UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

April 29, 2010

The City of East Chicago Housing Authority
4920 Larkspur St
East Chicago, IN 46312

Subject: Soil sampling results for 4962 Jonquil Lane

To whom it may concern:

In December 2009, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) collected samples from many properties in your neighborhood in East Chicago, as part of an investigation of lead contamination in the area and the USS Lead Superfund Site. This letter contains the laboratory results for the soil collected from your property at 4962 Jonquil Lane.

Soil samples from your yard contained the following concentrations of lead:

Location	Sample depth	Lead concentration (ppm)*
Front yard	0-6 inches	2071.45
	6 -12 inches	2708.03
	12 – 18 inches	2175.36
	18 – 24 inches	1369.13 (1400)**
Back yard	0-6 inches	573.79 (849)
	6 -12 inches	1729.86
	12 – 18 inches	430.23 (498)
	18 – 24 inches	586.54
Drip Line	0-6 inches	1608.95
Garden	0-6 inches	N/A
	6 -12 inches	N/A
	12 – 18 inches	N/A
	18 – 24 inches	N/A
Play Area	0-6 inches	N/A
	6-12 inches	N/A
	12-18 inches	N/A
	18-24 inches	N/A

* ppm: parts per million
** Additional lead analyses, conducted at an EPA-approved laboratory, are shown in parentheses.
N/A – Not Applicable

EPA collected a total of nine samples from the front yard, downspout discharges, drip lines, gardens, and/or play areas at your property. Five boreholes were made in the front and back yards at your property, and samples were taken from four different depths (0 to 6 inches, 6 to 12 inches, 12 to 18 inches, and 18 to 24 inches). Samples from the same depth interval from each yard were mixed together to get a representative sample for that depth in each yard at your property. EPA also collected a shallow soil sample from the downspout discharges or drip lines where water flows off the roof and lands on the soil.

Soil samples were analyzed for lead using a field laboratory procedure. In addition to sampling for lead as discussed above, EPA also collected samples to evaluate the presence of other chemicals in the soils at your property. Three samples from your property were sent to an EPA-approved laboratory for additional analysis. EPA is still evaluating those sample results and will contact you about them shortly.

EPA has developed screening levels for lead in soil which help us determine if a property should be further studied. Analytical results of soil samples from residential yards which show more than 400 parts per million (ppm) of lead may require some of the soil to be removed. One part per million is similar to four drops of ink in a 55-gallon barrel of water.

While EPA is completing those studies and developing a final cleanup plan, EPA will consider whether immediate cleanups on the most contaminated properties are required. During this time period, EPA will be evaluating whether immediate interim cleanup actions are required. As soon as we have developed a final cleanup plan, we will present it to you and the other East Chicago residents at public information sessions within the community. We hope to be able to present the final cleanup plan to you by early 2012, at the latest, though we will be conducting other public information sessions prior to that.

Included in this mailing is a guide for protecting your children and yourself from lead-contaminated soil. We encourage you and your family to follow the recommendations until a final cleanup takes place.

If you have any questions about this letter or the sampling results, I urge you to call me toll free at 1-800-621-8431 ext. 38983 or email me at berkoff.michael@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Michael Berkoff
EPA Remedial Project Manager