U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
USS Lead Response - SitRep #58

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region 5

Subject:	SitRep #58 USS Lead Response East Chicago, IN
To:	U.S.S. Lead Response Distribution List
Through:	Jacob Hassan, Response Official
From:	Mark A. Rutkowski (START), Situation Unit Leader
Date:	12/05/16
Reporting Period:	11/30/16, 1500 hours – 12/05/16, 1500 hours

Restoration work completed for a property in Zone 2. (Credit: Daniel Haag, November 30, 2016)

Section 1: Introduction & Site Background

The U.S. Smelter and Lead Refinery, Inc. (USS Lead) site is located in East Chicago, Lake County, Indiana. A copper smelter, lead refinery and secondary lead smelter operated on-site from the 1920s to 1985. Smelting operations volatilized metals including lead and arsenic. Some lead-containing dust was wind deposited on the area soils during these operations. Blast furnace slag was stockpiled south of the plant building and spread once a year over an adjoining wetland south of the Site. The primary contaminants of concern are lead and arsenic which are present in exposed soils and subsequently could be tracked into the area residences.

EPA listed the USS Lead site to the National Priorities List (NPL) in 2009. The site includes part of the former USS Lead facility along with nearby commercial, municipal and residential areas. The overall site has been divided into three zones. The Removal Program is currently addressing soil and residential contamination in Zone 1 and specifically at the West Calumet Housing Complex (WCHC). Mulch has been placed over all exposed soils at the WCHC. Indoor sampling has been conducted in a subset of WCHC homes and analytical results are being validated. Teams have been mobilized to communicate directly with residents, develop temporary relocation procedures, develop cleaning procedures, and initiate outdoor sampling. The Remedial Program is currently collecting samples in Zones 2 and 3, and the analytical results will be evaluated for other potential areas needing remediation.

EPA is working in a Multi-Agency Coordination Team with the City of East Chicago, the East Chicago Housing Authority (ECHA), the State of Indiana, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

1.1 Incident Command Post

The U.S. EPA Incident Command Post (ICP) is located in the Carrie Gosch Elementary School at 455 E 148th St, East Chicago, IN 46312. The staging area for the response is located at E. 149th Place and McCook Avenue, East Chicago, IN 46312.

1.2 Objectives

- Ensure health and safety of the public and response personnel.
- Provide and manage necessary communications, both internally and externally.
- Conduct maintenance mulching operations in Zone 1.
- Continue sampling, as appropriate, in all zones.
- Conduct soil excavation, backfill, and restoration in Zones 2 and 3.
- Effective command, communications and control from job-site to Region 5 and EPA HQ.
- Manage media inquiries for accuracy and relay contamination results/lead levels to families.
- Effective temporary relocations for families with minimal disruptions to daily lifestyle.
- Continue planning for future demobilization.

1.3 Staffing

As of 1500 hours, 70 people were checked in either on site or in the EOC today. For more detailed staffing information, see **Section 3: Metrics Table**

Section 2: Activities during Reporting Period

2.1 Project Coordination

Attended East Chicago report out with General Staff and Regional Management at 1500 on 12/05/2016.

2.2 Sampling Team

- Two soil samples were collected from properties in Zone 2.
- Six residents were verbally contacted about dust sampling results in Zone 2
- Five residents were verbally contacted about dust sampling results in Zone 3.
- One indoor dust sample was collected from a residence in Zone 2.
- All six air monitoring locations are in place and operating.

2.3 Community Involvement Team

- Answered the EPA hotline at (219-801-2199).
- For the reporting period, total contacts as of 1500 is 50 for all zones (including walk-ins, outgoing calls, home visits, and incoming calls).

2.4 Interview/Relocation Team

As of 10/28/16, EPA has made contact with all 350 units in Zone 1. All have either refused EPA cleaning, or cleaning has been completed, and relocation has been completed as of Friday November 5, 2016.

2.5 Liaison

No liaison activities conducted this reporting period.

2.6 Public Information

No activities conducted this reporting period.

2.7 Safety

- No injuries or illness reported this period.
- Routine site safety inspections and monitoring continuing as required.

2.8 Finance

Standing Reminder: Check the R5EOC email from 8/29/16 at 1038 for USS Lead Deployment accounting codes using 2017 accounting codes and the onsite billing memos for Zones 2 and 3. If you have any questions regarding site costs, contact the onsite Response Officials.

2.9 Remedial (Zones 2 & 3)

- EPA continues to receive validated results for soil sampling in Zone 2.
- Excavations in Zone 2 are complete for the 2016 construction season.
- A total of 52 property excavations have been completed in Zones 2 and 3.
- As of 1500, 485 properties have been sampled in Zone 2 and 419 in Zone 3.
- Zone 2 tap water sampling is complete.
- Eleven final inspections were completed on properties in Zone 2.

2.10 Data Management

- Continued daily data loading and GIS Webviewer development.
- Coordinated with START Contractor (SRS) equipment logistics requirements to perform air monitoring and sampling in Zone 3.
- Continual data entry into Scribe™.
- Continued development of i-forms to support field remediation activities.

Section 3: Metrics Table

Area of Sites	Zone 1		Zone 2		Zone 3		Total	
Metric	Reporting Period Total (11/30/16 – 12/05/16)	Cumulative Total	Reporting Period Total (11/30/16 – 12/05/16)	Cumulative Total	Reporting Period Total (11/30/16 – 12/05/16)	Cumulative Total	Reporting Period Total (11/30/16 – 12/05/16)	Cumulative Total
Community Involvement								
Interactions with Residents in Zones 1-3 (walk-ins, outgoing/incoming calls, home visits, etc.); includes multiple contacts with the same people								1695
Temporary Relocation/Residential Cleaning								
Interviews Conducted	0	273	4	6	2	5	6	284
Cleaning Access Agreements Signed	0	270	4	6	2	5	6	281
Declined Cleaning	0	037	0	0	0	0	0	37
Currently Relocated Residences								
Homes Cleaned	0	267	2	2	2	2	4	271
Belongings Cleaned (No relocation)	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
Households Returned Home	0	267	NA	0	NA	0	0	267
Vacant Units Per ECHA	0	28	NA	0	NA	0	0	28
Outdoor Soil Sampling								
Total Properties		-		596		468	0	1064
Total Priority Properties (1200 Pb/68 As)	-	-	0	39	0	39	0	78
Access agreement signed (outdoor soil sampling)	-	-	3	503	0	419	3	922
Access denied	-	-	0	5	0	16	0	22
Not yet contacted	-	-	0	101	0	33	0	134
Properties Soil Sampled	-	-	2	485	0	419	2	904
Indoor Dust Sampling								
Properties Scheduled for Indoor Dust Sampling Appointments	0	246	2	23	0	36	2	305
Total Properties with Indoor Dust Samples Collected*	0	270	1	23	0	37	1	330

Area of Sites	Zone 1		Zone 2		Zone 3		Total	
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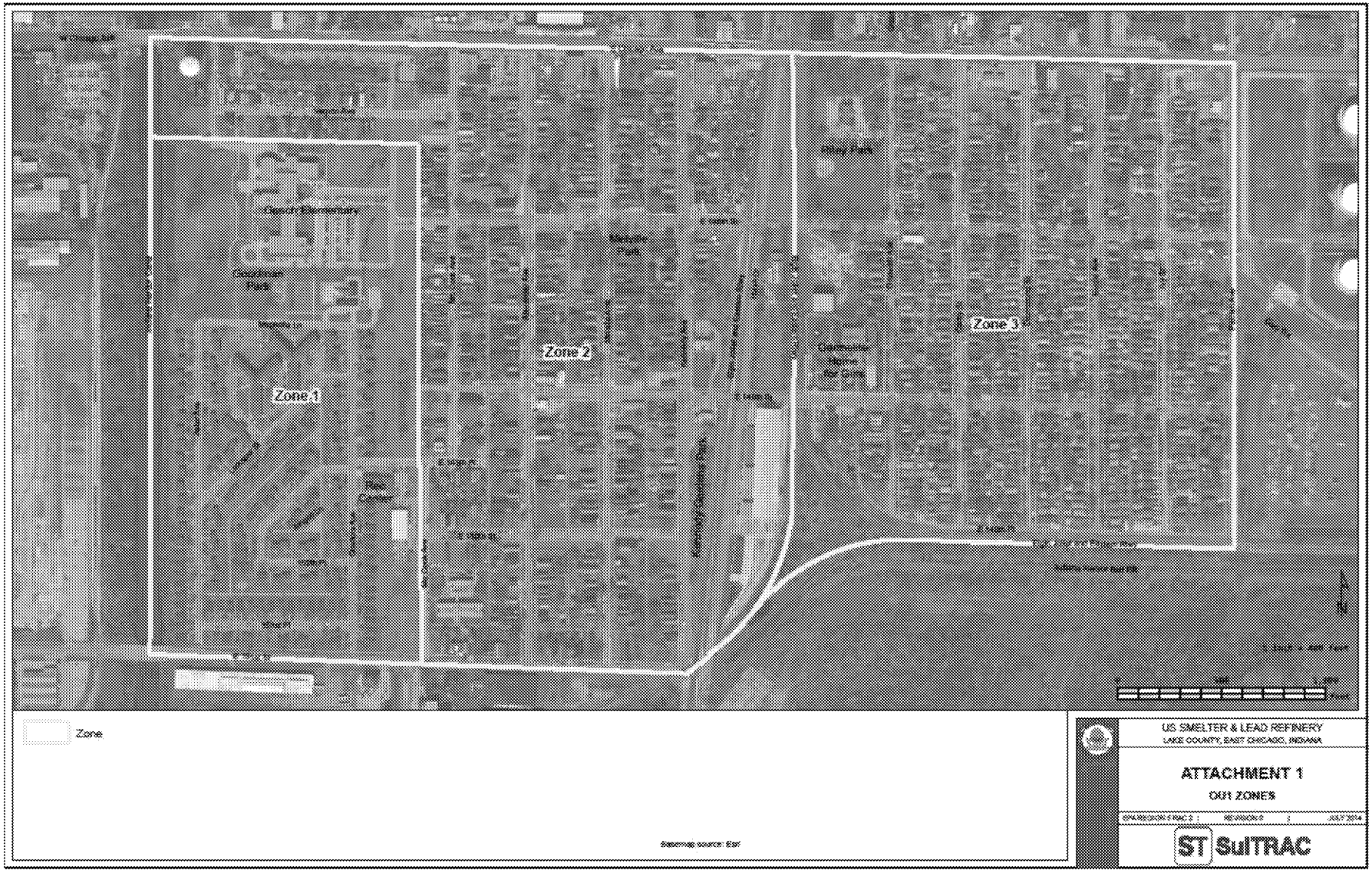
Residences Verbally Contacted about Sampling Results Prior to Mailing Letters	0	117	6	13	5	30	11	160
Result Letters Sent to Residents	4	262	0	3	0	2	4	267
Pre-Excavation Tap Water Sampling (Priority Property)								
Access denied			0	1	0	2	0	3
Properties with Tap Samples Collected			0	8	0	35	0	43
Properties provided bottled water			0	8	0	36	0	40
Water Sampling Not Applicable (e.g., vacant lot, apartment building)			0	8	0	1	0	9
Remedial Action (Priority Properties only for Zones 2 and 3)**								
Total properties targeted for remedial action (Excavation, Backfill, restoration)			0	19	0	38	0	57
Access Agreements Signed			0	17	0	38	0	55
Access denied			0	2	0	0	0	2
Properties with Excavation completed			0	17	0	38	0	55
Volume of Soil removed (cubic yards)			0	1623	0	6150	0	7773
Properties with back-fill completed			0	17	5	35	5	52
Properties with topsoil completed			0	17	4	29	4	46
Properties with restoration completed			0	16	1	29	1	45
Properties that meet maintenance period end date (30 days after restoration)			0	-	5	15	5	15
Post-Excavation Tap Water Sampling (Priority Property)								
Properties with Post-Excavation Tap Samples Collected			0	8	4	23	4	31
Properties provided with a water filter			0	8	3	23	3	31
Residences Verbally Contacted about Final Water Results Prior to Mailing Letters								

Area of Sites	Zone 1		Zone 2		Zone 3		Total	
Metric	Reporting Period Total (11/30/16 – 12/05/16)	Cumulative Total	Reporting Period Total (11/30/16 – 12/05/16)	Cumulative Total	Reporting Period Total (11/30/16 – 12/05/16)	Cumulative Total	Reporting Period Total (11/30/16 – 12/05/16)	Cumulative Total
Samples that exceed lead (15ppb) or copper (1.3ppm)			-	-	-	-	-	-
Post-Excavation Tap Water Result Letters Sent to Residents			-	-	-	-	-	-
Final Inspection (Priority Properties for Zones 2 and 3)								
Final Inspection Complete			11	15		3	11	18
Residences Verbally Contacted about Final Inspection Results Prior to Mailing Letters			-	-	-	-	-	-
Completion Letters Sent to Residents			-	-	-	-	-	-
Personnel								
EPA on-Site							7	
Coordinating Agency on-site								
Indiana State Department of Health								
Contractors/other personnel							63	
EPA in Emergency Operations Center (EOC)								
Total							70	

Section 4: Definition of Terms

Acronym	Definition
ATSDR	Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
DOJ	Department of Justice
ECHA	East Chicago Housing Authority
EDD	Electronic Data Deliverable
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
ERRS	Emergency Rapid Response Services
EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
HUD	Department of Housing and Urban Development
ICP	Incident Command Post
ISDH	Indiana State Department of Health
ORC	Office of Regional Counsel
NPL	National Priority List
PII	Personally Identifiable Information
SitRep	Situation Report
START	Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team
WCHC	West Calumet Housing Complex
USS Lead	U.S. Smelter and Lead Refinery, Inc.
XRF	X-ray Fluorescence

Appendix A
Site Diagram