do people speak?
15. What other individuals might we contact for an interview?
16. Is there anything else you would like to share about the site?

Community Interview questions conducted in June 2018 are in the Community Concerns section (Page 11)

Appendix K

TAG and TASC

K



EPA attends CAG meeting to give updates and answer questions on site activities.

Several programs are available to assist communities affected by a Superfund site.

Visit <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-technical-assistance-communities> for information on the programs available.



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DuPont Facility: www.epa.gov/in/hazardous-waste-cleanup-dupont-facility-east-chicago-indiana

Technical Assistance Grant (TAG)
Program Description
\$50,000 grant that is awarded to help a group hire a technical advisor of their choosing to explain technical reports, site conditions, and EPA's proposed cleanup plans.
Can only be used for National Priorities List, or NPL, Superfund sites .
Can only be 1 TAG at a time per Superfund site.
Technical advisor must have demonstrated knowledge of hazardous waste issues, be trained in relevant fields and communicate technical information. EPA will provide group a list of sources.
More restrictions than TASC program.
Program Eligibility and Restrictions
Only groups can apply.
Members must be representative of the community , live near the Superfund site, and be potentially affected by it.
Groups must be non-profit and incorporated (or in the process of becoming incorporated) .
Groups NOT eligible for TAG : Academic institutions, potentially responsible parties, or PRPs (or groups that receive money or services from PRPs), unincorporated groups, townships or municipalities, groups affiliated with a national organization that has direct or indirect control over your group, groups that are not incorporated with the specific purposes of representing the affected people.
Group Responsibilities & Grant Money
Responsible for sharing information learned from technical advisor with the community.
Provide input to EPA and make educated decisions regarding their families.
Manage the grant money , which can be used to hire a grant manager , purchase or rent office supplies and for print materials to distribute information about the site.
Keep detailed financial records , ask EPA for reimbursement to pay advisor, prepare and give quarterly progress reports detailing how funds are being used.
Groups can NOT use money for lawsuits, political activity and lobbying, social activities/ceremonies, meals/rentals/tips, training/travel, sampling, health/epidemiological studies, resolving disputes with EPA, reopening final EPA decisions.
Application Process
Group writes EPA a " Letter of Intent " identifying your group and your intentions for the TAG for a particular site.
EPA informs the community of the letter through an advertisement in a local paper, and then the community has 30 days to join the group or write their own letter if they want to compete for the TAG. Each group has 30 days to complete their TAG application once they have submitted their letter.
If more than 1 group applies, EPA begins a selection process and looks at the group's plans for using the TAG money and its concrete plans for how the group will share information with the rest of the community for the good of the community. EPA will review the group's goals, workplans, budget, resources, and timeline .
Process takes about 5 to 6 months from "Letter of Intent" to final award.



Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC)
Program Description
Services are provided by an EPA contractor and there is no limit on the amount of assistance given.
Can be used for National Priorities List, or NPL, Superfund sites as well as other hazardous waste cleanup actions administered under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, or RCRA.
Can be more than two groups receiving TASC services, and there may be a group or groups receiving TASC services while yet another group holds the TAG.
Groups are being given direct services instead of money .
TASC contractor may be used to learn and represent the interests of the community, repair broken trust , or operate in a neutral facilitator role. The TASC contractor can also be used to facilitate or enhance the community's understanding of technical issues associated with the site.
Less restrictions than TAG program.
Program Eligibility and Restrictions
Any group that is looking to share the benefits of the support they receive through TASC with the rest of the affected community, as long as they live in or near the affected area .
Group needs to identify a technical support need that the community requires assistance with.
Group Responsibilities and Contractor Services
Responsible for attending and participating in meetings with the contractor, providing site background and current issues , establishing technical assistance project deadlines , and reviewing contractor products .
Information Assistance: Create fact sheets, maps, webpages, translations, etc.
Community Education: Hold workshops and seminars, create training materials, help with participation in decision-making, help with creation of Community Needs Assessment.
Technical Expertise: Review and summarize reports and meetings, facilitate discussions between communities and stakeholders.
Technical Assistance Needs Evaluation and Plan Development: Develop technical assistance plans, assist communities with needs evaluations.
Application Process
No formal application process.
(1) Group must submit written request to your EPA regional office describing the specific technical assistance service needed, and (2) EPA then makes arrangements with the EPA contractor to provide the service .