USS Lead and Refinery, Inc. Superfund Site
East Chicago, Indiana
Activity Report
August 19, 2016

COMMUNICATION BETWEEN EPA, HUD, ECHA AND THE CITY:

- Parties continue to hold regularly-scheduled and specially-scheduled calls
- Next call scheduled for Monday, August 22, 2016, at 3:30 CT.

INTERIOR SAMPLING:

- Indoor sampling will continue as CICs have secured more agreements for access.
- EPA will share sampling results promptly upon receipt of validated data, which it now has for 42 units
- EPA has shared results with 28 unit residents

INTERIOR CLEANING:

- As of August 18, 2016, EPA has cleaned four homes
- EPA has scheduled cleaning and temporary relocation at 19 units and continues to interview and qualify others for cleanup
- EPA was expected to add an additional cleaning crew on August 19, 2016, bringing to 5 the total number of crews

ZONE 2 WORK:

- EPA has deployed two field teams and has sampled 38 locations
- EPA has requested and the City has granted verbal access for sampling at approximately 50 properties owned by the City and located in Zone 2
- The City will follow up with the execution of a written Access Agreement following proper authorization by the City Council

ZONE 3 WORK:

- EPA has asked to meet with the City during the week of August 22, 2016, to talk about the work in Zone 3

- EPA expects to soon complete remedial design work
- EPA anticipates starting work on yards in Zone 3 in the fall of 2016
- EPA will continue work in Zone 3 in 2017

COMMUNICATION BETWEEN EPA AND THE EAST CHICAGO SCHOOL DISTRICT:

- The School District has elected to close the Carrie Gosch Elementary School for the year
- EPA is talking with the District about using classrooms for EPA offices and will meet with the Superintendent on August 16, 2016, to discuss this matter
- All four samples taken from the school are below screening levels for fine lead (data to be validated further)
- EPA was scheduled to sample the West Elementary School, the school to which WCHC students have been redirected, on August 18, 2016

HUD RELOCATION:

- ECHA held a meeting on Thursday, August 18, 2016, with residents to discuss vouchers and relocation procedures
- ECHA's goal is to relocate all residents from the Complex by November 30, 2016
- The vouchers apparently are effective starting September 1, 2016, so the first HUD-initiated moves should begin September 1, 2016
- ECHA and its residents are concerned about whether money will be available to defray moving costs
- HUD advised that it is looking for a solution to the problem of providing moving expenses
- EPA raised the issue of moving expenses with IDEM in a call on August 17, 2106
- EPA and the City have received and begun to review a letter dated August 17, 2016, from the Shriver Center to HUD and ECHA

STAGING AREA FOR EPA TRAILERS:

- EPA may use the Carrie Gosch School rather than trailers

- EPA may need additional space as well

COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

- EPA, ECHA, ATSDR, HUD and the City should coordinate an availability session to answer residents' questions.
- EPA attended the Minister's Meeting on August 16, 2016
- EPA met with Congressman Visclosky and City representatives earlier this week
- EPA has talked with and will continue to talk with a representative of the Northwestern Law School Legal Clinic
- EPA is responding to a FOIA request from the University of Chicago School of Law's Clinic

ATSDR:

- ATSDR continues to work with EPA to develop targets for sampling and cleanup
- ATSDR has identified 285 children six years of age or under in 182 units within the WCHC
- ATSDR is talking with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Purdue University Extension Service about providing nutritional assistance to residents

MOWING:

- At the request of the ECHA, EPA sent on July 27, 2016, a letter to the City (with copies to the Park Department and School District) that sets forth its position with respect to mowing.

MULCHING:

- EPA has completed placing mulch at 109 buildings (109 total) and 100% of the park area.
- Crews will replace mulch on areas that are showing exposed soil

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