

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Pilsen Soil Operable Unit 2 Residential - Removal Polrep
Initial Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region V

Subject: POLREP #1
Initial
Pilsen Soil Operable Unit 2 Residential
C5N8RV02
Chicago, IL

To: Bruce Everetts, Illinois EPA
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Terry Sheahan, Chicago Dept. of Health
Doug Ballotti, USEPA
Samuel Borries, EPA Region 5
Roger Lauder, IL EPA
Peachey Robert, EPA Region 5
EOC HQ, EPA HQ

From: Ramon Mendoza, On-Scene Coordinator

Date: 12/22/2016

Reporting Period: Field Activities From Dec. 20-23, 2016

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	C5N8RV02	Contract Number:	
D.O. Number:		Action Memo Date:	8/3/2015
Response Authority:	CERCLA	Response Type:	Time-Critical
Response Lead:	PRP	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	2
Mobilization Date:	12/19/2016	Start Date:	12/20/2016
Demob Date:		Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:	ILN000504472	RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	
FPN#:		Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

This time critical removal action is a PRP lead under an EPA Unilateral Administrative Order.

1.1.2 Site Description

Pilsen Soil [Operable Unit 2 \(OU2\)](#) Residential Site : OU2 is a residential area bounded by West 18th Place to the north, a north-south alley between South Allport Street and South Racine Avenue to the east, West 21st Street to the south, and South Loomis Street to the west. There are about 178 residential properties in this 25-acre OU2 site. About 121 of the properties have non-permanent covers in their yards such as bare soil, grass or gravel and are the focus of EPA actions. In 2010, approximately 1,563 people lived within the boundaries of the Site, and the residential yards have high accessibility to sensitive populations including young children and pregnant women.

1.1.2.1 Location

Chicago, Illinois 60608
See Site Description

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

The lead concentration in surface soils are above the EPA screening level of 400 mg/kg lead in residential yards and gardens. Residents living in these homes may be exposed to the lead in these surface soils.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

EPA conducted Site Assessment activities in 2014 with additional residential parcels in 2016. Lead was found in surface soils in the residential yards and gardens above the EPA removal management level of 400 parts per million. The average Site surface soil lead concentrations were 1,412 mg/kg. There is an estimated population of around 1,563 people living, walking, working, and playing on the contaminated surface soils in the Site. These people have a high accessibility to residential yards including sensitive populations such as young children and pregnant women. EPA's risk assessment concluded that the soil concentrations of lead at the Site are at an unacceptable risk level to the residents accessing the Site.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

Site work was conducted on Tuesday to Thursday, December 20th and 23st, 2016.

EPA OSC START provided oversight of all removal activities on site. GHD (H.Kramer's contractor) had a representative on-site to oversee the removal work. Removal work was also conducted by GHD's contractor RW Collins. START documented property specific removal activities by recording field notes in a site specific log book and by taking photographs. Air monitoring as required by OSHA was conducted by GHD and RW Collin's contractor Hygieneering.

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

a) The following work was conducted from Dec. 20-21, 2016

Work was conducted after H.Kramer's contractor contacted the owners. Below is a removal status summary of each of the properties:

19__ S. Loomis St., Dec. 20:

The soil area in the backyard was excavated by RW Collins utilizing a jackhammer to break up the frozen soil, a pick axe, and shovels. Removal work was completed to a depth of 1' below original ground surface. Orange snow fencing was placed above soil remaining in the bottom of the excavation as a demarcation barrier. The excavation was backfilled by RW Collins with CA6 gravel as an engineered barrier. Gravel cover was 1' bgs.

13__ W. 19th St. - Dec. 20:

Soil in raised garden in the front yard was excavated by RW Collins utilizing shovels and a pick axe. A concrete slab was encountered during the removal work at 1' bgs. RW Collins left the concrete slab in place and did not place demarcation barrier. The raised garden was backfilled by RW Collins with topsoil sampled by GHD and approved for use verbally on-site by the EPA OSC.

13__ W. Cullerton St. - Dec. 21:

The soil area behind the garage was excavated by RW Collins utilizing a mini excavator and shovels. A concrete slab was encountered during the removal work that extended approximately 1 foot from the garage and greater than 1' bgs from alley grade. RW Collins removed approximately 6" of soil from on top of the concrete slab and removed approximately 1.5' of soil between the concrete slab and the asphalt alley to a depth of 1' bgs below alley grade. Orange snow fencing was placed above soil remaining in the bottom of the excavation as a demarcation barrier. The excavation was backfilled by RW Collins with CA6 gravel as an engineered barrier. Gravel cover was about 1' bgs.

13__ W. Cullerton St. - Dec. 21:

The depth of the gravel cover on the south side of the gravel driveway was determined by digging up a small portion of the driveway with the mini excavator. The gravel depth was partially assessed during the sampling event on the property. The gravel depth was observed to be thinnest on the south side of the driveway but gain depth 10' to the north to greater than 1' bgs. The gravel layer was determined to be approximately 3" in the thinnest portion and a fabric barrier was observed beneath the gravel layer. The concrete block retaining wall was observed to be unstable as it is damaged (cracked in several places and bowing outwards). EPA and GHD agreed that excavation of the frozen soils would have destabilized the damaged retaining wall further. EPA and GHD agreed that increasing the gravel cover would be a sufficient engineered barrier for this property at this time. RW Collins placed and graded CA6 gravel in the driveway. A greater depth of gravel was placed on the south side of the driveway and graded out 32' north with a skid-steer loader and by hand to blend with the remainder of the driveway. The fabric cover was replaced as needed. Total average gravel cover depth is approximately 12" as an engineered barrier. GHD will follow up with the owner to confirm the change in response plan from soil removal to the addition of gravel as an engineered barrier.

b) Dec. 22-23 - All excavated soil was taken for staging to a common soil pile at H. Kramer. The soils were taken to Laraway Landfill in Joliet, IL. for disposal (as solid waste) on Dec. 23, 2016.

c) Media Interest/ EPA Outreach: EPA OSC and PIO (Arcaute) worked together to meet with media which showed up at the Site from Dec. 20-21: Univision, Telemundo, NBC, and the Chicago Tribune. The Tribune article was published on Dec. 23 at:
<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/breaking/ct-pilsen-lead-cleanup-20161223-story.html>

2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)

During EPA's Removal Site Evaluation (2013-14), H. Kramer & Co. was identified as a significant contributor to the lead found in surface soils in the residential parcels at the Site, due to historical fugitive air emissions of dust which contained lead (slag and zinc oxide).

The response work is being overseen by EPA and is being conducted by H. Kramer's contractors under a Unilateral Administrative Order issued by the USEPA (Sept. 2016). Previous sampling work was conducted from April to June 2016 by H. Kramer's contractors at the Site under an EPA (CERCLA Administrative Order on Consent; to determine the amount of homes above the lead screening level of 400 mg/kg which needed to be cleaned up.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

Waste Stream	Medium	Quantity	Manifest #	Treatment	Disposal
Soil		4.7 cubic yards			Laraway RDF, Waste Management, Joliet, IL.

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

There are about 52 residential parcels at the Site whose owners have not given access to EPA or H. Kramer contractors for sampling and cleanup. Outreach is planned to contact these homeowners to gain written access so their homes can be cleaned up in 2017.

EPA outreach will include: continual updates to the EPA website, community meeting(s), letters to the owners (requesting access), working with the Alderman's Office, and visits to homeowner residence as needed.

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

Soil removal and replacement activities will resume in April 2017. H. Kramer has agreed to clean up to 64 residential parcels (with consent for access) under the EPA Unilateral Administrative Order. As stated in the previous section EPA will seek permission from the owners of 52 residential parcels so those yards & gardens may be sampled for lead and cleaned up if necessary.

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

See Section 2.2.1.

2.2.2 Issues

Worked has temporarily been stopped due to winter conditions and will resume in April 2017.

2.3 Logistics Section

All personnel have temporarily de-mobilized from the Site.

2.4 Finance Section

2.4.1 Narrative

START Total budget was at \$50,000. Of this amount, about \$30,000 was spent overseeing the responsible party and collecting/analyzing soil samples under the EPA Administrative Order on Consent and technical support for the Unilateral Administrative Order for the Site, from April 2016 through Nov 2016. Actual START costs for oversight of the Field activities for the reporting period is estimated to be \$1000.

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
TAT/START	\$50,000.00	\$31,320.91	\$18,679.09	37.36%
Intramural Costs				
Total Site Costs	\$50,000.00	\$31,320.91	\$18,679.09	37.36%

* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

Ramon Mendoza, EPA OSC
Walt Pochron, GHD (H. Kramer contractor)

2.5.2 Liaison Officer

EPA Community Relations: Heriberto Leon, Ruth Muhtsun, Rosita Clarke

2.5.3 Information Officer

EPA PIO: Francisco Arcaute

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

None

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

City of Chicago, Alderman Solis Office
City of Chicago Dept. of Public Health;
Illinois EPA
ATSDR

4. Personnel On Site

Pilsen OU2 Removal – Personnel Counts					
Date	EPA	GHD	Hygieneering	RW Collins	START
12/20/16	1	2	1	4	1
12/21/16	1	1	1	5	1

5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

6. Additional sources of information

No information available at this time.

7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.





OU2 Residential properties with greenspace



W 18th Place

S Blue Island Ave.

S Loomis St.

S Throop St.

S Allport St.

W 19th St.

W Cullerton St.

W 21st St.

Legend

- Residential area 1
- Residential area 2a

Greenspace?

- Yes
- No

1835 S. Loomis
1837 S. Loomis
1839 S. Loomis
1841 S. Loomis
1845 S. Loomis
1847 S. Loomis

1807 S. Loomis
1809 S. Loomis

1325 W 18th
1333 W 18th
1327 W 18th
1329 W 18th
1322 W 18th
1321 W 18th
1317 W 18th
1315 W 18th

1344 W 19th
1340 W 19th
1338 W 19th
1336 W 19th
1334 W 19th
1332 W 19th
1328 W 19th
1326 W 19th
1322 W 19th
1320 W 19th
1318 W 19th
1314 W 19th

1834 S Throop
1836 S Throop
1838 S Throop

1856 S Throop
1858 S Throop

1829 S Throop
1831 S Throop
1835 S Throop
1839 S Throop
1841 S Throop

1856 S Throop
1858 S Throop

1829 S Throop
1831 S Throop
1835 S Throop
1839 S Throop
1841 S Throop

1856 S Throop
1858 S Throop

1830 S Allport
1832 S Allport
1836 S Allport
1838 S Allport
1840 S Allport
1842 S Allport
1844 S Allport
1848 S Allport
1850 S Allport
1852 S Allport
1854 S Allport
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1843 S Allport
1847 S Allport
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1853 S Allport
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1859 S Allport

1901 S Loomis
1905 S Loomis
1907 S Loomis
1911 S Loomis
1913 S Loomis
1915 S Loomis
1917 S Loomis
1921 S Loomis
1923 S Loomis
1925 S Loomis

1345 W 19th
1343 W 19th
1341 W 19th
1339 W 19th
1337 W 19th
1335 W 19th
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1922 S Throop
1924 S Throop

1901 S Allport
1903 S Allport
1907 S Allport
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1911 S Allport
1913 S Allport
1915 S Allport
1919 S Allport
1921 S Allport
1923 S Allport
1925 S Allport

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1907 S Allport
1909 S Allport
1911 S Allport
1913 S Allport
1915 S Allport
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2001 S Loomis
2003 S Loomis
2006 S Loomis
2009 S Loomis
2011 S Loomis
2013 S Loomis

1347 W Cullerton
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