



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



## US EPA Region 5 1999 News Releases

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### January

[99-OPA001](#): Released 1/4/99

EPA PROPOSES TO CHANGE CLEANUP PLAN FOR INDUSTRIAL EXCESS LANDFILL; WILL SCHEDULE MEETING

[99-OPA002](#): Released 1/7/99

EPA TO HOLD MEETING ON CHANGES TO PCB REGULATIONS JAN. 27 & 28

[99-OPA003](#): Released 1/7/99

EPA: \$3 MILLION CLEANUP COMPLETE AT STOUGHTON CITY LANDFILL

[99-OPA004](#): Released 1/11/99

EPA: \$6 MILLION CLEANUP COMPLETE AT CARDINGTON ROAD LANDFILL SITE

[99-OPA005](#): Released 1/7/99

NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS: EPA CONSIDERS PCB STORAGE PERMIT FOR DYNEX INDUSTRIES

[99-OPA006](#): Released 1/8/99

EPA CITES ROUGE STEEL FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA007](#): Released 1/12/99

EPA SETTLES WITH NORTHWESTERN WIRE & STEEL FOR HAZARDOUS WASTE AND PCB STORAGE VIOLATIONS; INCLUDES \$25,637 FINE

[99-OPA008](#): Released 1/14/99

EPA CITES NYLONGE; INCLUDES \$104,250 FINE

[99-OPA009](#): Released 1/14/99

EPA CITES LTV STEEL FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA010](#): Released 1/15/99

NEAL'S LANDFILL SITE MEETING RESCHEDULED FOR JAN. 27

[99-OPA011](#): Released 1/15/99

EPA: NL INDUSTRIES-TARACORP SITE CLEANUP TO WRAP UP IN JUNE; UPDATE MEETINGS JAN. 21-22

[99-OPA012](#): Released 1/15/99

EPA: CLEANUP TO BEGIN AT DOUGLAS ROAD SUPERFUND SITE; AVAILABILITY SESSIONS SET FOR JAN. 19

[99-OPA013](#): Released 1/15/99

EPA CITES LUCAS SUMITOMO FOR CLEAN AIR ACT VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA014](#): Released 1/15/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH CITGO; INCLUDES \$30,000 FINE

[99-OPA015](#): Released 1/19/99

EPA PUTS FRIDLEY COMMONS PARK WELL FIELD ON SUPERFUND LIST

[99-OPA016](#): Released 1/19/99

EPA SETTLES WITH TWO MICHIGAN DISPOSAL-WELL OPERATORS

[99-OPA017](#): Released 1/21/99

EPA CITES ILLINOIS CEMENT FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA018](#): Released 1/21/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH GETZEN; INCLUDES \$8,000 FINE AND \$18,800 FOR 2 PROJECTS

[99-OPA019](#): Released 1/21/99

EPA CITES MARATHON ASHLAND PETROLEUM FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA020](#): Released 1/22/99

EPA SETTLES WITH GEON FOR HAZARDOUS CHEMICAL RELEASES; INCLUDES \$15,000 FINE AND EQUIPMENT UPGRADE FOR LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENT

[99-OPA021](#): Released 1/22/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH ELKHART; INCLUDES \$30,000 FINE

[99-OPA022](#): Released 1/22/99

EPA CITES POLLUTION CONTROL INDUSTRIES FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA023](#): Released 1/25/99

EPA CITES USS/KOBE STEEL FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA024](#): Released 1/25/99

EPA CITES COLEMAN TRUCKING FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA025](#): Released 1/25/99

EPA SETTLES WITH 3M ON ALLEGED HAZ. WASTE VIOLATIONS; INCLUDES \$143,800 FINE

[99-OPA026](#): Released 1/26/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH LITHOS EXPLORATION; INCLUDES \$7,656 FINE

[99-OPA027](#): Released 1/27/99

EPA SEEKS INFORMATION ON OLD MILL SITE VANDALS

## February

[99-OPA028](#): Released 2/3/99

EPA CITES QUEBECOR; PROPOSES \$60,500 FINE

[99-OPA029](#): Released 2/3/99

EPA CITES DURO-CHROME FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA030](#): Released 2/3/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

[99-OPA031](#): Released 2/3/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH CYTEC AND BAKER; INCLUDES FINES OF \$225,653

[99-OPA032](#): Released 2/4/99

EPA CITES TEXTRON AUTOMOTIVE FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA033](#): Released 2/4/99

EPA CITES ADVANCED ORGANICS FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA034](#): Released 2/4/99

EPA CITES VEMCO FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA035](#): Released 2/8/99

EPA: COMMENTS ON LOWER FOX RIVER PROPOSED SUPERFUND LISTING NOW AT LOCAL LIBRARIES

[99-OPA036](#): Released 2/8/99

EPA CITES AMOCO FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA037](#): Released 2/8/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH UNITED HARD CHROME; INCLUDES \$6,177 FINE

[99-OPA039](#): Released 2/8/99

EPA REVIEWS NATIONAL PRESTO SITE; GROUND-WATER CONTAMINATION DOWN

[99-OPA040](#): Released 2/10/99

EPA SETTLES WITH TWO MIDWEST COMPANIES FOR OIL SPILLS INTO WATERWAYS

[99-OPA041](#): Released 2/12/99

EPA CITES ALMOND FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA042](#): Released 2/17/99

EPA EXTENDS PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON IEL SITE CLEANUP PLAN; MEETINGS MAR. 1-2

[99-OPA043](#): Released 2/23/99

EPA AND ROANOKE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION SIGN AGREEMENT; C&M PLATING SITE TO BE REDEVELOPED

[99-OPA044](#): Released 2/19/99

EPA CLARIFIES AUTHORITY TO ISSUE AIR OPERATING PERMITS ON INDIAN LANDS

[99-OPA046](#): Released 2/22/99

EPA CITES CRAFTMASTERS FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS; TELLS COMPANY TO COMPLY

[99-OPA047](#): Released 2/22/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH BILLMAX; INCLUDES \$10,000 FINE

[99-OPA048](#): Released 2/23/99

EPA SETTLES WITH AMERICAN WASTE TECHNOLOGIES; INCLUDES \$23,100 FINE

[99-OPA049](#): Released 2/23/99

EPA, DOJ SUE MARATHON ASHLAND FOR AIR POLLUTION VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA050](#): Released 2/23/99

EPA ORDERS LOCAL MAN TO COMPLETE AND PAY FOR DISPOSAL OF ILLEGAL DUMPING AT COOK COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE SITE

[99-OPA051](#): Released 2/23/99

EPA PROPOSES CLEANUP PLAN FOR OUTBOARD MARINE-WAUKEGAN COKE PLANT SITE; MEETING MAR. 3

[99-OPA052](#): Released 2/25/99

EPA, DOJ SUE CLARK FOR AIR POLLUTION

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## March

[99-OPA053](#): Released 3/1/99

EPA: CLEANUP NEARLY DONE AT LINCOLN FIELDS SITE

[99-OPA054](#): Released 3/2/99

CLEANUP PLAN FOR MASTER METALS SITE PROPOSED; COMMENT PERIOD BEGINS, MEETING MAR. 18

[99-OPA055](#): Released 3/3/99

EPA: OHIO'S LAKE & JEFFERSON COUNTIES NOW MEET HEALTH-BASED SULFUR DIOXIDE STANDARD  
EPA: OHIO'S LAKE & JEFFERSON COUNTIES NOW MEET HEALTH-BASED SULFUR DIOXIDE STANDARD

[99-OPA056](#): Released 3/4/99

EPA CITES MAGNESIUM REFINING TECHNOLOGIES FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA057](#): Released 3/4/99

EPA ORDERS W.R. GRACE TO CLEAN UP AMMONIA ENDANGERING AQUIFER

[99-OPA058](#): Released 3/4/99

EPA CITES R&L MARKETING FOR CFC SALES VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA059](#): Released 3/9/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH USEC; INCLUDES \$56,000 FINE

[99-OPA060](#): Released 3/9/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH FORD; INCLUDES \$44,000 FINE

[99-OPA061](#): Released 3/12/99

EPA CITES CHROMPARTS FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA062](#): Released 3/15/99

EPA: ILLINOIS AND MISSOURI CAN SUBMIT PLAN TO EXTEND DEADLINE FOR REACHING HEALTH-BASED SMOG STANDARD IN ST. LOUIS METRO AREA

[99-OPA063](#): Released 3/16/99

EPA SETTLES WITH TEXTRON ON WATER POLLUTION; INCLUDES \$44,000 FINE

[99-OPA064](#): Released 3/16/99

EPA CITES 2 MICHIGAN PARTIES FOR ASBESTOS VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA065](#): Released 3/16/99

EPA CITES TOMEN AGRO FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA066](#): Released 3/16/99

NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS: EPA GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE LECTURE SERIES TO FEATURE DR. RICHARD L. SANDOR

[99-OPA067](#): Released 3/16/99

EPA SETTLES WITH ROYAL CROWN BOTTLING; INCLUDES \$8,248 FINE AND PROJECT

[99-OPA068](#): Released 3/17/99

EPA MEETING ON FOX RIVER CLEANUP AT ONEIDA RESERVATION MAR. 29

[99-OPA069](#): Released 3/25/99

NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS: EPA CONSIDERS MORE PCB STORAGE FOR SAFETY-KLEEN

[99-OPA070](#): Released 3/19/99

EPA CITES LAKESHORE ELECTRO-PLATE FOR CHEMICAL REPORTING VIOLATIONS; PROPOSES \$59,974 FINE

[99-OPA071](#): Released 3/23/99

EPA APPROVES WISCONSIN DHFS'S LEAD-HAZARD PROGRAM

[99-OPA072](#): Released 3/24/99

CLEANUP BEGINS AT ESTECH SITE; MEETING MAR. 31

[99-OPA073](#): Released 3/26/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH BUSSE; INCLUDES \$27,500 FINE

[99-OPA074](#): Released 3/26/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH BAYER

[99-OPA075](#): Released 3/26/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH CHEMREX; INCLUDES \$42,000 FINE & \$24,700 PROJECT

[99-OPA076](#): Released 3/29/99

EPA ANNOUNCES FINAL CLEANUP PLAN FOR UNION CAMP FACILITY

[99-OPA077](#): Released 3/29/99

NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS: NEW IEL WEB SITE NOT EPA-SPONSORED

[99-OPA078](#): Released 3/30/99

EPA CITES TECHMETALS FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA079](#): Released 3/30/99

EPA CITES PERSTORP FOR AIR POLLUTION; INCLUDES \$275,473 FINE

[99-OPA080](#): Released 3/30/99

EPA CITES PINE VIEW PLATING FOR AIR POLLUTION VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA081](#): Released 3/31/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH COHEN; INCLUDES \$84,200 FINE

[99-OPA082](#): Released 3/31/99

EPA EXTENDS COMMENT PERIOD FOR MASTER METALS CLEANUP  
PLAN TO APR. 30

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## April

[99-OPA083](#): Released 4/1/99

EPA CITES G&W ELECTRIC FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA084](#): Released 4/1/99

EPA CITES ADVANCE CIRCUITS FOR HAZARDOUS CHEMICAL  
REPORTING VIOLATIONS; PROPOSES \$85,100 FINE

[99-OPA085](#): Released 4/8/99

EPA PROPOSES FINAL CLEANUP PLAN AT LAMMARS BARREL  
SITE; MEETING APR. 22

[99-OPA086](#): Released 4/6/99

EPA CITES SELLS PRINTING FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA087](#): Released 4/6/99

REVISION TO RELEASE NO. 99-OPA064

[99-OPA088](#): Released 4/7/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH STONE CONTAINER; INCLUDES  
\$68,500 FINE

[99-OPA089](#): Released 4/7/99

EPA CITES SIZE CONTROL FOR CLEAN AIR ACT VIOLATIONS;  
INCLUDES \$154,000 FINE

[99-OPA090](#): Released 4/8/99

EPA TO SPONSOR 3 HAZ. CHEMICAL REPORTING SEMINARS IN  
INDIANA

[99-OPA091](#): Released 4/8/99

EPA CITES FOAMEX FOR CHEMICAL RELEASE REPORTING  
VIOLATIONS; PROPOSES \$27,500 FINE

[99-OPA092](#): Released 4/8/99

EPA AWARDS \$50,000 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT FOR  
VELSICOL SITE

[99-OPA093](#): Released 4/8/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH BORDEN; INCLUDES \$154,740  
FINE

[99-OPA094](#): Released 4/8/99

EPA NAMES REGIONAL PRESIDENT'S ENVIRONMENTAL YOUTH  
AWARD WINNERS

[99-OPA095](#): Released 4/8/99

EPA AWARDS \$50,000 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT TO FOX  
RIVER COMMUNITY GROUP

[99-OPA096](#): Released 4/9/99

EPA CITES DEPERE FOUNDRY FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA097](#): Released 4/9/99

EPA CITES DETROIT COMPANY FOR ASBESTOS VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA098](#): Released 4/9/99

EPA OK'S FIRST TRAINING PROGRAM FOR LEAD-BASED PAINT

[99-OPA099](#): Released 4/13/99

EPA: CONSTRUCTION OF CAP FOR NL-TARACORP SLAG PILE  
BEGINS THIS WEEK

[99-OPA100](#): Released 4/12/99

IEL TECHNICAL INFORMATION COMMITTEE MEETING APR. 21;  
PUBLIC INVITED

[99-OPA101](#): Released 4/15/99

EPA SETTLES WITH MARSH SUPERMARKETS; INCLUDES \$25,483  
FINE

[99-OPA102](#): Released 4/13/99

EPA CITES CENTRIA FOR HAZ. WASTE VIOLATIONS; PROPOSES  
\$132,593 FINE

[99-OPA103](#): Released 4/15/99

CLEANUP TO BEGIN IN MAY AT CANNELTON INDUSTRIES SITE;  
OPEN HOUSE APR. 21

[99-OPA104](#): Released 4/14/99

MEDIA ADVISORY: EPA TO PRESENT AWARD TO DALE SANITARY  
DISTRICT APR. 15

[99-OPA105](#): Released 4/14/99

EPA CITES COUNTRYMARK FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA106](#): Released 4/14/99

EPA CITES ILLINOIS CEMENT FOR AIR POLLUTION; INCLUDES  
\$55,000 FINE

[99-OPA107](#): Released 4/14/99

EPA CITES UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA109](#): Released 4/19/99

EPA RECOGNIZES ENERGY STAR BUILDINGS PARTNERS AS PART  
OF EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

[99-OPA110](#): Released 4/21/99

EPA AWARDS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GRANT FOR  
MENOMONIE, WI PROJECT

[99-OPA111](#): Released 4/20/99

EPA CITES 2 MILWAUKEE AUTO SHOPS FOR CLEAN AIR ACT  
VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA113](#): Released 4/23/99

EPA SETTLES WITH WCI STEEL; INCLUDES \$1.7 MILLION FINE AND  
RIVER CLEANUP

[99-OPA114](#): Released 4/22/99

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY RULE FOR ANDERSEN CORP.  
PUBLISHED IN FEDERAL REGISTER

[99-OPA115](#): Released 4/26/99

EPA CITES BISON PLATING FOR CLEAN AIR VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA116](#): Released 4/26/99

EPA AND ILL. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY TO SPONSOR

[99-OPA117](#): Released 4/26/99

EPA: CLEANUP BEGINS AT BAKER WOOD CREOSOTING SITE

[99-OPA118](#): Released 4/29/99

EPA SETTLES WITH ARCH CHEMICALS FOR CHEMICAL RELEASE REPORTING VIOLATIONS; INCLUDES \$276,304 IN FINES AND PROJECTS

[99-OPA119](#): Released 4/29/99

EPA CITES DOW CHEMICAL FOR MULTIPLE CHEMICAL REPORTING VIOLATIONS; PROPOSES \$661,237 FINE

[99-OPA120](#): Released 4/28/99

U.S.- INDIANA SETTLE WITH HAMMOND SANITARY DISTRICT;

[99-OPA121](#): Released 4/29/99

EPA CITES PARIS CLEANERS FOR CLEAN AIR VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA122](#): Released 4/29/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH SUN REFINING; INCLUDES \$168,950 FINE

[99-OPA124](#): Released 4/30/99

NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA TOUR AND PHOTO-OP AT GOSPORT, IN, CLEANUP SITE, TUES., MAY 4, 10 A.M. - NOON

[99-OPA125](#): Released 4/30/99

EPA: UPDATE MEETING ON VAN DALE JUNKYARD SITE MAY 6

[99-OPA127](#): Released 4/30/99

EPA TO HOST DOWNLINK OF NATIONAL TOWN MEETING FOR A SUSTAINABLE AMERICA

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## May

[99-OPA123](#): Released 5/3/99

NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS: EPA HOSTS AWARDS CEREMONY FOR SOUTH BEND SUPERFUND JOB TRAINING ON THURS., MAY 6, 6 TO 8 P.M.

[99-OPA126](#): Released 5/4/99

EPA: CLEANUP BEGINS AT HOOSIER WOOD TREATING SITE

[99-OPA128](#): Released 5/4/99

EPA: DETROIT'S COBO CENTER JOINS ENERGY-SAVING PROGRAM

[99-OPA129](#): Released 5/1/99

MEDIA ADVISORY: PREVIEW NATIONAL TOWN MEETING LEGACY PROJECT MAY 4: NEW WETLANDS GARDEN FOR BELLE ISLE

[99-OPA130](#): Released 5/4/99

EPA TO BEGIN PLANTING NEW WETLANDS GARDEN IN BELLE ISLE PARK

[99-OPA131](#): Released 5/6/99

EPA HONORS 18 GRADUATES OF SOUTH BEND SUPERFUND JOB



TRAINING INITIATIVE

[99-OPA132](#): Released 5/6/99

EPA: CLEANUP BEGINS AT NORRIS DRIVE BATTERY SITE

[99-OPA133](#): Released 5/6/99

DO YOU KNOW WHAT'S IN YOUR DRINKING WATER?

[99-OPA134](#): Released 5/7/99

NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS:

[99-OPA135](#): Released 5/11/99

EPA UPDATES NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST; ONE ILLINOIS SITE ADDED

[99-OPA136](#): Released 5/11/99

EPA CITES KEIL CHEMICAL FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA137](#): Released 5/18/99

EPA CITES A&W CUSTOM CHROME FOR CLEAN AIR VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA138](#): Released 5/18/99

EPA CITES FORD; INCLUDES \$55,000 FINE

[99-OPA139](#): Released 5/18/99

EPA CITES JENNINGS PUMP; INCLUDES \$24,600 FINE

[99-OPA141](#): Released 5/19/99

EPA AND DOJ SIGN CONSENT DECREE FOR FIELDS BROOK SITE

[99-OPA142](#): Released 5/19/99

EPA CITES AK STEEL FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA143](#): Released 5/19/99

EPA TO SPONSOR HAZARDOUS CHEMICAL SEMINAR IN TWIN CITIES AREA JUNE 2

[99-OPA144](#): Released 5/21/99

EPA CITES ACME HARD CHROME FOR CLEAN AIR VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA145](#): Released 5/26/99

EPA PROPOSES CLEANUP PLAN FOR SHEBOYGAN RIVER AND HARBOR SITE; COMMENT PERIOD BEGINS, MEETING JUNE 30

[99-OPA146](#): Released 5/24/99

EPA TO SAMPLE CHICAGO RIVER SEDIMENTS MAY 24 -28

[99-OPA147](#): Released 5/28/99

EPA SUES ELMER'S CRANE & DOZER FOR AIR POLLUTION

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## June

[99-OPA148](#): Released 6/1/99

REVISION TO RELEASE NO. 99-OPA121 EPA CITES PARIS CLEANERS FOR CLEAN AIR VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA149](#): Released 6/1/99

EPA CITES WOODLAND PAVING FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA151](#): Released 6/3/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH NYLONGE; INCLUDES \$17,812 FINE AND \$65,074 PROJECT

[99-OPA152](#): Released 6/4/99

EPA CITES BARRON AND FOREST GREEN METALS FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA153](#): Released 6/4/99

EPA CITES HOLNAM FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA154](#): Released 6/14/99

EPA CITES TRI-K CYLINDER FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA155](#): Released 6/14/99

EPA CITES COLEMAN TRUCKING; INCLUDES \$55,000 FINE

[99-OPA157](#): Released 6/15/99

EPA TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARING IN CLEVELAND ON PROPOSED NEW STANDARDS FOR TAILPIPE EMISSIONS AND SULFUR IN GASOLINE

[99-OPA159](#): Released 6/17/99

EPA: FINAL CLEANUP BEGINS AT TRI-COUNTY/ELGIN LANDFILLS SITE

[99-OPA160](#): Released 6/16/99

EPA GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE LECTURE TO FEATURE CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND CHICAGO PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT. OFFICIALS

[99-OPA161](#): Released 6/16/99

EPA CITES ELECTROLIZING CORP.; INCLUDES \$54,332 FINE

[99-OPA162](#): Released 6/16/99

EPA CITES CSC FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA163](#): Released 6/16/99

EPA CITES WISCONSIN COLOR PRESS FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA164](#): Released 6/22/99

EPA, IDEM TO HOLD MEETING ON RHODIA HAZARDOUS WASTE PERMITS JULY 22; PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD BEGINS

[99-OPA165](#): Released 6/18/99

EPA CITES ARENA AUTO FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA166](#): Released 6/18/99

EPA CITES BP CHEMICALS FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA167](#): Released 6/21/99

EPA AWARDS \$200,000 BROWNFIELD REDVELOPMENT GRANT TO ROCKFORD, IL

[99-OPA169](#): Released 6/21/99

EPA SEEKS COMMENTS ON CHANGES TO CLEANUP PLAN AT NEW LYME LANDFILL SITE

[99-OPA170](#): Released 6/22/99

EPA CITES GATX TERMINALS FOR CHEMICAL RELEASE REPORTING VIOLATIONS; PROPOSES \$78,257 FINE

[99-OPA171](#): Released 6/21/99

EPA CITES CHICAGO SPECIALTIES FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA172](#): Released 6/21/99

EPA CITES ALBERTO CULVER FOR HAZARDOUS WASTE VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA173](#): Released 6/22/99

EPA CITES MUNCIE PRECISION HARD CHROME FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA174](#): Released 6/23/99

EPA CITES CALUMET STEEL FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA175](#): Released 6/24/99

PROJECT XL SIGNING CEREMONY WITH EPA, MPCA, WASHINGTON COUNTY AND ANDERSEN CORPORATION, JUNE 30, 10:30 A.M., BAYPORT, MN

[99-OPA176](#): Released 6/24/99

EPA PREPARES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING AT FIELDS BROOK SITE

[99-OPA177](#): Released 6/25/99

EPA CITES CDT LANDFILL FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA178](#): Released 6/25/99

EPA CITES K-T CORP. FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA179](#): Released 6/28/99

EPA CITES PRINT FLEX FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA181](#): Released 6/29/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH ILLINOIS CEMENT; INCLUDES \$41,250 FINE

[99-OPA183](#): Released 6/29/99

EPA ORDERS DSC TO PROTECT BIRDS FROM OIL ON FORMER MCLOUTH STEEL SITE

[99-OPA184](#): Released 6/29/99

EPA CITES LACLEDE STEEL FOR HAZARDOUS WASTE VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA185](#): Released 6/30/99

NEXT STEP IN FOX RIVER CLEANUP: EPA SUBMITS PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION TO NATIONAL REMEDY REVIEW BOARD

[99-OPA186](#): Released 6/30/99

EPA, GENERAL IRON REACH AGREEMENT TO STOP REFRIGERANT RELEASES

[99-OPA187](#): Released 6/30/99

EPA CITES ADM FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA180](#): Released 6/30/99

EPA, MPCA, WASHINGTON COUNTY, AND ANDERSEN CORPORATION SIGN FIRST PROJECT XL "REGULATORY" AGREEMENT IN MINNESOTA

[99-OPA188](#): Released 6/30/99

EPA: ELI LILLY, DOW AGROSCIENCES RECEIVE GREEN CHEMISTRY AWARDS

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## July

[99-OPA182](#): Released 7/1/99

EPA TO SPONSOR THREE "INTRODUCTION TO SUPERFUND"  
WORKSHOPS, JULY 26-28; PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

[99-OPA196](#): Released 7/6/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH POOR RICHARD ENTERPRISES;  
INCLUDES \$47,000 FINE

[99-OPA197](#): Released 7/6/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH NORTHPORTE DEVELOPMENT;  
INCLUDES \$13,000 FINE

[99-OPA200](#): Released 6/7/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH SIZE CONTROL; INCLUDES  
\$44,000 FINE

[99-OPA201](#): Released 7/8/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH FIRST ENERGY & CEI ON 2  
CLEVELAND-AREA POWER PLANTS

[99-OPA202](#): Released 7/8/99

EPA CITES MARSULEX FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA203](#): Released 7/8/99

EPA TO HOST 2 AVAILABILITY SESSIONS JULY 14 ON FIELDS  
BROOK SITE

[99-OPA204](#): Released 7/8/99

EPA CITES XCTC FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA205](#): Released 7/9/99

EPA: CLEANUP COMPLETE AT YARD NEAR HARBOR PLATING  
WORKS SITE

[99-OPA206](#): Released 7/12/99

5-YEAR REVIEW OF LASKIN-POPLAR OIL SITE COMPLETE;  
MONITORING TO CONTINUE

[99-OPA207](#): Released 7/12/99

EPA PROPOSES CLEANUP PLAN FOR ELECTRO-VOICE SITE;  
COMMENT PERIOD BEGINS, MEETING JULY 14

[99-OPA208](#): Released 7/12/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH RAYCO; INCLUDES \$20,000 FINE

[99-OPA210](#): Released 7/13/99

EPA PARTNERSHIP TO HELP SANDOVAL ELEMENTARY GO  
"GREEN"

[99-OPA211](#): Released 7/15/99

EPA CITES CITGO FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA214](#): Released 7/21/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH ICOR INTERNATIONAL;  
INCLUDES \$25,000 FINE

[99-OPA215](#): Released 7/22/99

EPA TO SIGNUP RESIDENTS FOR NEW WATER SUPPLY AT  
EVERGREEN MANOR SITE, JULY 28 - AUGUST 6; PUBLIC MEETING  
JULY 28

[99-OPA216](#): Released 7/26/99

EPA AWARDS \$100,000 SUPERFUND REDEVELOPMENT GRANT FOR  
TAR LAKE SITE; 40 ADDITIONAL GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR FY 2000

[99-OPA217](#): Released 7/26/99

EPA CITES LAFARGE FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA219](#): Released 7/28/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH LUCAS SUMITOMO; INCLUDES \$30,000 FINE

[99-OPA220](#): Released 7/28/99

EPA CITES HERITAGE FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA221](#): Released 7/28/99

EPA CITES ARISTECH FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA222](#): Released 7/29/99

EPA CITES INTERNATIONAL MALTING FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA223](#): Released 7/30/99

EPA CITES R&L MARKETING; INCLUDES \$1,711 FINE

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## August

[99-OPA224](#): Released 8/4/99

EPA SEEKS COMMENTS ON KOCH REFINING PROPOSED WASTE DISPOSAL CLOSURE; COMMENT PERIOD ENDS SEPT. 3

[99-OPA225](#): Released 8/10/99

EPA, ENVIRONMENT CANADA TARGET LAKE SUPERIOR POLLUTANT REDUCTIONS

[99-OPA226](#): Released 8/18/99

EPA CITES 2 DETROIT-AREA PARTIES; INCLUDES \$49,000 FINE

[99-OPA227](#): Released 8/11/99

EPA: CLEANUP COMPLETE AT FRANK FOUNDRY SITE

[99-OPA228](#): Released 8/12/99

EPA CITES DEPERE FOUNDRY; INCLUDES \$77,850 FINE

[99-OPA229](#): Released 8/12/99

EPA CITES CHROME TECH OF WISCONSIN FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA230](#): Released 8/13/99

EPA SEEKS PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CLEANUP PLAN FOR PAGEL'S PIT SITE; MEETING AUG. 25

[99-OPA231](#): Released 8/16/99

EPA CITES TECHMETALS; INCLUDES \$36,190 FINE

[99-OPA232](#): Released 8/16/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH JLM CHEMICALS; INCLUDES \$40,000 FINE

[99-OPA233](#): Released 8/16/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH FORD; INCLUDES \$38,500 FINE

[99-OPA234](#): Released 8/17/99

EPA: REPORT ON STATUS OF LAKE ERIE MANAGEMENT PLAN AVAILABLE

[99-OPA235](#): Released 8/18/99

CLEANUP BEGINS AT WOODSTOCK MUNICIPAL LANDFILL

[99-OPA236](#): Released 8/18/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH TOMEN AGRO; INCLUDES  
\$11,514 FINE & PROJECT

[99-OPA237](#): Released 8/18/99

EPA CITES WESTERN ROTO ENGRAVERS FOR CLEAN-AIR  
VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA238](#): Released 8/19/99

EPA TO REMOVE DRUMS, SECURE CANTON INDUSTRIAL CORP.  
SITE; REDEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT TO FOLLOW

[99-OPA239](#): Released 8/24/99

EPA TO DISCUSS SAUGET AREA 1 SAMPLING AT AUG. 31 VILLAGE  
MEETING

[99-OPA241](#): Released 8/30/99

EPA CITES TRANE FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA242](#): Released 8/31/99

EPA CITES COPPERWELD FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA243](#): Released 8/31/99

EPA CITES A&W CUSTOM CHROME; INCLUDES \$2,500 FINE

[99-OPA244](#): Released 8/31/99

EPA CITES TRI-K CYLINDER; INCLUDES \$4,000 FINE

[99-OPA245](#): Released 8/31/99

EPA PROPOSES DELETING NEAL'S DUMP SITE FROM SUPERFUND  
LIST; COMMENT PERIOD ENDS SEPT. 24

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## September

[99-OPA246](#): Released 9/8/99

EPA: CLEANUP COMPLETE AT CEDAR SERVICES SITE

[99-OPA247](#): Released 9/1/99

EPA: CLEANUP BEGINS AT ARCANUM IRON & METAL SITE

[99-OPA248](#): Released 9/2/99

EPA: MONTHLY AVAILABILITY SESSIONS ON KALAMAZOO

[99-OPA249](#): Released 9/7/99

NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA TOUR AND PHOTO-OP AT  
BEMIDJI, MN, CLEANUP SITE, WED. SEPT. 8, 9:30 A.M.

[99-OPA252](#): Released 9/10/99

EPA CITES MARATHON ASHLAND FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA253](#): Released 9/10/99

EPA CITES MARATHON ASHLAND FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA254](#): Released 9/10/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH PARIS CLEANERS ON CLEAN-  
AIR VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA255](#): Released 9/10/99

EPA CITES NORTH STAR BHP STEEL FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA256](#): Released 9/10/99

EPA CITES ZIMMER PATIENT CARE FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA257](#): Released 9/10/99

EPA CITES FCI FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA258](#): Released 9/14/99

EPA CITES VILLAGE OF WITTENBERG FOR ASBESTOS VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA259](#): Released 9/14/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH G&W ELECTRIC; INCLUDES  
\$10,395 FINE & PROJECT

[99-OPA260](#): Released 9/14/99

EPA CITES PEPSI-COLA GENERAL BOTTLERS (CINCINNATI) FOR  
CHEMICAL RELEASE REPORTING VIOLATIONS; PROPOSES \$83,325  
FINE

[99-OPA262](#): Released 9/15/99

EPA TO OBSERVE UN DAY FOR PRESERVATION OF OZONE LAYER

[99-OPA263](#): Released 9/16/99

EPA: VALLEYCREST LANDFILL CLEANUP TO CONTINUE THROUGH  
2001

[99-OPA264](#): Released 9/16/99

EPA CITES PACE FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA266](#): Released 9/17/99

EPA: OPEN HOUSE AT CLARE WATER SUPPLY SITE, SEPT. 22

[99-OPA267](#): Released 9/21/99

EPA: \$3.5 MILLION CLEANUP UNDERWAY AT SOUTH CENTRAL  
SITE

[99-OPA268](#): Released 9/20/99

EPA CITES FORMEL INDUSTRIES FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA270](#): Released 9/20/99

EPA TO PRESENT THIRD LECTURE IN GLOBAL CLIMATE-CHANGE  
SERIES

[99-OPA271](#): Released 9/24/99

EPA MAKES CHANGES TO CLEANUP PLAN FOR BOFORS-NOBEL  
SITE; MEETING SEPT. 29

[99-OPA272](#): Released 9/27/99

EPA CITES YALE POLISHERS AND PLATERS FOR CLEAN-AIR  
VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA273](#): Released 9/28/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH CALUMET STEEL; INCLUDES  
\$69,646 FINE & PROJECT

[99-OPA274](#): Released 9/28/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH DURO-CHROME; INCLUDES  
\$35,000 FINE

[99-OPA275](#): Released 9/28/99

EPA HONORS SANDWICH, IL, FOR OUTSTANDING WASTEWATER  
TREATMENT

[99-OPA276](#): Released 9/28/99

EPA CITES SEGERDAHL FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA277](#): Released 9/28/99

EPA CITES BISON PLATING; INCLUDES \$1,300 FINE

[99-OPA278](#): Released 9/29/99

EPA CITES BP CHEMICALS; INCLUDES \$92,800 FINE

[99-OPA279](#): Released 9/29/99

EPA CITES ACME HARD CHROME; INCLUDES \$47,600 FINE

[99-OPA280](#): Released 9/29/99

EPA CITES NATIONAL MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA281](#): Released 9/29/99

EPA CITES SELLS PRINTING; INCLUDES \$67,916 FINE

[99-OPA282](#): Released 9/30/99

EPA SETTLES WITH LAKESHORE ELECTRO-PLATE FOR CHEMICAL REPORTING VIOLATIONS; INCLUDES \$20,992 FINE

[99-OPA283](#): Released 9/30/99

EPA CITES S&S AUTO SALES; INCLUDES \$8,005 FINE

[99-OPA284](#): Released 9/30/99

EPA CITES ADVANCED ORGANICS FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA285](#): Released 9/30/99

EPA: CLEANUP TO BEGIN AT PETOSKEY MANUFACTURING CO.; WELL FIELD SITE UPDATE MEETING OCT. 6

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## October

[99-OPA287](#): Released 10/5/99

EPA CITES CLEAN HARBORS FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA288](#): Released 10/5/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH PERSTORP; INCLUDES \$140,378 FINE

[99-OPA289](#): Released 10/6/99

EPA CITES PEPSI-COLA GENERAL BOTTLERS (MUNSTER) FOR CHEMICAL RELEASE REPORTING VIOLATIONS; PROPOSES \$138,050 FINE

[99-OPA290](#): Released 10/5/99

EPA CITES ACME STEEL FOR HAZARDOUS WASTE VIOLATIONS; PROPOSES \$1,569,744 FINE

[99-OPA291](#): Released 10/6/99

EPA CITES FARMERS GRAIN FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA292](#): Released 10/28/99

EPA CONTINUES MERCURY SAMPLING OF VAN WERT, OHIO, HOME

[99-OPA293](#): Released 10/12/99

EPA TELLS 12 WISCONSIN AUTO BUSINESSES TO COMPLY WITH CLEAN AIR ACT

[99-OPA294](#): Released 10/12/99

EPA SELECTS CLEANUP PLANS FOR FOUR OHIO SITES

[99-OPA296](#): Released 10/12/99



FOREST COUNTY POTAWATOMI, STATE OF WISCONSIN SIGN  
AGREEMENT

[99-OPA297](#): Released 10/14/99

FOUR TRIBES RECEIVE EPA WATER PROTECTION GRANTS

[99-OPA298](#): Released 10/15/99

EPA CITES SAFETY-KLEEN FOR HAZARDOUS WASTE VIOLATIONS;  
PROPOSES \$39300 FINE

[99-OPA299](#): Released 10/15/99

EPA CITES MICHIGAN RECOVERY SYSTEMS FOR HAZARDOUS  
WASTE VIOLATIONS; PROPOSES \$240,000 FINE

[99-OPA300](#): Released 10/15/99

EPA CITES FORD FOR HAZARDOUS WASTE VIOLATIONS;  
PROPOSES \$303,745 FINE

[99-OPA301](#): Released 10/15/99

EPA CITES ROUGE STEEL FOR PCB VIOLATIONS; PROPOSES \$75,900  
FINE

[99-OPA302](#): Released 10/15/99

EPA CITES WAYNE DISPOSAL FOR PCB VIOLATIONS; PROPOSES  
\$41,250 FINE

[99-OPA303](#): Released 10/19/99

EPA CITES RHO CHEMICAL FOR HAZ WASTE VIOLATIONS;  
PROPOSES \$54,193 FINE

[99-OPA304](#): Released 10/19/99

EPA SETTLES WITH PIERCE & STEVENS FOR HAZ. WASTE  
VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA305](#): Released 10/19/99

EPA CITES LODERS CROKLAAN FOR HAZ. WASTE VIOLATION;  
PROPOSES \$27,500 FINE

[99-OPA306](#): Released 10/19/99

EPA, DOE TO RECOGNIZE CHICAGO'S METCALFE FEDERAL  
BUILDING AS ONE OF NATION'S MOST ENERGY-EFFICIENT  
FACILITIES

[99-OPA307](#): Released 10/20/99

EPA, DOE: CHICAGO'S METCALFE FEDERAL BLDG. ONE OF  
NATION'S MOST ENERGY-EFFICIENT FACILITIES

[99-OPA308](#): Released 10/21/99

EPA ISSUES SECOND CLEANUP ORDER TO W.R. GRACE

[99-OPA309](#): Released 10/27/99

EPA OK'S \$1.5 MILLION FOX RIVER CLEANUP PLAN GRANT TO  
WDNR

[99-OPA310](#): Released 10/22/99

EPA: CLEANUP TO BEGIN AT FORMER EAGLE-PICHER SITE

[99-OPA311](#): Released 10/28/99

EPA COMPLETES 5-YEAR REVIEW OF KENTWOOD LANDFILL

[99-OPA312](#): Released 10/28/99

EPA SETTLES WETLANDS CASE WITH WAREHOUSE SPECIALISTS

## November

[99-OPA315](#): Released 11/2/99

EPA ANNOUNCES BATTERY CHIP FILL SAMPLING DEADLINE

[99-OPA316](#): Released 11/4/99

EPA: FOX RIVER STUDY RESULTS AVAILABLE

[99-OPA318](#): Released 11/4/99

EPA CITES WOODLAND PAVING; INCLUDES \$21,250 FINE

[99-OPA317](#): Released 11/4/99

EPA AWARDS ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE GRANTS TO INDIANA,  
MINNESOTA

[99-OPA319](#): Released 11/8/99

EPA CITES UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN; INCLUDES \$28,000 FINE

[99-OPA320](#): Released 11/8/99

EPA CITES INTERNATIONAL MALTING; INCLUDES \$169,287 FINE

[99-OPA321](#): Released 11/8/99

EPA SETTLES WITH LAKEHEAD PIPE LINE; INCLUDES \$13,365 FINE  
AND LAND PRESERVE BY FOX RIVER

[99-OPA322](#): Released 11/9/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH TEXTRON AUTOMOTIVE;  
INCLUDES \$80,500 FINE

[99-OPA323](#): Released 11/9/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH PROPHETER; INCLUDES \$40,000  
FINE

[99-OPA324](#): Released 11/9/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH VILLAGE OF FREEBURG;  
INCLUDES \$23,000 FINE

[99-OPA325](#): Released 11/9/99

EPA CITES CDT LANDFILL; INCLUDES \$72,380 FINE

[99-OPA326](#): Released 11/9/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH COHEN; LIFTS 'CEASE AND  
DESIST' ORDER

[99-OPA327](#): Released 11/10/99

EPA COMPLETES CANNELTON SITE CLEANUP

[99-OPA328](#): Released 11/15/99

EPA CITES SPARTA FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA329](#): Released 11/15/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH BANTA; INCLUDES \$17,000 FINE  
& PROJECT

[99-OPA332](#): Released 11/15/99

EPA CITES MUNCIE PRECISION HARD CHROME; INCLUDES \$2,000  
FINE

[99-OPA333](#): Released 11/15/99

EPA CITES COUNTRYMARK; INCLUDES \$73,500 FINE

[99-OPA334](#): Released 11/16/99

EPA CITES ESSROC FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA335](#): Released 11/16/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH BP AMOCO; INCLUDES \$163,516 FINE

[99-OPA336](#): Released 11/17/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH E.P. GRAPHICS; INCLUDES \$44,000 FINE & \$250,000 PROJECT

[99-OPA337](#): Released 11/17/99

EPA CITES WESTERN ROTO ENGRAVERS; INCLUDES \$18,150 FINE

[99-OPA338](#): Released 11/18/99

EPA CITES KIENAST FOR ASBESTOS VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA339](#): Released 11/18/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH PINE VIEW PLATING; INCLUDES \$1,000 FINE

[99-OPA340](#): Released 11/18/99

EPA CITES CADE FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA341](#): Released 11/18/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH ELECTROLIZING CORP.; INCLUDES \$11,000 FINE & \$138,000 PROJECT

[99-OPA342](#): Released 11/18/99

EPA CITES NORBROOK PLATING FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA343](#): Released 11/18/99

EPA CITES B&L PLATING FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA344](#): Released 11/18/99

EPA CITES PRAEFKE BRAKE & SUPPLY FOR ASBESTOS VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA346](#): Released 11/19/99

EPA CITES ADAMS PLATING FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA353](#): Released 11/29/99

EPA: CLEANUP COMPLETED AT UNITED AND ARCANUM SITES

[99-OPA354](#): Released 11/30/99

EPA: TRI-COUNTY CLEANUP STOPS FOR WINTER

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## December

[99-OPA355](#): Released 11/30/99

EPA O.K.'S SAMPLING TO BEGIN AT THIRD SITE

[99-OPA357](#): Released 12/3/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH GATX TERMINALS; INCLUDES FINE AND \$147,022 PROJECT

[99-OPA361](#): Released 12/6/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH EKCO-GLACO; INCLUDES \$100,000 FINE

[99-OPA366](#): Released 12/9/99

EPA CITES PRECISION PLATING FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS

[99-OPA368](#): Released 12/13/99

EPA CITES CINERGY FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA369](#): Released 12/14/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH YALE POLISHERS AND PLATERS

[99-OPA372](#): Released 12/20/99

EPA CITES KEIL CHEMICAL FOR AIR POLLUTION

[99-OPA373](#): Released 12/21/99

EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH TRANE; INCLUDES \$20,000 FINE

[99-OPA374](#): Released 12/21/99

EPA CITES BP EXPLORATION & OIL FOR CHEMICAL REPORTING  
VIOLATIONS AT 24 OHIO FACILITIES; INCLUDES \$295,612 FINE

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United States  
Environmental Protection  
Agency

Region 5  
77 West Jackson Boulevard  
Chicago, Illinois 60604  
(312) 353-2000 or  
(800) 621-8431 (IL, IN, MI, MN, OH and WI)



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



Technical Contact: Ross Del Rosario  
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Media Contact: Mick Hans  
(312) 886-9859

For Immediate Release: January 4, 1999

No. 99-OPA001

## **EPA PROPOSES TO CHANGE CLEANUP PLAN FOR INDUSTRIAL EXCESS LANDFILL; WILL SCHEDULE MEETING**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today that it has proposed a change to the cleanup plan for the Industrial Excess Landfill, Uniontown, OH. The original cleanup plan--called a Record of Decision--was selected in 1989, but has been revised due to new data on the pattern of ground-water contamination and EPA's extensive experience designing landfill caps at other Superfund sites around the country.

A 60-day public comment period--twice the length of the required Superfund comment period--begins January 11. EPA is releasing the plan this week to provide as much time as possible for community members to prepare and research their comments.

EPA will hold a public meeting during the comment period to explain the proposed change and accept comments. The meeting will be announced in a separate news release. Written comments will also be accepted for 60 days.

The IEL site is a closed landfill that accepted residential, commercial, and industrial wastes from 1966 to 1980. In 1990-91, about 100 homes that were threatened by contaminated ground water from the site were connected to a new municipal water line. Later, other nearby homes were provided with alternate drinking water as part of expansion of water utility

services.

The proposed change includes:

- Addressing ground-water contamination by monitoring natural attenuation (natural recovery of the ground-water system, without technical intervention), instead of building a pump-and-treat system; and,
- Changing the specifications for the landfill cap to eliminate the requirement of a clay layer--and replacing it with a multilayer system that includes the recompacted existing soil cover, a synthetic liner, a gas collection layer, a drainage layer, and sufficient top cover depth to protect the lower layers from damage.

Based on geologic modeling, EPA is fully confident that this proposed plan will perform as well as the original cap proposed in 1989. The proposed plan meets Ohio solid waste landfill cover requirements.

EPA, Ohio EPA, and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (a unit of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control) believe that the remedy, as modified by the proposed changes, will be protective of human health and the environment. The proposed change is expected to cut cleanup costs from about \$25 million to \$13 million.

The proposed change document, supporting information, and other site documents are available for review at the Hartville Branch Library, 411 East Maple St., Hartville, and the Lake Township Clerk's office, 12360 Market North, Hartville. The documents supporting the proposed changes and other key reference material in the repositories have been recently reorganized by EPA to make it easier to identify specific documents.

Residents with questions about the plan may call Denise Gawlinski, EPA community involvement coordinator, 800-621-8431, or e-mail: [gawlinski.denise@epa.gov](mailto:gawlinski.denise@epa.gov).

Written comments, postmarked by March 11, may also be sent to Gawlinski at U.S. EPA Region 5, Office of Public Affairs (P-19J), 77 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60604.

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Page maintained by: Jeff Kelley, Office of Public Affairs ([kelley.jeff@epa.gov](mailto:kelley.jeff@epa.gov))

Last Updated: January 7, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa001.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



Technical Contact: Tony Martig  
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Media Contact: Phillippa Cannon  
(312) 353-6218

For Immediate Release: January 7, 1999

No. 99-OPA002

## **EPA TO HOLD MEETING ON CHANGES TO PCB REGULATIONS JAN. 27 & 28**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 will hold a two-day meeting on recent changes to Federal regulations on the use, storage, cleanup, and disposal of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB's). The new regulations allow certain PCB cleanup activities without requiring a permit and risk-based cleanup and disposal. EPA has also expanded the list of approved decontamination procedures.

The meeting will be January 27 and 28 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Ramada Plaza O'Hare Hotel, 6600 N. Mannheim Road, Rosemont, IL.

To register, call Tony Martig at (312) 353-2291 or send an e-mail to [cweber@tascon.com](mailto:cweber@tascon.com).

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Page maintained by: Jeff Kelley, Office of Public Affairs ([kelley.jeff@epa.gov](mailto:kelley.jeff@epa.gov))

Last Updated: January 7, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/98opa002.htm>





# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



Technical Contact: Tony Rutter  
(312) 886-8961

Media Contact: Susan Pastor  
(312) 353-1325

WDNR Contact: Paul Kozol  
(608) 275-3301

For Immediate Release: January 7, 1999

No. 99-OPA003

## **EPA: \$3 MILLION CLEANUP COMPLETE AT STOUGHTON CITY LANDFILL**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently completed a \$3 million cleanup at the Stoughton City Landfill Superfund site, Stoughton, WI. Work began in April 1998, with the final project completion delayed about 2 months due to unusually wet weather throughout the construction period.

The 27-acre site was an unregulated municipal landfill from 1952 to 1969, and a state-licensed landfill from 1969 to 1982. Materials disposed of at the site included commercial and municipal wastes, as well as industrial wastes from a Uniroyal plastics and rubber plant. The west side of the property runs along the Yahara River, the Vennevoll housing complex borders the south side, and wetlands border the north and east sides.

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EPA conducted the cleanup with assistance from Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR). It included:

- Excavation and consolidation of 25,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil and sediments.
- Construction of a multilayer clay, vegetation, and soil cap over the remaining landfill material.

- Installation of a wood and wire fence surrounding the site.
- Construction of a road at the south entrance to the property, which provides access to ground-water monitoring wells along the river. The road will also serve as an access point for a bicycle path proposed by the City of Stoughton.

Also, a number of shrubs that were removed during the cleanup have been replaced, and six new pine trees have been planted at the entrance to the landfill on Amundson Parkway. Deed restrictions now in place limit future development on the site. In June 1997, the City of Stoughton resolved its Superfund liability for the site, including past cleanup costs, by paying EPA and WDNR \$1.5 million (\$750,000 each).

The site will now be monitored by EPA for 1 year and by WDNR for another 29 years. As with all Superfund sites, the Stoughton Landfill will be reviewed in 5 years. At that time, it will be determined if the cap is working or if a ground-water pump and treat system is necessary.

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Page maintained by: Jeff Kelley, Office of Public Affairs ([kelley.jeff@epa.gov](mailto:kelley.jeff@epa.gov))

Last Updated: January 12, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa003.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



Legal Contact: Karen Peaceman  
(312) 353-5751

Technical Contact: Tony Rutter  
(312) 886-8961

Media Contact: Susan Pastor  
(312) 353-1325

For Immediate Release: January 11, 1999

No. 99-OPA004

## **EPA: \$6 MILLION CLEANUP COMPLETE AT CARDINGTON ROAD LANDFILL SITE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today that a \$6 million cleanup at the Cardington Road Superfund site (Moraine, OH) is now complete.

The 53-acre site, about one mile south of Dayton at 1855 Cardington Rd., was a sand and gravel pit in the 1960's and an unlined municipal, commercial, and industrial landfill until 1971. Hazardous materials at the site include: sludges, paint and paint byproducts, asbestos, and municipal waste. EPA's investigation of the site began in 1989, with a cleanup plan adopted in 1993. Cleanup construction--paid for by a group of companies responsible for the contamination--began in 1997.

The cleanup included:

- Placement of a multilayer synthetic, soil, and vegetation cap, and gas collection system over the landfill.
- Rerouting of the landfill drainage system.
- Installation of a fence around the site.

Significantly, the gas collection system extends beyond the eastern border of the Cardington Road Landfill, encompassing an additional waste area discovered during the cleanup. Some waste material from beyond the west property line was also moved onto the site and placed under the cap.

In addition, air quality monitors have been installed in nearby businesses to insure that the landfill gases released do not pose a safety or health threat.

Ohio EPA supports the cleanup and worked with EPA on cleanup design and construction.

Site documents and other information about the Cardington Road Landfill are available at Dayton Public Library, 215 East 3rd St., Dayton, and Moraine Public Library, Moraine Municipal Building, 4200 Dryden Rd., Moraine.

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Last Updated: January 20, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa004.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: January 7, 1999

No. 99-OPA005

## **NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS: EPA CONSIDERS PCB STORAGE PERMIT FOR DYNEX INDUSTRIES**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 is considering approval for storage of PCB-contaminated waste from other sources at Dynex Industries, Inc. (Farmington Hills, MI).

Under the draft approval, Dynex would be subject to all EPA requirements, including fire prevention, PCB release tracking, and employee training.

Public comments on the draft will be accepted through Feb. 20, 1999. They can be sent to Kae Lee, Toxics Program Section (DT-8J) U.S. EPA Region 5, 77 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60604. A draft approval is available for review at Farmington Community Library, 32737 Twelve-Mile Rd.

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Last Updated: January 20, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa005.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: January 8, 1999

No. 99-OPA006

## **EPA CITES ROUGE STEEL FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Rouge Steel Co. for alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's plant, 3001 Miller Rd., Dearborn, MI.

EPA said visible emissions of particulates (smoke, ash, dust) from two blast furnaces, a blast-furnace stove stack and gas bleeder, and the basic oxygen process exceeded State standards for opacity (the amount of light obscured) during EPA inspections in September and October.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company and seek injunctive relief and penalties. Rouge Steel has 30 days to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them. EPA said it is working with the Wayne County Air Quality Management Division to resolve the violations.

"EPA is committed to enforcing clean-air regulations to protect public health and the environment," said Stephen Rothblatt, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can affect children, the elderly, and people with heart and lung diseases the most.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa006.htm>



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For Immediate Release: January 12, 1999

No. 99-OPA007

## **EPA SETTLES WITH NORTHWESTERN WIRE & STEEL FOR HAZARDOUS WASTE AND PCB STORAGE VIOLATIONS; INCLUDES \$25,637 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently settled with Northwestern Wire and Steel (Sterling, IL) for hazardous-waste disposal and PCB storage violations. The company has agreed to pay a \$25,637 fine, remove contaminated soils, and carry out two environmental projects costing about \$120,000.

The projects include preventing the release of about 10 tons annually of hazardous waste contaminated with lead and cadmium and removing all remaining PCB-containing capacitors from the steel mill.

During a July 1997 inspection, EPA observed several hazardous-waste disposal violations of baghouse dust which is generated during the melting of scrap steel. It is considered hazardous waste because it contains chromium, lead, and cadmium. EPA alleges that the company disposed of the dust without a permit or pretreatment, and improperly stored PCB-contaminated equipment.



"Improperly storing or disposing of hazardous waste may endanger workers, the public, and the environment," said Robert Springer, director of the regional Waste, Pesticides, and Toxics Division. "Northwestern Wire and Steel is in the process of cleaning up the contaminated area and will carry out projects to prevent future releases in other areas of the mill."

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Last Updated: January 20, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa007.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: January 14, 1999

No. 99-OPA008

## **EPA CITES NYLONGE; INCLUDES \$104,250 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against Nylonge Corp., alleging violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations and permitted emission limits at the company's sponge-making plant, 1301 Lowell St., Elyria, OH. A \$104,250 penalty was proposed.

EPA said the company operated from 1990 to 1995 without a proper air permit. After Nylonge got a permit, its 1995 emissions of carbon disulfide, a hazardous air pollutant and a volatile organic compound (VOC), exceeded the permitted emission limit of 99.4 tons per year.

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Nylonge has 30 days from receipt of the complaint to file an answer and request a hearing. It may request an informal conference to discuss the allegations anytime.

"EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment," said Stephen Rothblatt, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations."

Breathing very high levels of carbon disulfide can be life threatening

because of its effects on the nervous system. Breathing low levels for long periods may result in headaches, tiredness, trouble sleeping, and slight changes in the nerves.

VOC's combine with other chemicals in the air to form ground-level ozone (smog). Ground-level ozone can cause breathing problems, reduced lung function, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and reduced resistance to colds and other infections. Ozone can also aggravate asthma and speed up aging of lung tissue. Children, the elderly, and people with lung diseases are the most sensitive.

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Last Updated: January 14, 1999

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: January 14, 1999

No. 99-OPA009

## **EPA CITES LTV STEEL FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited LTV Steel Co., Inc. for alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's lime-making plant, 15 Williams St., Grand River, OH.

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EPA said emissions of particulates (dust, smoke, ash) from two lime kilns violated State limits for opacity (the amount of light obscured).

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. LTV Steel has 30 days from receipt of the notice to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing the Clean Air Act," said Stephen Rothblatt, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "To protect public health and the environment, we will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with clean-air regulations."

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can affect children, the elderly, and people with heart and lung diseases the most.

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Last Updated: January 15, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa009.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: January 15, 1999

No. 99-OPA010

## **NEAL'S LANDFILL SITE MEETING RESCHEDULED FOR JAN. 27**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today its meeting to discuss the proposed cleanup plan for the Neal's Dump Landfill Superfund site (Bloomington, IN) has been rescheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 27, 7 p.m., Monroe County Public Library Auditorium, 303 East Kirkwood Ave., Bloomington. Due to poor weather, the meeting on Jan. 13 was postponed.

In addition, the public comment period for the proposed plan has been extended until Feb. 3. All comments should be postmarked by this date. They may be sent to: Derrick Kimbrough, Community Involvement Coordinator, U.S. EPA Region 5, Office of Public Affairs (P-19J), 77 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60604.

For further information about the Neal's Landfill site, contact Derrick Kimbrough at 312-886-9749, or Tom Alcamo, remedial project manager, 312-886-7278, or call EPA's toll-free phone: 800-621-8431.

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Last Updated: January 20, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa010.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: January 15, 1999

No. 99-OPA011

## **EPA: NL INDUSTRIES-TARACORP SITE CLEANUP TO WRAP UP IN JUNE; UPDATE MEETINGS JAN. 21-22**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 will host three availability sessions, and a formal public meeting, to update the community on the residential cleanup at the NL Industries-Taracorp Superfund site, Granite City, IL.

The availability sessions, in which residents can meet one-on-one with EPA representatives, will be held Thursday, Jan. 21, 2 to 5 p.m., Lincoln Technical Center, 300 South 4th St., Venice, and on Friday, Jan. 22, 10 a.m to 12 p.m. and 1 to 3 p.m., Granite City Public Library, 2001 Delmar Ave. A formal public meeting, with EPA presentations and a larger group discussion, will be held Thursday, Jan. 21, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Granite City Township Hall, 2060 Delmar Ave.

Since 1994, EPA has supervised lead contamination cleanups at about 1,100 of 1,300 residential yards impacted by smelter stack emissions in Granite City, Madison, and Venice. In addition, about 100 yards and alleys in Venice and Eagle Park Acres, where battery chips were used as fill material, have also been cleaned.

Significantly, residential cleanup work is expected to wrapup on June 30.

After that time, there will no longer be an opportunity for residents to request that their yards be tested for, or cleaned of, environmental contamination.

A fact sheet, including a detailed map of the impacted areas, will be available at the meetings, or can be obtained directly from EPA Noemi Emeric, community involvement coordinator, 800-621-8431, e-mail, [emeric.noemi@epa.gov](mailto:emeric.noemi@epa.gov).

The 16-acre NL Industries-Taracorp site, 2 miles east of St. Louis, across the Mississippi River, was a secondary lead smelter and refining plant from 1903 until 1983. Lead contamination from the site, including airborne smelter stack emissions and battery chips, has been identified in a number of residential areas in Granite City, as well as in neighboring Eagle Park Acres, Madison, and Venice.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa011.htm>





# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: January 15, 1999

No. 99-OPA012

## **EPA: CLEANUP TO BEGIN AT DOUGLAS ROAD SUPERFUND SITE; AVAILABILITY SESSIONS SET FOR JAN. 19**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 will begin cleanup work in February at the Douglas Road Superfund site, Mishawaka, IN. Residents can expect to see heavy equipment, construction vehicles, and workers in protective clothing through the end of the summer (weather permitting).

Two informal availability sessions for residents to discuss the cleanup with representatives of EPA and Indiana Department of Environmental Management will be held Tuesday, Jan. 19, 1 to 3 p.m. and 5 to 8 p.m., Mishawaka City Hall, Council Chambers, 600 East Third St.

The site, near the northwest corner of Douglas and Grape Rds., was a waste collection site for Uniroyal Plastics from 1954 to 1979. Materials sent to the site included solvents, fly ash, rubber and plastic scrap. In 1996, municipal water service was extended to 97 homes impacted, or potentially impacted by the site.

The cleanup work has two primary components--construction of a landfill cap over the site's 14-acre landfill, and construction of a wetland to treat contaminated ground water pumped from beneath the site.

A fact sheet describing the project will be available at the meeting, or can be obtained directly from Noemi Emeric, EPA Community Involvement

Coordinator, 800-621-8431, e-mail, [emeric.noemi@epa.gov](mailto:emeric.noemi@epa.gov). Additional site documents are available at the Mishawaka Public Library, 209 Lincoln Way.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: January 15, 1999

No. 99-OPA013

## **EPA CITES LUCAS SUMITOMO FOR CLEAN AIR ACT VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Lucas Sumitomo Brakes, Inc., for alleged violations of Federal regulations on chromium -- a hazardous air pollutant -- at the company's automotive parts plant, 1650 Kingsview Dr., Lebanon, OH.

EPA said the company failed to operate pollution controls on its hard-chrome electroplating process in the required manner. The company also delayed proper monitoring of its controls for several months after the compliance date.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Lucas Sumitomo has 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing regulations for hazardous air pollutants to protect public health and the environment," said Stephen Rothblatt, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is found in chromic acid mist released into the atmosphere as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: January 15, 1999

No. 99-OPA014

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH CITGO; INCLUDES \$30,000 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with CITGO Petroleum Corp. on alleged violations of Federal hazardous air pollutant regulations at the petrochemical manufacturing unit of the company's oil refinery, 135th St. and New Ave., Lemont, IL. A \$30,000 penalty was assessed.

(CITGO makes benzene, toluene, xylene, hexane, and heptane at the unit.)

EPA notified CITGO in March 1998 that it had failed to properly document weekly visual pump-leak detection inspections. The violations were found during an EPA inspection in July 1997 and in a CITGO response of November 1997 to an EPA information request.

In June 1998, EPA filed an administrative complaint against CITGO, alleging the company failed to furnish records in response to EPA's information request.

Stephen Rothblatt, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division, said: "Hazardous air pollutants are potentially a serious threat to human health and the environment. EPA will take all necessary steps to

ensure compliance with hazardous air pollutant regulations."

In addition to being hazardous air pollutants, these chemicals are also volatile organic compounds that contribute to the formation of ground-level ozone, or smog. Ground-level ozone can cause breathing problems, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and can aggravate asthma. It can reduce lung function and resistance to colds and other infections and may speed up aging of lung tissue. Children, the elderly, and people with chronic respiratory diseases are the most sensitive.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa014.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: January 19, 1999

No. 99-OPA015

## **EPA PUTS FRIDLEY COMMONS PARK WELL FIELD ON SUPERFUND LIST**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) said today that the Fridley Commons Park Well Field (Fridley, MN) site has been placed on the Superfund National Priorities List of hazardous waste sites.

The primary purpose of the list is to guide EPA in determining which sites warrant further investigation to see if they pose risks to human health and the environment. Sites placed on the list are eligible for long-term cleanup under the Superfund program. The list is updated annually.

The Fridley Commons site has a trichlorethylene plume within a 45-acre ground-water well field that is used by the city. Since 1984, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) and Minnesota Department of Health have taken numerous steps to remove the affected wells from service and provide alternate wells or water sources to area residents. A source of the contamination has not yet been identified.

Fridley Commons is a state-lead site, which means the cleanup will be managed by the MPCA.

Fridley Commons was the only site named, or proposed for the list, among

the six Region 5 States. Nationally, the announcement added 17 final sites to the list (current total: 1,206) and proposed 11 sites for possible addition to the list (current proposed total: 59). Nationally, cleanup construction work (excluding long-term monitoring) has been completed at 585 sites. In EPA Region 5, cleanup construction work (excluding long-term monitoring) has been completed at 151 of 269 NPL sites.

Additional information about the Superfund program can be obtained from EPA Headquarters Web site: [www.epa.gov/superfund/sites/index.htm](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/sites/index.htm).

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Last Updated: January 20, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa015.htm>





# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: January 19, 1999

No. 99-OPA016

## **EPA SETTLES WITH TWO MICHIGAN DISPOSAL-WELL OPERATORS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently settled with two Michigan disposal-well operators -- Bio -Lab, Inc. (Adrian) and Terra Energy (Traverse City) -- for violations of the Safe Drinking Water Act. Bio-Lab has agreed to pay a \$17,000 fine and Terra Energy will pay a \$5,000 fine.

In June 1998, EPA alleged that Bio-Lab had failed to demonstrate the mechanical integrity of a disposal well in Lenawee County. It used the well to dispose of various nonhazardous industrial wastes. In September 1998, EPA alleged that Terra Energy had failed to submit timely annual monitoring reports, failed to plug and abandon the well within two years of stopping operations, and submit a timely analysis of injected fluid with its annual report.

Both operators have certified that the wells now meet Federal regulations.

Underground injection control regulations are designed to protect underground sources of drinking water from contamination.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: January 21, 1999

No. 99-OPA017

## **EPA CITES ILLINOIS CEMENT FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Illinois Cement Co. for alleged violations of Federal clean-air regulations at the company's cement plant and quarry, 1601 Rockwell Rd., LaSalle, IL.

EPA said dust levels from the crusher discharge conveyor and a conveyor transfer point at the quarry -- and from a conveyor transfer point at the cement plant -- exceeded Federal standards for opacity (the amount of light obscured) during an October 1998 inspection.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Illinois Cement has 30 days from receipt of the notice to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations."

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can affect children, the elderly, and people with heart and lung diseases the most.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa017.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: January 21, 1999

No. 99-OPA018

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH GETZEN; INCLUDES \$8,000 FINE AND \$18,800 FOR 2 PROJECTS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with Getzen Co., Inc., on alleged violations of Federal hazardous air pollutant regulations at the company's plant, 530 South Highway H, Elkhorn, WI. The agreement includes an \$8,000 penalty and two environmental projects worth \$18,800.

Getzen, which makes brass musical instruments, operated two solvent-cleaning machines (degreasers) using perchloroethylene, a hazardous air pollutant, without pollution control equipment since December 1997, when EPA regulations requiring controls took effect. As a result, the company was not able to show that it met emission limits for solvents set forth in the regulations.

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Under EPA regulations, degreasers installed before November 29, 1993, had to meet Federal standards by December 2, 1997.

Getzen's first environmental project will be a \$5,000 environmental compliance audit that will focus on the facility's operations, records, and regulatory requirements. The company has agreed to correct any violations discovered.

The second project is a \$13,800 study of the feasibility of using biodegradation to clean up ground-water contamination at certain sites at the facility. If biodegradation is found to be effective, its use will eliminate emissions of air pollutants from the pump-and-treat method now being used.

"Hazardous air pollutants are potentially a serious threat to human health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the regulations."

Short-term exposure to high concentrations of perchloroethylene, particularly in poorly ventilated areas, can cause dizziness, light-headedness, nausea, kidney dysfunction, confusion, difficulty in speaking and walking, and loss of consciousness. Long-term exposure can damage the liver and nervous system. Perchloroethylene is classified as a probable, but low-hazard, cancer-causing agent.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa018.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: January 21, 1999

No. 99-OPA019

## **EPA CITES MARATHON ASHLAND PETROLEUM FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Marathon Ashland Petroleum LLC for alleged violations of federally enforceable State and county clean-air regulations at the company's oil refinery, 1300 South Fort St., Detroit, MI.

EPA said the company exceeded emission limits on particulates (smoke, ash, dust) and sulfur dioxide. The excessive emissions occurred at the fluid catalytic cracking unit and the carbon monoxide boiler of the refinery. The violations were discovered during stack tests in 1992, 1995, 1997, and 1998.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Marathon Ashland has 30 days from receipt of the notice to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA's goal is to protect public health and the environment, and we will take all necessary steps to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation

Division.

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can affect the heart and the lungs, especially in children, the elderly, and individuals with existing heart or lung conditions.

Sulfur dioxide causes acid rain. Exposure to sulfur dioxide can also impair breathing, aggravate existing respiratory diseases like bronchitis, and reduce the ability of the lungs to clear foreign particles.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: January 22, 1999

No. 99-OPA020

## **EPA SETTLES WITH GEON FOR HAZARDOUS CHEMICAL RELEASES; INCLUDES \$15,000 FINE AND EQUIPMENT UPGRADE FOR LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENT**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently signed a consent order and consent agreement with the Geon Company, a subsidiary of B.F. Goodrich, Avon Lake, OH, for violations of Federal laws on the reporting of hazardous chemical releases. The company has paid a \$15,000 fine and will purchase smoke-penetrating camera equipment for the local fire department.

EPA's complaint alleged that the company failed to promptly notify all of the proper authorities about vinyl chloride releases on Jan. 2, 1992 (81 lb) and again on Nov. 18, 1992 (825 lb). Federal laws require immediate notification upon any release of vinyl chloride exceeding 1 lb.

Vinyl chloride is a colorless gas used in the production of polyvinyl chloride (PVC), and other polymers. Short-term exposure can cause dizziness, drowsiness, headaches, blurred vision, unconsciousness, or death. Long-term exposure is associated with liver damage, poor circulation, and increased cancer risks.

In the January 1992 incident, the facility reported the release to the

National Response Center (NRC) over three hours after the incident occurred. The November 1992 incident was reported to the NRC and the Ohio Emergency Response Commission over six hours after the release. (In both incidents, local responders were notified within about 30 minutes.)

The \$15,000 civil penalty includes \$10,000 to EPA's Superfund Trust, which is used to clean up and respond to hazardous chemical sites and emergencies, and \$5,000 to the U.S. Treasury. The company will also purchase thermal imaging equipment valued at \$22,650, for the Avon Lake fire department. The equipment provides firefighters with the ability to see through smoke and locate potential victims quickly.

"We are pleased that Geon has chosen to settle this case, particularly because it includes a benefit to the community directly impacted by these chemical releases," said Regional Superfund Director William Munro.

"Compliance with these reporting requirements is critical, because all agencies that may be called to the scene must have the necessary information to respond. Vinyl chloride is an extremely hazardous chemical--and any time it is released, public health, as well as the environment, may be at risk."

Since 1989, EPA Region 5 has filed 198 separate complaints for hazardous chemical reporting violations, resulting in 182 settlements with \$4.28 million in total fines and \$2.27 million in environmental projects.

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Page maintained by: Jeff Kelley, Office of Public Affairs ([kelly.jeff@epa.gov](mailto:kelly.jeff@epa.gov))

Last Updated: January 27, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa020.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: January 22, 1999

No. 99-OPA021

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH ELKHART; INCLUDES \$30,000 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with Elkhart Products Corp. on alleged violations of Federal hazardous air pollutant regulations at the company's plants, 1255 Oak St., Elkhart, IN, and 700 Rainbow Rd., Geneva, IN. A \$30,000 penalty was assessed.

(Elkhart makes copper and aluminum tubing for heating and air conditioning units.)

EPA filed an administrative complaint against Elkhart in June 1998, alleging the two plants failed to comply with Federal standards for hard-chrome electroplating plants from January 25, 1997, when the standards went into effect, until early June 1997.

Elkhart tested its uncontrolled stacks at the two plants in January 1997 and found their chromium emissions were above the Federal standard. The company installed control equipment at both plants in spring 1997. Stack tests in June 1997 showed both plants were in compliance with Federal standards.

"Hazardous air pollutants are potentially a serious threat to human health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the regulations."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is found in chromic-acid mist released into the air as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforation of the nasal septum.

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Last Updated: January 27, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa021.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: January 22, 1999

No. 99-OPA022

## **EPA CITES POLLUTION CONTROL INDUSTRIES FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Pollution Control Industries (PCI) for alleged violations of Federal and State clean-air regulations at the company's hazardous-waste treatment, storage, and disposal plant, 4343 Kennedy Ave., East Chicago, IN.

EPA said the company failed to get State construction permits for units at the plant that emit volatile organic compounds (VOC's) in an area that does not meet health-based standards for VOC's.

PCI violated Federal clean-air regulations by failing to give EPA adequate information and to keep appropriate handling records for its benzene waste. Benzene is a hazardous air pollutant as well as a VOC.

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The violations were discovered during inspections in March 1998 and after PCI's response to an April 1998 EPA information request.

These are preliminary findings of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. PCI has 30 days from receipt of the notices to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing the Clean Air Act," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "To protect public health and the environment, we will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with clean-air regulations."

VOC's combine with other chemicals in the air to form ground-level ozone (smog). Ground-level ozone can cause breathing problems, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and can aggravate asthma. It can reduce lung function and resistance to colds and other infections and may speed the aging of lung tissue. Children, the elderly, and persons with chronic respiratory disease are the most sensitive.

Benzene can cause cancer. Short-term exposure can cause drowsiness, headaches, and loss of consciousness. Long-term exposure has been linked to blood and bone marrow diseases, chromosome changes, and leukemia.

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Last Updated: January 27, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa022.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: January 25, 1999

No. 99-OPA023

## **EPA CITES USS/KOBE STEEL FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited USS/KOBE Steel Co. for alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's Lorain, OH, steel plant.

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EPA said the company exceeded State limits on emissions of particulates (smoke, dust, ash) at its No. 3 seamless rotary mill.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. USS/KOBE has 30 days from receipt of the notice to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing the Clean Air Act," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "To protect public health and the environment, we will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with clean-air regulations."

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can affect children, the elderly, and people with heart and lung diseases the most.

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Last Updated: January 27, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa023.htm>





# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: January 25, 1999

No. 99-OPA024

## **EPA CITES COLEMAN TRUCKING FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Coleman Trucking, Inc. (3580 East 93d St., Cleveland, OH), for alleged violations of Federal asbestos regulations during demolition of four houses in Canton, OH.

EPA said Coleman Trucking, an asbestos abatement company, used improper asbestos-removal procedures while demolishing the houses on April 7 and 8, 1997. The job was part of an Ohio Department of Transportation Route 30 extension project in Stark County. The company also failed to notify authorities before starting the demolition.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. The company has 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA will take all steps necessary to protect the public from the harmful effects of asbestos, a hazardous air pollutant," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We are committed to enforcing clean-air regulations to protect public health and the environment."

Asbestos is a known cancer-causing substance that can cause mesothelioma (a type of lung cancer) and asbestosis (a lung disease) many years after exposure.

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Page maintained by: Jeff Kelley, Office of Public Affairs ([kelley.jeff@epa.gov](mailto:kelley.jeff@epa.gov))

Last Updated: January 27, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa024.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: January 25, 1999

No. 99-OPA025

## **EPA SETTLES WITH 3M ON ALLEGED HAZ. WASTE VIOLATIONS; INCLUDES \$143,800 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 announced today that it has settled an administrative action against the Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Co. (3M) for alleged hazardous waste violations at its Cordova, IL, facility.

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The company has agreed to pay a \$143,800 penalty and must investigate and clean up any hazardous-waste spills that may have occurred in two areas of the facility.

In Sept. 1998, EPA issued an administrative complaint alleging that in December 1997, inspectors found several violations at the facility, including hazardous waste stored without the proper permits and labels and hazardous waste stored in leaking or damaged containers.

The Cordova facility produces specialty chemicals primarily for other 3M manufacturing facilities throughout the country.

Under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, EPA regulates the management and disposal of municipal and industrial solid wastes, from the time of production to their final disposal.

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Last Updated: January 27, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa025.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: January 26, 1999

No. 99-OPA026

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH LITHOS EXPLORATION; INCLUDES \$7,656 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with Lithos Exploration, Inc. (Traverse City, MI), for violations of the underground injection control rules outlined in the Safe Drinking Water Act.

EPA alleged in a September 1998 administrative complaint that Lithos Exploration exceeded the level of pressure allowed in its permit for disposing of brine in a well it operates in Eaton County, MI. What's more, the company failed to report the violation.

Lithos Exploration uses the well to dispose of brine from oil and gas exploration. It has agreed to meet the requirements of its underground injection permit and will pay a \$7,656 penalty.

"Underground injection control regulations are designed to protect underground sources of drinking water from contamination," said Tinka Hyde, acting director of the regional Water Division.

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Last Updated: January 28, 1999

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: January 27, 1999

No. 99-OPA027

## **EPA SEEKS INFORMATION ON OLD MILL SITE VANDALS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today that trespassers in off-road vehicles at the Old Mill Landfill (Rock Creek, OH), a hazardous waste cleanup site, have damaged groundwater monitoring equipment on the property. Besides the cost of replacing the equipment, vandalism interferes with EPA's ability to complete cleanup at the Superfund site and creates a public-safety hazard to trespassers and officials working at the site. EPA will work with local law enforcement agencies, including Ashtabula County sheriff's office, to identify trespassers. Rock Creek residents with information to share, or who spot trespassers on the property, may call Sheriff Bill Johnson at 440-576-0055. New Private Property signs will soon be posted at the site.

The Old Mill site, also known as Kraus Disposal, was contaminated with chemicals from leaking and improperly stored drums during the 1970's. In the early 1980's, EPA removed the leaking drums and some contaminated soil. By 1989, EPA removed the remaining contaminated soils and installed a ground-water collection and treatment system. In 1994, EPA installed an extension to the collection system to ensure that all

contaminated ground water was captured and treated. EPA expects ground-water monitoring and treatment to continue for at least another 20 years. EPA, in consultation with U.S. Department of Justice, is negotiating to have companies responsible for the contamination take over ground-water monitoring and treatment at the site and reimburse EPA for past costs.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa027.htm>





# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: February 3, 1999

No. 99-OPA028

## **EPA CITES QUEBECOR; PROPOSES \$60,500 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed a civil administrative complaint against Quebecor Petty Printing Co., alleging violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's Effingham, IL, printing plant. A \$60,500 civil penalty was proposed.

EPA said Quebecor installed three printing presses (one in 1994, one in 1995, and another in 1997) without the required permits. The company also exceeded permit limits for ink usage and total volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions for one of the presses.

Quebecor has 30 days from receipt of the complaint to file an answer and request a hearing. It may request an informal conference to discuss the allegations anytime.

"EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations."

VOC's combine with other chemicals in the air to form ground-level ozone

(smog), which can cause breathing problems, reduced lung function, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and reduced resistance to colds and other infections. Ozone can also aggravate asthma and speed up aging of lung tissue. Children, the elderly, and people with lung diseases are the most sensitive.

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Last Updated: February 4, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa028.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: February 3, 1999

No. 99-OPA029

## **EPA CITES DURO-CHROME FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Duro-Chrome Industries, Inc., for alleged violations of Federal hazardous air pollutant regulations at the company's electroplating plant, 275 Industrial Dr., Wauconda, IL.

EPA said four of the plant's six hard chrome electroplating tanks exceeded the Federal chromium emission limit during stack tests Nov. 17-20, 1997. Emissions from one of these tanks exceeded limits during a test last June, after new control equipment was installed.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Duro-Chrome has 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"Hazardous air pollutants are potentially a serious threat to human health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the regulations."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is found in chromic-acid mist, released into the air as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

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Last Updated: February 4, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa029.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: February 3, 1999

No. 99-OPA030

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with University of Wisconsin on alleged violations of clean-air regulations at the university's Superior (WI) campus.

In December 1997, EPA cited the university for operating two coal-fired boilers at its heating plant that, during State inspections, exceeded federally enforceable State limits for opacity (the amount of light obscured) caused by particulate emissions.

Under the agreement, the university will operate its boilers in compliance with State regulations. By August 1, 1999, it will install and certify a continuous opacity monitor at the heating plant stack.

The university will also install permanent scaffolding and test ports for particulate emissions testing. Over the next two heating seasons, it will do one stack emission test per season and submit the results to EPA. The university has agreed to implement additional measures to assure long-term continuous compliance.

Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division,

said EPA will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with the Clean Air Act. EPA's mission is protection of human health and the environment, he added.

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates (dust, smoke, soot) can affect children, the elderly, and people with heart and lung diseases the most.

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Last Updated: February 4, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa030.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: February 3, 1999

No. 99-OPA031

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH CYTEC AND BAKER; INCLUDES FINES OF \$225,653**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 and the U.S. Department of Justice have reached agreement with Cytec Industries, Inc. (Marietta, OH), and a demolition contractor, R. Baker & Sons All Industrial Services, Inc. (Staten Island, NY), on alleged violations of Federal asbestos regulations during a 1996 asbestos removal at a demolition site owned by Cytec in Marietta.

Civil penalties totaling \$225,653 were assessed. Cytec will pay \$176,135, and Baker will pay \$49,518. Both companies agreed to immediately achieve full compliance with Federal asbestos regulations and to set up an in-house asbestos-control program.

EPA said asbestos regulations were violated in spring and summer 1996, during preparation of the site for demolition. The violations alleged are failure to:

- thoroughly and timely inspect buildings for asbestos before start of demolition;
- provide critical information to government agencies before start of the project; and

- properly handle asbestos being removed from the facility.

"EPA will take all steps necessary to protect the public from the harmful effects of asbestos, a hazardous air pollutant," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division.

Asbestos is a known carcinogen that can cause mesothelioma (a type of lung cancer) and asbestosis (a lung disease) many years after exposure.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa031.htm>





# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: February 4, 1999

No. 99-OPA032

## **EPA CITES TEXTRON AUTOMOTIVE FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Textron Automotive Co. for alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's Plant #2, 707 Veterans Pkwy., Rantoul, IL.

EPA said Textron, which makes automobile dash boards, used paints that contained more volatile organic compounds (VOC's) than is permitted at two paint spray booths. One booth exceeded limits from June to November 1997, and the other booth exceeded limits from June 1997 to March 1998.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve these violations, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Textron has 30 days from receipt of the notice to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing clean-air regulations to protect public health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure compliance with the Clean Air Act."

VOC's combine in the air to form ground-level ozone (smog), which can cause breathing problems, asthma attacks, eye irritation, and stuffy nose. It can also reduce lung function and resistance to colds and other infections and may speed up aging of lung tissue. Children, the elderly, and those with existing lung problems are most susceptible.

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Last Updated: February 4, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa032.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: February 4, 1999

No. 99-OPA033

## **EPA CITES ADVANCED ORGANICS FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Advanced Organics, Inc., for alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's waste food recycling plant, 7148 State Rte. 199, Upper Sandusky, OH.

(Advanced Organics recycles waste food products into ingredients for animal feeds.)

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EPA said the company failed to comply with requirements of its State permit to install (companies must get a "permit to install" for all emission sources before they build them) and failed to apply for and get a State permit to operate. An EPA inspection last August found excessive visible particulate emissions from the plant stack.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Advanced Organics has 30 days to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing clean-air regulations to protect public health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the

regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can affect children, the elderly, and people with heart and lung diseases the most.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: February 4, 1999

No. 99-OPA034

## **EPA CITES VEMCO FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Vemco, Inc., for alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's plant, 10230 North Holly Rd., Grand Blanc, MI.

EPA said Vemco, which paints plastic automobile parts, modified equipment without a permit, exceeded emission limits for volatile organic compounds (VOC's) and visible emissions, did not properly maintain pollution-control equipment, and failed to meet reporting requirements.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company and seek injunctive relief and penalties. Vemco has 30 days to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations."

VOC's combine in the air with other chemicals to form ground-level ozone (smog), which can cause breathing problems, asthma attacks, eye irritation, and stuffy nose. It can also reduce lung function and resistance to colds and other infections and may speed up aging of lung tissue. Children, the elderly, and persons with chronic respiratory disease are the most sensitive.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: February 8, 1999

No. 99-OPA035

## **EPA: COMMENTS ON LOWER FOX RIVER PROPOSED SUPERFUND LISTING NOW AT LOCAL LIBRARIES**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently distributed to local information repositories copies of public comments that EPA received on its proposed Superfund listing for Wisconsin's Lower Fox River.

The 60-day public comment period, which closed Sept. 28, 1998, generated a record number of responses for a proposed Superfund site: 7,005 comments in 2,865 separate documents. (Petition signatures were counted as individual comments.)

These comments will be considered in any PCB-cleanup decisions made by EPA, in consultation with Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and the four partner tribes and agencies.

Bound copies of the comments are available at 5 information repositories: Appleton Public Library, 225 North Oneida St.; Brown County Library, 515 Pine St., Green Bay; Kaukauna Public Library, 111 Main Ave.; Oshkosh Public Library, 106 Washington Ave.; and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Reading Room, 1015 Challenger Ct., Green Bay. A summary of the comments is being developed and will soon be available at the public library information repositories in Appleton, Kimberly, Little Chute, Menasha, Neenah, Oshkosh, and Sturgeon Bay, as well as the Oneida Community Library.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: February 8, 1999

No. 99-OPA036

## **EPA CITES AMOCO FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Amoco Chemical Co. for alleged clean-air violations at the company's Joliet Plant, 23425 Amoco Rd., Channahon, IL.

EPA said Amoco operated a process vent in its isophthalic acid unit, in violation of Federal hazardous organic air pollutant regulations. EPA said the gas exhaust from the unit released hazardous organics such as benzene, methanol, methyl bromide, and xylene into the air.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Amoco has 30 days to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division, said: "Hazardous air pollutants are potentially a serious threat to human health and the environment. EPA will take all necessary steps to ensure compliance with hazardous air pollutant regulations."

In addition to being hazardous air pollutants -- dangerous to human health -  
- benzene, methanol, methyl bromide, and xylene are also volatile organic

compounds that contribute to the formation of ground-level ozone, or smog. Ground-level ozone can cause breathing problems, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and aggravate asthma in humans and can harm farm crops. Methyl bromide can also damage the stratospheric ozone layer.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa036.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: February 8, 1999

No. 99-OPA037

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH UNITED HARD CHROME; INCLUDES \$6,177 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with United Hard Chrome Corp. on alleged violations of Federal hazardous air pollutant regulations at the company's electroplating plant, 2202 Gilbert Ave. NE., Canton, OH. A \$6,177 civil penalty was assessed.

In an administrative complaint filed last September, EPA said the company failed to do initial performance testing for its hard-chrome plating tanks by the July 25, 1997, deadline. The testing is intended to assure compliance with chromium emission standards.

Federal regulations went into effect for hard-chrome plating tanks and anodizing tanks January 25, 1997. United was required to meet certain requirements from that date.

"Hazardous air pollutants are potentially a serious threat to human health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the regulations."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is found in chromic-acid mist, released into the air as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

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Page maintained by: Jeff Kelley, Office of Public Affairs ([kelley.jeff@epa.gov](mailto:kelley.jeff@epa.gov))

Last Updated: February 9, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa037.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: February 8, 1999

No. 99-OPA039

## **EPA REVIEWS NATIONAL PRESTO SITE; GROUND-WATER CONTAMINATION DOWN**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently completed a 5-year status review of an interim ground-water treatment system for the National Presto Industries Superfund site, Eau Claire, WI.

The Superfund law requires reviews of sites (at least every 5 years)--or specifically designated portions of sites--where cleanup has been completed, but where pollutants are contained and managed on-site.

The 320-acre property includes a number of separate sites, most of which were cleaned up from 1987 to 1996. The interim ground-water treatment system just reviewed was built by National Presto in March 1994, to handle the Melby Road Disposal Area and the Southwest Corner Area of the site. Annual operating costs for this system are about \$50,000.

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EPA's review of 41 ground-water monitoring wells showed that, at all but 3 of the wells, volatile organic compound contamination is decreasing below target levels, and ground-water quality continues to improve. National Presto will continue to operate the ground-water treatment system until target levels are reached consistently at all of the wells.

At other site areas, most cleanup is now nearly complete. This includes an 9-acre landfill cap, a soil-vapor extraction system, and multiple contaminated-soil excavation areas.

Copies of the 5-year review and other site documents are available at Chippewa Falls Public Library, 105 West Central St., Chippewa Falls, and Hallie Town Hall, Route 9, 957 Hagen Rd., Chippewa Falls.

The National Presto Industries site was purchased from the U.S. War Department in 1947. The company first manufactured household appliances and outboard motors, then added defense-related products in 1951. Manufacturing operations continue today. EPA's involvement at the site began when a plume of contaminated ground water from the nearby Eau Claire Municipal Well Field Superfund site was traced to the National Presto property. A 5-year review of the ground-water treatment system at the Eau Claire site was completed in late 1997. The Eau Claire system will also continue to operate until cleanup standards are reached.

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Page maintained by: Jeff Kelley, Office of Public Affairs ([kelley.jeff@epa.gov](mailto:kelley.jeff@epa.gov))

Last Updated: February 8, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa039.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: February 10, 1999

No. 99-OPA040

## **EPA SETTLES WITH TWO MIDWEST COMPANIES FOR OIL SPILLS INTO WATERWAYS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently settled administrative complaints with two midwest companies for discharging oil to local waterways. The companies and the settlements: Colonial Stair & Woodwork (Jeffersonville, OH), \$3,750; and Lakehead Pipeline Co. (Duluth, MN), \$9,000.

The complaints were filed under Section 311(b) of the Clean Water Act and enforced under provisions of the Oil Pollution Act. The law prohibits discharges of oil into navigable waters of the United States. Facilities regulated under this law include all those that drill for, produce, gather, store, process, refine, transfer, distribute, or consume oil or oil products.

In the Colonial Stair complaint, EPA alleged that, on Jan. 7, 1997, the company discharged 300 gallons of diesel fuel into a drainage tile field behind its facility. The field empties into Sugar Creek. The spill was due to a pinhole leak in a fuel storage tank. Containment of the spill was initiated by the Jeffersonville Fire Department, with additional cleanup performed by an environmental contractor hired by the company.

In the Lakehead Pipeline complaint, EPA alleged that, on June 30, 1994, the company discharged 2,100 gallons of crude oil into wetlands adjacent to an unnamed tributary flowing into White Oak Lake and the Mississippi River. The spill resulted from a crack in a weld on Lakehead's pipeline about 2 miles east of Deer River, MN. Following the incident, the company shut down the pipeline, repaired it temporarily the next day, and replaced the segment on July 4.

The Clean Water Act is the Federal government's first line of defense to protect the Nation's waterways, said William Muno, Regional Superfund Director. Though these fines are comparatively small, all oil spills take a toll on water quality, and plant and animal life in the immediate spill area. Depending on the chemical, the human health impact may be much more severe. EPA takes enforcement of this law very seriously.

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Last Updated: February 10, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa040.htm>





# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: February 12, 1999

No. 99-OPA041

## **EPA CITES ALMOND FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Almond Corp. for alleged violations of Federal and federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's paint coating plant, 6435 Schamber Dr., Muskegon, MI.

EPA said volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions from the plant's paint coating lines exceeded permitted levels in an area that does not meet health-based standards for ground-level ozone (smog). VOC's combine in the air with other chemicals to form ground-level ozone.

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One coating line was built without a State installation permit. The company violated Federal regulations by failing to get a renewable permit to operate.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. EPA and the company had a telephone conference Jan. 26 to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA's goal is to protect public health and the environment, and we will take all necessary steps to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations,"

said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division.

Ground-level ozone can cause breathing problems, asthma attacks, eye irritation, and stuffy nose. It can also reduce lung function and resistance to colds and other infections and may speed up aging of lung tissue. Children, the elderly, and those with existing lung problems are the most susceptible.

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Page maintained by: Jeff Kelley, Office of Public Affairs ([kelley.jeff@epa.gov](mailto:kelley.jeff@epa.gov))

Last Updated: February 16, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa041.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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Media Contact: Mick Hans  
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For Immediate Release: February 17, 1999

No. 99-OPA042

## **EPA EXTENDS PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON IEL SITE CLEANUP PLAN; MEETINGS MAR. 1-2**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today it will hold two availability sessions and a public meeting to explain its recently announced proposed change to the cleanup plan for the Industrial Excess Landfill, Uniontown, OH. EPA has also extended the public comment period to 90 days, until Apr. 11.

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The availability sessions--in which community members can meet one-on-one with representatives from EPA and Ohio EPA--will be Monday, Mar. 1, 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m., Uniontown Community Center, 3696 Apollo St. A formal public meeting, including a forum for comments, will be Tuesday, Mar. 2, 7 p.m., at the same location.

A fact sheet describing the proposed changes was previously sent to EPA's 1,700-name mailing list and will also be available at the meetings. An additional fact sheet, summarizing the September 1998 ground-water monitoring and residential well sampling report, will also be sent to the mailing list. The full groundwater report will be available for review (within a few days) at the site information repositories at the Lake Township Clerk's Office, 12360 Market North, and the Hartville Branch Library, 411 East Maple St., Hartville.

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Page maintained by: Jeff Kelley, Office of Public Affairs ([kelley.jeff@epa.gov](mailto:kelley.jeff@epa.gov))

Last Updated: February 18, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa042.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: February 23, 1999

No. 99-OPA043

## **EPA AND ROANOKE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION SIGN AGREEMENT; C&M PLATING SITE TO BE REDEVELOPED**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 , U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), and Roanoke Economic Development Organization (REDO) today announced a unique agreement which should result in redevelopment of the long-vacant C&M Plating site (Vine St. at Main St.), Roanoke, IN. A signing ceremony held at the site included representatives from EPA and Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), plus a number of local officials.

Under the deal, called a Prospective Purchaser Agreement (PPA), REDO will acquire title to the tax-delinquent property from the Huntington County Commissioners. EPA, in turn, has agreed not to sue REDO for any future claims associated with remaining contamination at the site and to waive any claims for past cleanup costs. REDO will also make a \$2,000 payment to EPA's Superfund, the Federal hazardous waste cleanup program.

The property is slated for a range of commercial uses, including senior citizens housing, a medical clinic, and retail businesses. Some contaminated soil remains buried at least 6 feet below ground-level, but

does not pose an environmental or health risk.

REDO is a not-for-profit corporation formed in 1995 specifically for acquiring and marketing the CC&M property. Its board of directors includes town officials, civic leaders, and business people.

"Agreements of this sort are often the final step in returning brownfield properties to productive use," said regional Superfund Director William Muno. "In this case, plans are well underway to create new businesses at the site, which will provide new jobs and services for Roanoke residents."

"In addition to their cooperative spirit in working with EPA and the State, REDO and the people and government of Roanoke have contributed nearly \$50,000 in in-kind services, such as labor and disposal costs," continued Muno. "EPA salutes this effort as a model for other communities."

The 3-acre C&M site was a metal plating facility from 1946 until 1987, when it was shut down by IDEM for illegal waste and wastewater disposal practices. Subsequently, the company owners were convicted of State environmental crimes and fined \$250,000. Shortly thereafter, they filed for bankruptcy and abandoned the property.

Between 1988 and 1996, EPA's Superfund program, IDEM, and Huntington County--in cooperation with the City of Roanoke--conducted a series of disposal and cleanup actions at the site. EPA's total cost for the cleanup: \$1.7 million.

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Page maintained by: Jeff Kelley, Office of Public Affairs ([kelly.jeff@epa.gov](mailto:kelly.jeff@epa.gov))

Last Updated: March 2, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa043.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: February 19, 1999

No. 99-OPA044

## **EPA CLARIFIES AUTHORITY TO ISSUE AIR OPERATING PERMITS ON INDIAN LANDS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) said today it is clarifying its authority to issue operating permits to major air pollution sources to protect air quality on Indian lands.

EPA said it is revising a Clean Air Act regulation so that it can run the permits program until tribal programs are explicitly approved for the areas.

The rule, signed by EPA Administrator Carol Browner on February 8, will be effective 30 days after its publication in the Federal Register. Sources will have up to one year from that date to apply to their EPA regional office for an operating permit. EPA will issue these permits over a two-year period.

EPA will work cooperatively with the tribes, the U.S. Department of Interior, States, and other stakeholders as needed to assess whether sources are located on Indian lands.

Under existing EPA regulations, tribal governments can request authority to carry out air programs, including permit programs, within their jurisdictions, but EPA retains responsibility for environmental protection until tribes receive this authority. To help tribes that want their own programs to increase their expertise and capacity, EPA provides technical

support and other assistance.

Throughout the country, some 100 sources on Indian lands are likely to be affected by the rule. In EPA Region 5, about 10 sources are expected to be affected. The majority of sources affected are expected to be in industries such as timber, natural gas compressor stations and power plants.

Indian lands include all land within the limits of any Indian reservation under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Government (including land owned by non-Indians), all dependent Indian communities within the borders of the United States, and Indian allotments where title still exists.

The Federal Register notice can be downloaded from EPA's World Wide Web site under "recent actions" at: <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg>. For more information about the revision, call Candace Carraway, EPA Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, 919-541-3189.

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Page maintained by: Jeff Kelley, Office of Public Affairs ([kelley.jeff@epa.gov](mailto:kelley.jeff@epa.gov))

Last Updated: February 22, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa044.htm>





# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: February 22, 1999

No. 99-OPA046

## **EPA CITES CRAFTMASTERS FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS; TELLS COMPANY TO COMPLY**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Craftmasters Division of Evert Plating, Inc., for alleged violations of Federal regulations on chromium -- a hazardous air pollutant -- and of federally enforceable State permitting requirements at the company's electroplating plant, 16700 Westfield Ave., Cleveland, OH.

EPA ordered Craftmasters to comply immediately with Federal chromium rules and to do the required testing and reporting. The company failed to do a timely, valid performance test, showing that chromium emissions from the plant are within the Federal limit. (Emission standards for hard-chrome plating tanks and anodizing tanks took effect January 25, 1997.)

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EPA said the company operated for years without applying for a State air pollution permit. Ohio has required air pollution sources to get valid operating permits since 1972. Craftmasters applied for the permit only in April 1998.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Craftmasters has 30 days from receipt of the notice

to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"Hazardous air pollutants are potentially a serious threat to human health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the regulations."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is found in chromic-acid mist, released into the air as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

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Last Updated: February 22, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa046.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: February 22, 1999

No. 99-OPA047

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH BILLMAX; INCLUDES \$10,000 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with Billmax Properties (Farmington Hills, MI) on alleged violations of Federal asbestos regulations at a demolition site, 14841 West McNichols Rd., Detroit. A \$10,000 civil penalty was assessed.

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EPA filed an administrative complaint against Billmax and Upright Wrecking (Detroit) last September, although Upright is not a party to this agreement.

In the complaint, EPA said Billmax, owner of the site, and Upright, the demolition contractor, failed to notify proper authorities as required by asbestos regulations and failed to thoroughly inspect for asbestos before starting demolition.

"EPA is committed to enforcing the asbestos regulations to protect public health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division.

Asbestos is a known carcinogen that can cause mesothelioma (a type of

lung cancer) and asbestosis (a lung disease) many years after exposure.

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Last Updated: February 22, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa047.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: February 23, 1999

No. 99-OPA048

## **EPA SETTLES WITH AMERICAN WASTE TECHNOLOGIES; INCLUDES \$23,100 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently signed a consent agreement and consent order with American Waste Technologies, Inc. (Belleville, MI), on alleged violations of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act and the Michigan Administrative Code.

In Sep. 1997, EPA issued an administrative complaint alleging that the company had continually failed to carry out its approved closure plan and had accepted -- without a permit -- used oil mixed with hazardous wastes.

The company has agreed to pay a \$23,100 penalty, submit an amended closure plan to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and carry out the plan when approved. The company will also submit and carry out a written plan describing procedures that it will follow to handle all future shipments of used oil to the facility. In addition, it must meet all regulations on the marketing of used oil.

Under Federal law, EPA regulates the management and disposal of hazardous wastes, from the time of production to their final disposal.

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Page maintained by: Jeff Kelley, Office of Public Affairs ([kelley.jeff@epa.gov](mailto:kelley.jeff@epa.gov))

Last Updated: February 24, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa048.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: February 23, 1999

No. 99-OPA049

## **EPA, DOJ SUE MARATHON ASHLAND FOR AIR POLLUTION VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of Justice have recently filed a civil complaint against Marathon Ashland Petroleum, LLC, for alleged clean-air violations at the company's Robinson, IL, oil refinery. The complaint also named Marathon Oil Co., the former owner and operator of the refinery.

The complaint says that Marathon Ashland did not install benzene control and treatment devices to control benzene emissions from the refinery's waste operations as required by EPA regulations. The regulations became effective on April 7, 1993. The alleged violations were discovered during a February 1994 EPA inspection of the refinery.

Marathon Ashland is also charged with failure to provide information and to do sampling relating to the benzene emissions, as required by law.

The companies can be found liable for penalties up to \$25,000 per day for each violation occurring before January 30, 1997, and for penalties up to \$27,500 per day for each violation occurring after that date.

Benzene is known to cause cancer. Long-term exposure to benzene may

cause blood and bone marrow diseases, leukemia, and chromosome changes. Short-term exposure can cause drowsiness, dizziness, headaches, and loss of consciousness.

The complaint was filed with the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Illinois, East St. Louis. The case will be in the Benton Division, Benton, IL. The companies are expected to file a legal response to the complaint soon.

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Page maintained by: Jeff Kelley, Office of Public Affairs ([kelley.jeff@epa.gov](mailto:kelley.jeff@epa.gov))

Last Updated: February 24, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa049.htm>





# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



Legal Contact: Tom Turner  
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Media Contact: Phillipa Cannon  
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For Immediate Release: February 23, 1999

No. 99-OPA050

## **EPA ORDERS LOCAL MAN TO COMPLETE AND PAY FOR DISPOSAL OF ILLEGAL DUMPING AT COOK COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE SITE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 today ordered a Chicago area man, John Schiavone, to complete and pay for disposal of hazardous wastes removed by EPA from Cook County Forest Preserve District property.

Today's EPA unilateral administrative order alleges that on December 23, 1998, Schiavone dumped, or authorized the dumping, of 22 55 gallon drums of paint waste near Maple Lake boat launch and dock area, in the Cook County Forest Preserve at 9500 South, between Archer Ave. and Wolf Rd., near Willow Springs.

The paint wastes, about half of which include ignitable materials, are considered hazardous wastes under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, which governs the management of hazardous materials from production, through use, and ultimately, environmentally responsible disposal.

After the incident, the materials were stabilized, tested, and excavated by EPA, in cooperation with Illinois EPA and the Forest Preserve District. At present, they are safely stored off-site, awaiting resolution of the disposal issues. EPA estimates the cost for proper disposal of the excavated soils at a licensed hazardous waste landfill to be less than \$5,000. EPA also seeks

to recover its costs incurred in the cleanup, estimated at less than \$10,000.

In December and January, Schiavone was served with verbal and written notices of EPA's complaint, but thus far, has not cooperated or taken steps to arrange for proper disposal.

"All incidents of hazardous waste dumping are taken seriously by EPA and its partner agencies," said regional Superfund Director William Muno. "However, this is especially true when the hazardous material is abandoned in a public recreational area."

Under the unilateral order, Schiavone has 10 business days after the order has been issued to comply or request a conference with EPA. The order then becomes effective and EPA may take whatever steps are necessary to complete the disposal and collect costs and/or penalties.

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Last Updated: February 24, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa050.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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Media Contact: Janet Pope  
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For Immediate Release: February 23, 1999

No. 99-OPA051

## **EPA PROPOSES CLEANUP PLAN FOR OUTBOARD MARINE- WAUKEGAN COKE PLANT SITE; MEETING MAR. 3**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently proposed a cleanup plan to address contaminated soil and groundwater at the Outboard Marine Corp.-Waukegan Coke Plant Superfund site, Waukegan, IL.

EPA recommends removal and off-site treatment and disposal of the tar- and creosote-contaminated soil and on-site stabilization of the arsenic-contaminated soil. It also recommends covering portions of the site with vegetative and asphalt covers.

To address ground-water contamination, EPA proposes a three-part approach that includes an interim pump-and-treat system, long-term monitored natural attenuation (allowing the groundwater to clean itself via natural processes), and long-term monitoring of contamination levels.

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A public comment period began Feb. 22 and ends Mar. 23, 1999. EPA will hold a public meeting--including a forum for comments--on Wednesday, Mar. 3, 7 p.m., at Waukegan Public Library, 128 N. County St.

Written comments may also be submitted at the meeting, or mailed to: Janet Pope, Community Involvement Coordinator, U.S. EPA Region 5 (P-19J), 77 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60604, or via e-mail:

pope.janet@epa.gov.

A fact sheet explaining the plan, as well as three other alternatives to be considered, will be available at the meeting or can be obtained directly from Janet Pope by calling 312-353-0628. The fact sheet, proposed plan, and other site documents can be reviewed at the Waukegan Public Library.

The 36-acre site is on a peninsula separating Waukegan Harbor from Lake Michigan. From 1893 to 1972, a number of industrial companies operated at the site, including a creosote wood treater and a manufactured gas plant. From 1972 to 1989, Outboard Marine used the property for fire training, snowmobile testing, and other activities. The site is part of the larger Outboard Marine Co. property, which is where a major Superfund PCB cleanup occurred in the early 1990's.

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Page maintained by: Jeff Kelley, Office of Public Affairs ([kelley.jeff@epa.gov](mailto:kelley.jeff@epa.gov))

Last Updated: March 1, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa051.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: February 25, 1999

No. 99-OPA052

## **EPA, DOJ SUE CLARK FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 and the U.S. Department of Justice have recently filed a civil complaint against Clark Refining and Marketing, Inc., for alleged clean-air violations at the company's Hartford, IL, oil refinery.

Clark is liable for penalties up to \$25,000 per day for each violation occurring before January 30, 1997, and for penalties of up to \$27,500 per day for each violation occurring after that date.

The complaint alleges Clark failed to get a permit before making changes to its fluid catalytic cracking unit which significantly increased the emissions of particulates (dust, smoke, ash), sulfur dioxide, and nitrogen oxide. These emissions occurred in an area that has attained national health-based air quality standards for all air pollutants.

Additional particulate emission violations were discovered during stack tests done in 1993, 1994, and 1996.

Before new air pollution sources can be built or existing sources modified in such areas, companies must get permits that restrict their emissions and prevent a significant deterioration of air quality in those areas.

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can lead to heart and lung diseases. Exposure to sulfur dioxide can impair breathing, aggravate existing respiratory diseases like bronchitis, and reduce the ability of the lungs to clear foreign particles.

Nitrogen oxide contributes to formation of ground-level ozone, which can cause breathing problems, asthma attacks, eye irritation, and stuffy nose. Children, the elderly, and people with chronic heart and lung diseases are the most sensitive.

The complaint was filed with the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Illinois, East St. Louis.

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Page maintained by: Jeff Kelley, Office of Public Affairs ([kelley.jeff@epa.gov](mailto:kelley.jeff@epa.gov))

Last Updated: March 1, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa052.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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Media Contact: Susan Pastor  
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For Immediate Release: March 1, 1999

No. 99-OPA053

***NOTE TO MEDIA:** EPA project manager Mike McAteer will be available at the jobsite trailer, beginning Tuesday, March 2, 1 p.m., through Wednesday, March 3, 11 a.m. The trailer is at 1022 Duke Ave., in the Odd Lots Store parking lot. Please call Mike at 419-589-9117 to arrange an interview or equipment demobilization photos.*

## **EPA: CLEANUP NEARLY DONE AT LINCOLN FIELDS SITE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) said today that all construction work at the [Lincoln Fields Superfund site](#) (Madison Township, Richland County, OH) is nearly complete.

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Federal cleanup involvement at Lincoln Fields began in 1995, and has cost EPA approximately \$9 million. It includes construction of an alternate water supply for the affected community and a ground-water treatment system to prevent the spread of contamination to areas outside of the Lincoln Fields residential area.

Final tear-down and demobilization of EPA and ACE offices and equipment will wrap-up March 3 to 5, followed by a short period of EPA sampling and testing the new ground-water containment system, March 8 to 26. Assuming the system operates as expected, EPA will turn over responsibility for operation and maintenance to Ohio EPA. Based on current information, EPA expects that the treatment system will need to operate for up to 50 years before the levels of contamination are reduced

to safe drinking water standards.

EPA believes that the ground water was contaminated by a former dry cleaning business that used hazardous chemicals at two locations. The site covers about a square mile, bordered by Yale Ave. to the north, Stewart Rd. to the east, Grace St. to the south, and Illinois Ave. to the west.

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Page maintained by: Jeff Kelley, Office of Public Affairs ([kelley.jeff@epa.gov](mailto:kelley.jeff@epa.gov))

Last Updated: March 1, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa053.htm>





# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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Susan Pastor  
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For Immediate Release: March 2, 1999

No. 99-OPA054

## **CLEANUP PLAN FOR MASTER METALS SITE PROPOSED; COMMENT PERIOD BEGINS, MEETING MAR. 18**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently proposed a cleanup plan for lead contamination at the Master Metals Superfund site (Cleveland, OH).

A public comment period continues through March 31. A public meeting, including a forum for comments, will be Thursday, March 18, 7 p.m., Pilgrim Congregational Church, Fellowship Hall, 2592 West 14th St.

The 4-acre property, in an industrial area at 2850 West 3rd St., was home to two secondary lead smelting and lead recycling businesses. From 1933 to 1979, it was operated by NL Industries. The facility was then sold to Master Metals, which continued operations until August 1993--when Ohio EPA ordered its shutdown for numerous environmental, health, and safety violations.

Following an EPA site analysis and investigation, a group of 53 responsible parties performed a two-phase interim cleanup, which

concluded in January 1998.

EPA recommends a cleanup plan that includes:

- Excavation of contaminated soil outside the site boundaries, followed by consolidation with on-site contaminated soils;
- Covering the consolidated soils with two feet of clean fill and a top layer of vegetation, plus replacement of the excavated soils with clean fill;
- Environmental monitoring for at least 30 years, or until the site reaches targeted cleanup levels; and
- Deed restrictions on future development.

EPA, in cooperation with Ohio EPA and the City of Cleveland, will review the site conditions on a regular basis. Estimated cost of the proposed plan, to be paid for by the responsible parties: \$500,000 to \$550,000.

A fact sheet explaining the proposed plan and other alternatives will be available at the public meeting, or may be obtained directly from Bri Bill, Community Involvement Coordinator, U.S. EPA (P-19J), 77 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60604, phone: 800-621-8431, e-mail: [bill.briana@epa.gov](mailto:bill.briana@epa.gov). Written comments on the plan may also be sent to Bill.

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Page maintained by: Jeff Kelley, Office of Public Affairs ([kelley.jeff@epa.gov](mailto:kelley.jeff@epa.gov))

Last Updated: March 2, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa054.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: March 3, 1999

No. 99-OPA055

## **EPA: OHIO'S LAKE & JEFFERSON COUNTIES NOW MEET HEALTH-BASED SULFUR DIOXIDE STANDARD**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today that Lake and Jefferson Counties in Ohio now meet the health-based standard for sulfur dioxide, a major air pollutant. EPA is redesignating both counties to attainment of the standard for sulfur dioxide.

Lake County is northeast of Cleveland and borders on Lake Erie. Jefferson County is in eastern Ohio and borders on the Ohio River.

The health-based standard for sulfur dioxide, required by the Clean Air Act, is 0.14 parts per million averaged over 24 hours.

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EPA said the air quality improvement is the result of burning fuels with lower sulfur content, such as low-sulfur coal and fuel oil.

The two counties have plans for keeping their sulfur dioxide levels within the health-based standard for the next 10 years and beyond. The plans require the counties to consider impacts of future activities on air quality and to manage those activities, making whatever changes are needed to keep the air clean.

"The State of Ohio and Lake and Jefferson Counties have taken very important steps to improve air quality for their citizens," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "This is a

significant accomplishment, and we congratulate them."

Exposure to sulfur dioxide can impair breathing, aggravate existing respiratory diseases like bronchitis and asthma, and reduce the ability of lungs to clear foreign particles. Children, the elderly, and people with chronic heart and lung diseases are the most sensitive.

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Page maintained by: Jeff Kelley, Office of Public Affairs ([kelly.jeff@epa.gov](mailto:kelly.jeff@epa.gov))

Last Updated: March 4, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa055.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: March 4, 1999

No. 99-OPA056

## **EPA CITES MAGNESIUM REFINING TECHNOLOGIES FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Magnesium Refining Technologies, Inc. (MagReTec), for alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's Bellevue, OH, magnesium scrap smelter.

MagReTec refines magnesium scrap for reuse in die-cast processes. Refining the scrap produces emissions of three major air pollutants: particulates (smoke), nitrogen oxide, and carbon monoxide. Emissions of hydrochloric acid (a hazardous air pollutant) are also produced.

EPA said MagReTec did not comply with control efficiency limits set forth in its installation permit. In addition, the company failed to apply for a permit to operate and operated without this permit.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. MagReTec has 30 days from receipt of the notice to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing the Clean Air Act," said Richard Karl,

acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "To protect public health and the environment, we will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with clean-air regulations."

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can affect children, the elderly, and people with heart and lung diseases the most. Particulates and hydrochloric acid can irritate the respiratory tract.

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Page maintained by: Jeff Kelley, Office of Public Affairs ([kelly.jeff@epa.gov](mailto:kelly.jeff@epa.gov))

Last Updated: March 4, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa056.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: March 4, 1999

No. 99-OPA057

## **EPA ORDERS W.R. GRACE TO CLEAN UP AMMONIA ENDANGERING AQUIFER**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has issued an emergency administrative order to W.R. Grace & Co. to clean up ammonia threatening an underground source of drinking water for Lansing, MI, and 13 other public systems.

EPA alleges that ammonia has entered the Saginaw Sandstone Aquifer from the Motor Wheel Disposal site, 1401 Lake Lansing Rd. in Lansing. The aquifer supplies drinking water to 297,000 persons.

In the 1960's, W.R. Grace produced fertilizer at a facility uphill from the Motor Wheel site, and wastes -- including ammonia -- washed into the site.

The Motor Wheel Disposal site -- which does not include the Motor Wheel plant -- was placed on the National Priorities (Superfund) List in 1986. In 1993, W.R. Grace was among several defendants that agreed to investigate possible contamination in the Saginaw Sandstone Aquifer. An interim report indicated that a plume of ammonia existed in the aquifer near the Lansing Board of Water and Light North Well Field. As a result, the utility board shut down 10 drinking water production wells in

1997. Further analysis showed that the plume was moving northwesterly toward the closed wells.

Ammonia from the plume has not entered the treatment plant, and there have been no nitrite or nitrate associated illnesses. The drinking water that the Lansing utility now provides to the public is safe to drink and currently meets all standards under the Safe Drinking Water Act.

"The purpose of the emergency order is to ensure that cleanup of the ammonia plume occurs before it causes a problem at the treatment plant," said Acting Regional Administrator David A. Ullrich. "The Board of Water and Light, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, and EPA are monitoring the situation to ensure that hazardous levels of ammonia do not get into the water distribution system."

In December 1998, samples taken at the closed wells showed levels of ammonia that presented an imminent and substantial danger to public health. If excess ammonia enters the drinking water treatment plant, it would cause problems with treatment and operations at the plant.

When water is pumped out of the aquifer, ammonia interacts with oxygen to form nitrate and nitrite, which pose an acute health concern at certain levels of exposure. Excessive levels of these chemicals can cause serious illness and sometimes death in infants under 6 months because nitrite interferes with the oxygen carrying capacity of the child's blood. Symptoms can develop rapidly and include shortness of breath and blueness of skin.

EPA has ordered W.R. Grace to develop a cleanup process and schedule by Apr. 30, 1999, that will achieve background levels of ammonia in the aquifer and prevent the loss of any more drinking water wells. It also has ordered the company to develop a plan to provide an alternative source of drinking water equal to the volume and quality of the 10 closed wells no later than July 1, 1999.

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Page maintained by: Jeff Kelley, Office of Public Affairs ([kelly.jeff@epa.gov](mailto:kelly.jeff@epa.gov))

Last Updated: March 8, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa057.htm>





# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: March 4, 1999

No. 99-OPA058

## **EPA CITES R&L MARKETING FOR CFC SALES VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited R&L Marketing, Inc., for alleged violations of Federal regulations restricting the sale of chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) refrigerants.

EPA said R&L Marketing, 730 South Military Rd., Fond du Lac, WI, sold the refrigerant to unauthorized buyers and did not keep proper sales records.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve the violations, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. R&L Marketing has 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing clean-air regulations to protect public health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

CFC refrigerants deplete the stratospheric ("good") ozone layer, which prevents dangerous amounts of cancer-causing ultraviolet rays from the

sun reaching the earth. Production of some of these chemicals was stopped in 1995, and Federal law strictly controls their use and handling.

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Last Updated: March 8, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa058.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: March 9, 1999

No. 99-OPA059

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH USEC; INCLUDES \$56,000 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with United States Enrichment Corp. (USEC) on alleged violations of Federal regulations for hazardous air pollutants, at the company's Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant, 3930 U.S. 23 Perimeter Rd., Piketon, OH. A \$56,000 civil penalty was assessed.

In an administrative complaint filed at the same time, EPA cited USEC for failing to submit an annual report to EPA to show compliance with Federal regulations for radionuclides (in this case, enriched uranium) by June 30, 1998. EPA first notified USEC of the alleged violation last September.

Under EPA regulations, such facilities must submit an annual report to EPA showing compliance with radionuclide emission standards. They must calculate the highest effective dose equivalent to any member of the public at any nearby offsite point where there is a residence, school, business, or office.

"EPA is committed to enforcing regulations for hazardous air pollutants to protect public health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting

director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. He said this is the first penalty assessed in the region under the national emission standards for radionuclides.

Long-term health effects from this radionuclide include kidney damage from heavy metal exposure, lung cancer, and tumors of lymphatic tissues.

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Last Updated: March 10, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa059.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: March 9, 1999

No. 99-OPA060

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH FORD; INCLUDES \$44,000 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with Ford Motor Co. on alleged clean-air violations at the company's Cleveland Casting Plant, 5600 Henry Ford Blvd., Brook Park, OH. Ford agreed to pay a \$44,000 civil penalty.

EPA cited Ford last June for exceeding State particulate (dust, soot, smoke) emission limits at its No. 7 cupola furnace. Excess cupola emissions have been calculated at over 10 tons per year.

"EPA is committed to enforcing clean-air regulations to protect public health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can affect children, the elderly, and people with heart and lung diseases the most.

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Page maintained by: Jeff Kelley, Office of Public Affairs ([kelley.jeff@epa.gov](mailto:kelley.jeff@epa.gov))

Last Updated: March 10, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa060.htm>



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For Immediate Release: March 12, 1999

No. 99-OPA061

## **EPA CITES CHROMPARTS FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Chromparts, Inc., for alleged violations of Federal regulations for chromium, a hazardous air pollutant, at the company's electroplating plant, 828 Hall St., Dayton, OH.

EPA said Chromparts failed to do timely performance testing, monitoring, and recordkeeping, showing it met Federal chromium emission limits. The company also failed to properly report its compliance status.

Federal regulations for hard-chrome plating tanks and anodizing tanks went into effect Jan. 25, 1997. Performance testing had to be done before July 25, 1997.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Chromparts has 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing regulations for hazardous air pollutants, to protect public health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all

necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is found in chromic acid mist released into the atmosphere as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

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Last Updated: March 12, 1999

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: March 15, 1999

No. 99-OPA062

## **EPA: ILLINOIS AND MISSOURI CAN SUBMIT PLAN TO EXTEND DEADLINE FOR REACHING HEALTH-BASED SMOG STANDARD IN ST. LOUIS METRO AREA**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will announce in a Federal Register (FR) notice, expected to be published in the next few days, that under a new policy, Missouri and Illinois may be able to qualify for an extension of the date by which the St. Louis nonattainment area must attain the one-hour National Ambient Air Quality Standard for ozone.

EPA will propose to find that the St. Louis area, currently classified as a moderate ozone nonattainment area, did not attain the one-hour ozone standard by November 15, 1996, the Clean Air Act (CAA) attainment date for moderate nonattainment areas.

However, EPA's new policy recognizes that certain areas have had difficulty meeting the ozone standard because portions of the air pollution affecting them originate in other "upwind" areas.

EPA's new policy was prompted by the results of a two-year study conducted in partnership with 37 eastern States, industry, academia, and environmental groups. The partnership, known as the Ozone Transport Assessment Group (OTAG), was formed to assess the transport of ozone and ozone forming pollutants throughout the eastern half of the Nation.

The study concluded that several areas of the country including the St.

Louis area, are affected by pollutants that are transported from other areas by wind. This transport of pollutants interferes with the cities' ability to meet the one-hour ozone standard.

The new policy establishes criteria under which States with affected areas are eligible for extensions to the attainment dates set forth in the CAA. These criteria ensure that required local pollution control measures are implemented while harmonizing the St. Louis attainment date with the schedule for emissions reductions in areas that contribute to St. Louis ozone levels.

If Missouri and Illinois meet the criteria enumerated in the policy, the St. Louis area's attainment date will be extended. If the States do not meet the criteria, EPA expects to reclassify the area from moderate to serious nonattainment. A reclassification to "serious" would impose more stringent requirements on the area.

In October 1998, EPA notified the Governors of Missouri and Illinois that the transport policy was available. Both Governors have elected to apply for an attainment date extension under the new policy and have submitted letters committing to meet its requirements by November 15, 1999.

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Last Updated: March 17, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa062.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: March 16, 1999

No. 99-OPA063

## **EPA SETTLES WITH TEXTRON ON WATER POLLUTION; INCLUDES \$44,000 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with Textron, Inc., CWC Casting Division (Muskegon, MI) for violations of the Clean Water Act. Textron has agreed to pay a \$44,000 fine and has certified that it is now in compliance with the act and its regulations.

In a Sep. 1998 administrative complaint, EPA alleged that the company's discharges to the Muskegon wastewater treatment plant exceeded its permit limits for zinc, oil, and grease. EPA also said that Textron had failed to properly sample its discharges for oil and grease.

"Excess discharges by industrial users can interfere with the operations of sewage treatment plants and result in pollutants entering surface water," said Tinka Hyde, acting regional Water Division director.

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Last Updated: March 17, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa063.htm>





# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: March 16, 1999

No. 99-OPA064

## **EPA CITES 2 MICHIGAN PARTIES FOR ASBESTOS VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited St. Lawrence Catholic Church and School and Industrial Waste Cleanup, Inc., a renovation contractor, for alleged violations of Federal regulations on asbestos -- a hazardous air pollutant -- during renovation of the St. Lawrence School, 44633 Utica Rd, Utica, MI.

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EPA said Industrial Waste Cleanup, 12838 Gavel St., Detroit, MI, failed to remove and dispose of all asbestos-containing material, as required by asbestos regulations.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the parties. The parties have 10 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing the asbestos regulations to protect public health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take the necessary steps to ensure that all asbestos contractors comply with Federal regulations."

Asbestos is a known carcinogen that can cause mesothelioma (a type of lung cancer) and asbestosis (a lung disease) many years after exposure.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: March 16, 1999

No. 99-OPA065

## **EPA CITES TOMEN AGRO FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Tomen Agro, Inc., for alleged violations of Federal and State clean-air regulations at the company's chemical production plant, 3647 Shepard Rd., Perry, OH.

EPA said the company violated regulations that govern the perchloromethyl mercaptan production process. Specifically, Tomen Agro failed to:

- fully implement a preventive maintenance and malfunction plan;
- comply with operational restrictions in its installation permit for its wet scrubber and a new final wet scrubber; and
- show compliance within 150 days after a compliance extension ended.

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The perchloromethyl mercaptan process produces carbon disulfide, carbon tetrachloride, hydrochloric acid, and sulfur dioxide emissions. Carbon disulfide, carbon tetrachloride and hydrochloric acid are hazardous air pollutants.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may

issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Tomen Agro has 30 days to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division, said: "Hazardous air pollutants are potentially a serious threat to human health and the environment. EPA will take all necessary steps to ensure compliance with hazardous air pollutant regulations."

Carbon tetrachloride is a suspected human carcinogen that can cause eye irritation and central nervous system and liver damage. Carbon disulfide can cause headaches and dizziness and can lead to coronary heart disease and liver and kidney damage. Hydrochloric acid can irritate the nose, throat, and respiratory tract.

Exposure to sulfur dioxide can impair breathing, aggravate existing respiratory diseases like bronchitis and asthma, and reduce the ability of the lungs to clear foreign particles. Children, the elderly, and people with chronic heart and lung diseases are the most sensitive.

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Last Updated: March 17, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa065.htm>





# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: March 16, 1999

No. 99-OPA066

## **NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS: EPA GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE LECTURE SERIES TO FEATURE DR. RICHARD L. SANDOR**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today that Richard L. Sandor, former vice president and chief economist of the Chicago Board of Trade, will speak on the topic "Market-Based Solutions to Global Climate Change" at noon, Thursday, March 18, 12th Floor, Lake Michigan Rm., 77 West Jackson Blvd, Chicago.

Dr. Sandor will be the first speaker in the region's quarterly Global Climate Change lecture series. He is now chairman and chief executive of Environmental Financial Products L.L.C.

He has served on several panels on greenhouse gas emissions trading and was instrumental in developing the sulphur dioxide emissions trading program, to cut acid rain, currently implemented under the Clean Air Act.

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Page maintained by: Jeff Kelley, Office of Public Affairs ([kelly.jeff@epa.gov](mailto:kelly.jeff@epa.gov))

Last Updated: March 17, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa066.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: March 16, 1999

No. 99-OPA067

## **EPA SETTLES WITH ROYAL CROWN BOTTLING; INCLUDES \$8,248 FINE AND PROJECT**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently signed an agreement with Royal Crown Bottling Co. (Chicago, IL) for violation of Federal laws on the reporting of hazardous chemicals. The company will pay a \$8,248 fine and complete a supplemental environmental project.

During a routine compliance inspection in July 1996 at the company's bottling plant, 2801 West 47th St., EPA learned that the company had never provided the Illinois Emergency Response Commission and the Chicago Local Emergency Planning Committee with the required inventory forms for reporting hazardous chemicals stored on site, including anhydrous ammonia. (After the inspection, the Royal Crown submitted the required information for the first time.)

Anhydrous ammonia, which is used in the company's refrigeration systems, is an extremely hazardous substance. Under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act, owners and operators of facilities must submit forms for certain hazardous chemicals every year by March 1.

EPA calculated that Royal Crown had 4,000 lb of anhydrous ammonia, 900 lb of chlorine, and 624 lb of sulfuric acid. Under the regulations, all amounts over 500 lb must be reported.

The environmental project requires Royal Crown to purchase and install ammonia sensors, plus an alarm, for its refrigeration systems. The new equipment is designed for early detection of anhydrous ammonia releases. Cost, including 3 years' annual maintenance: \$24,004.

Since 1989, EPA Region 5 has filed 201 separate complaints for hazardous chemical reporting violations, resulting in 188 settlements, \$4.52 million in total fines, and \$2.44 million in environmental projects.

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Page maintained by: Jeff Kelley, Office of Public Affairs ([kelley.jeff@epa.gov](mailto:kelley.jeff@epa.gov))

Last Updated: March 17, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa067.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: March 17, 1999

No. 99-OPA068

## **EPA MEETING ON FOX RIVER CLEANUP AT ONEIDA RESERVATION MAR. 29**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 will hold an informational meeting on the proposed Lower Fox River cleanup, Monday, Mar. 29, 7 p.m., Norbert Hill Center, Business Committee Conference Room, N 7210 Seminary Rd., Oneida, WI.

EPA is working with Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), the Oneida and Menominee Tribes, and other Federal agencies to investigate PCB-contamination of a 39-mile stretch of the river, from Lake Winnebago to Green Bay. Fish consumption advisories for the Fox have been in place continuously since 1976.

At the meeting, representatives from EPA and other agencies will discuss cleanup efforts to date, health and ecological risks, roles of the agencies, and the range of cleanup alternatives recently announced by WDNR. The meeting will include a period for residents to share their questions and concerns about the cleanup.

Lower Fox River information and documents are available for review at libraries throughout the area, including the Oneida Community Library, 201 Elm St. Lower Fox River information is also posted on EPA Region 5's website: [http:// www.epa.gov/region5/foxriver](http://www.epa.gov/region5/foxriver), and WDNR's website: <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/wm/lowerfox/> .

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Last Updated: March 18, 1999

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/news99/99opa068.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: March 25, 1999

No. 99-OPA069

## **NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS: EPA CONSIDERS MORE PCB STORAGE FOR SAFETY-KLEEN**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 is considering approval of additional PCB storage capacity at Safety-Kleen, Inc. (Twinsburg, OH). Under the draft proposal, Safety-Kleen would use three new tanks for storing PCB's. Public comments on the draft will be accepted through April 19, 1999. They can be sent to Kae Lee, Toxics Program Section (DT-8J) U.S. EPA Region 5, 77 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60604. A draft proposal is available for review at the Twinsburg Public Library, 10050 Ravenna Rd., Twinsburg.

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Page maintained by: [Kristen Tyrpin](#), Office of Public Affairs

Last Updated: 4/27/99 9:01

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa069.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: March 19, 1999

No. 99-OPA070

## **EPA CITES LAKESHORE ELECTRO-PLATE FOR CHEMICAL REPORTING VIOLATIONS; PROPOSES \$59,974 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against Lakeshore Electro-Plate, Inc. (Stevensville, MI) for violating Federal law requiring hazardous chemical reporting. EPA has proposed a \$59,974 fine.

During an April 1998 inspection at the electroplating facility, EPA learned that Lakeshore had not submitted the required 1996 and 1997 forms for two hazardous chemicals, hydrochloric acid and sulfuric acid, to the Michigan Emergency Response Commission, the local emergency response planning committee, and the Stevensville fire department.

The company submitted the required information five days after the inspection, and is now in compliance. EPA administers the reporting requirement under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act, which requires annual reports by March 1.

In this case, Lakeshore had 5,000 lb of sulfuric acid on-site during 1996 and 8,000 lb during 1997. The law requires reporting of the chemical

when more than 500 lb are on-site. It also stored 25,000 lb of hydrochloric acid in 1996 and 55,000 lb in 1997. The reporting minimum for hydrochloric acid is 10,000 lb.

Since 1989, EPA Region 5 has filed 201 separate complaints for hazardous chemical reporting violations, resulting in 188 settlements, \$4.52 million in total fines, and \$2.44 million in environmental projects.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa070.htm>





# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: March 23, 1999

No. 99-OPA071

## **EPA APPROVES WISCONSIN DHFS'S LEAD- HAZARD PROGRAM**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently approved a lead-hazard training and licensing program to be implemented by Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services (WDHFS). State agencies may be authorized to administer and enforce lead-hazard programs, as long as they are at least as protective as the Federal program.

The WDHFS program certifies that individuals and firms are properly trained and licensed to perform lead-based paint activities, such as inspecting homes for lead paint and safely removing deteriorating paint. In addition--unique to the Wisconsin program--homeowners may be trained and certified to safely eliminate lead hazards from their homes.

Lead-poisoning is especially hazardous to children under six, who may have lower IQ scores, hearing problems, and retarded physical growth. Early signs and symptoms include: fatigue or hyperactivity, irritability, loss of appetite, and weight loss.

"We are pleased to welcome Wisconsin as our partner in raising awareness of, and taking steps to address, the dangers of lead-hazard exposure," said

Robert Springer, regional director of EPA's Waste, Pesticides, and Toxics Division. "Significantly, WDHFS's effort to provide hands-on training for homeowners is a terrific example of going-beyond-the call."

"EPA's approval strengthens Wisconsin's commitment to protect children from lead poisoning by helping lead professionals meet lead-safe standards," said Joe Leann, WDHFS Secretary. "State-accredited training courses will enhance the quality of lead reduction efforts, inspections, and risk assessments."

For more information about the WDHFS lead training and certification program, contact the Asbestos and Lead office, 608-261-6876.

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Last Updated: 3/30/99 9:49

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa071.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: March 24, 1999

No. 99-OPA072

## **CLEANUP BEGINS AT ESTECH SITE; MEETING MAR. 31**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today that cleanup at the Estech General Chemical site a.k.a., Marble Street Dump, will begin this week. Residents and businesses near the site, at 150 Marble St., Calumet City, IL, can expect to see construction equipment and workers in protective clothing throughout the spring and summer.

A public meeting to discuss the project will be held Wednesday, Mar. 31, 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m., Hammond Public Library Main Branch, 564 State St., Hammond, IN.

Environmental concerns at the 54-acre site include soil contaminated with lead and other metals, and PCB's. Elevated concentrations of pesticides in soil have also been identified.

Estech, an agricultural chemical manufacturer, operated at the site from 1952 to 1969, producing fertilizers, insecticides, and sulfuric acid. Estech continued to produce acid at the site until 1982. In the early 1970's, Strom Machinery also operated at the site.

From 1989 to 1993, the site housed GM Wrecking. During this period,

demolition and construction debris were stored, including waste from scrap steel shredders. Currently, the site contains concrete foundations from demolished buildings, as well as scattered semi-truck trailers, railroad ties, and miscellaneous scrap. Access is restricted by a locked gate and fence.

EPA is the lead agency for the initial phase of the cleanup, which is expected to wrap up in November. This phase includes removal and disposal of contaminated surface soil and shredded metal, and placement of a soil cover over the excavated areas to prevent erosion near the Grand Calumet River and nearby wetlands.

Once complete, the site will be re-evaluated for long-term cleanup. The overall project is a joint effort of EPA, Illinois EPA, and Illinois Department of Public Health.

In a related matter, EPA recently awarded Calumet City a \$200,000 Brownfields Pilot grant. The grant provides funding for environmental assessments of the Estech site and other potential Brownfields sites in the Calumet City area. When complete, the assessments will be useful in pursuing locally-sponsored redevelopment efforts.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa072.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: March 26, 1999

No. 99-OPA073

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH BUSSE; INCLUDES \$27,500 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with R.I. Busse, Inc., on alleged clean-air violations at the company's rock-crushing facility, 1520 Midway Ct., Elk Grove Village, IL. A \$27,500 penalty was assessed.

EPA cited Busse last September for allowing emissions from its primary rock crusher to exceed Federal limits for opacity (the amount of light obscured by particulates -- smoke, dust, ash). EPA discovered the alleged violations during inspections last July.

"EPA is committed to enforcing clean-air regulations to protect public health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can affect children, the elderly, and people with heart and lung diseases the most.

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Last Updated: 3/29/99 10:29

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa073.htm>





# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: March 26, 1999

No. 99-OPA074

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH BAYER**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has recently reached agreement with Bayer Corp. on alleged clean-air violations at the company's polymers manufacturing plant, 356 Three Rivers Pkwy., Addyston, OH. No monetary penalty was assessed.

Under the agreement, Bayer will:

- change its method of sulfur dioxide emission tracking;
- establish a mathematical equation for correctly computing the sulfur dioxide emission rate from its continuous-emission monitoring system that reflects the variation of oxygen concentrations in the boiler;
- recertify its continuous-emission monitoring system and submit the test results to EPA and Ohio EPA;
- compute and record daily and 30-day rolling average sulfur dioxide emission values; and

- submit quarterly reports on these emission values to EPA and Ohio EPA.

EPA filed an administrative complaint against Bayer last June for allegedly exceeding federally enforceable State sulfur dioxide emission limits, by burning high-sulfur coal in its No. 8 boiler.

"EPA is committed to enforcing clean-air regulations to protect public health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure compliance with the Clean Air Act."

Sulfur dioxide causes acid rain. Exposure to sulfur dioxide can impair breathing, aggravate existing respiratory diseases like bronchitis, and reduce the ability of the lungs to clear foreign particles. Children, the elderly, and people with existing heart and lung conditions are most sensitive.

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Last Updated: 3/29/99 10:33

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa074.htm>





# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: March 26, 1999

No. 99-OPA075

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH CHEMREX; INCLUDES \$42,000 FINE & \$24,700 PROJECT**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with Chemrex, Inc., on alleged clean-air violations at the company's adhesive production plant, 23930 Concord, Mattawan, MI.

(Chemrex makes adhesives for the construction industry at the plant.)

Chemrex has agreed to pay a \$42,000 penalty and install and operate a \$24,700 vapor-recovery system that the company estimates will cut volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions from one of its adhesive-making processes by up to 17,474 lb per year.

EPA filed an administrative complaint against the company last June, alleging that two adhesive-production lines were emitting VOC's above limits set by the facility's State permits. The violations were discovered during a State inspection in June 1997.

"EPA's goal is to protect public health and the environment, and we will take all necessary steps to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division.

VOC's combine in the atmosphere with other chemicals to form ground-level ozone, which can cause breathing problems, reduced lung function, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and reduced resistance to colds and other infections. Ozone can aggravate asthma and may speed up aging of lung tissue.

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Last Updated: 3/29/99 10:34€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa075.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: March 29, 1999

No. 99-OPA076

## **EPA ANNOUNCES FINAL CLEANUP PLAN FOR UNION CAMP FACILITY**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has decided on a cleanup plan for the Union Camp Corp. hazardous waste facility in Dover, OH. The final decision supports the plan proposed in Sep. 1998. The estimated cost for the cleanup is more than \$2 million. EPA will negotiate with the company before issuing an administrative order requiring it to carry out the plan.

EPA's plan requires the removal and off-site disposal of contaminated soils; securing the site to prevent contact or ecological exposure to remaining contaminated soils and sediments; establishing a worker health and safety program; placing of warning signs; preventing potentially contaminated ground water from leaving the site; providing an alternative water supply for the facility's wastewater treatment building; maintaining land use restrictions to ensure that any future use of the facility is consistent with current use; and inspection, maintenance, repairing, and upgrading the wastewater sewer system.

The facility is on about 43 acres bisected by the Tuscarawas River. Manufacturing has taken place almost exclusively on the east side of the river. Union Camp makes chemicals used in lubricants, candles, plastics,

tires, soaps, bath oils, and skin cream.

EPA's response to comments received on the proposed plan is available at:

Dover Public Library €  
525 North Walnut St. €  
Dover, OH 44622 €

Tuscarawas County Public Library €  
121 Fair Avenue, NW €  
New Philadelphia, OH 44663 €

U.S. EPA Region 5 €  
Waste, Pesticides, and Toxics Division €  
RCRA Records Center, 7th floor €  
77 West Jackson Blvd. €  
Chicago, IL 60604-3590 €

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Last Updated: 4/27/99 9:12€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa076.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



Media Contact: Mick Hans  
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For Immediate Release: March 29, 1999

No. 99-OPA077

## **NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS: NEW IEL WEB SITE NOT EPA-SPONSORED**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 clarified today that it has no oversight or responsibility for the content of an Industrial Excess Landfill-related web site at [www.ielcleanup.com](http://www.ielcleanup.com). This web site is managed by a group of companies whom EPA has identified as potentially responsible parties at the Uniontown, OH, Superfund site.

EPA's regional home page does, however, include postings of the two most recent IEL fact sheets, as well as a transcript of the public meeting held March 2. This web site is at: [www.epa.gov/region5/sites/](http://www.epa.gov/region5/sites/). Visitors must then scroll down to the documents under "Industrial Excess Landfill."

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Last Updated: 3/29/99 17:43

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa077.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: March 30, 1999

No. 99-OPA078

## **EPA CITES TECHMETALS FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Techmetals, Inc., for alleged violations of Federal and State clean-air regulations at the company's electroplating plant, 2200 East First St., Dayton, OH.

EPA said Techmetals violated Federal regulations for chromium -- a hazardous air pollutant -- by failing to:

- do timely performance testing showing compliance with emission limits;
- prepare an operation and maintenance plan on time for three new pollution sources; and
- notify EPA before building three new pollution sources.  
The company violated State regulations by failing to apply for State installation and operating permits before startup of the three new sources.

Federal regulations for hard-chrome plating tanks and anodizing tanks

went into effect Jan. 25, 1997. Performance testing had to be done before July 25, 1997.

These are preliminary findings of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Techmetals has 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing regulations for hazardous air pollutants to protect public health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is found in chromic acid mist released into the atmosphere as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

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Page maintained by: [Kristen Tyrpin](#), Office of Public Affairs

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa078.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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Legal Contact: Karl Karg  
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For Immediate Release: March 30, 1999

No. 99-OPA079

## **EPA CITES PERSTORP FOR AIR POLLUTION; INCLUDES \$275,473 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against Perstorp Polyols, Inc., for alleged violations of the Clean Air Act at the company's plant, 600 Matzinger Rd., Toledo, OH. A \$275,473 penalty is proposed.

(Perstorp makes synthetic organic chemicals at the plant.)

EPA said Perstorp violated organic hazardous air pollutant standards by failing to:

- submit timely and correct notification of compliance;
- do timely and valid performance tests of its pollution control devices and submit the results on time; and,
- reduce emissions by the required amount.

Perstorp has 30 days from receipt of the complaint to file an answer and



request a hearing. It may request an informal conference to discuss the allegations anytime.

"Hazardous air pollutants are potentially a serious threat to human health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the regulations."

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa079.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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Legal Contact: Andre Daugavietis  
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For Immediate Release: March 30, 1999

No. 99-OPA080

## **EPA CITES PINE VIEW PLATING FOR AIR POLLUTION VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Pine View Plating Co. for alleged violations of Federal regulations for chromium, a hazardous air pollutant, at the company's hard-chrome plating plant, 4529 New Cumberland Rd., NE., Mineral City, OH.

EPA said Pine View Plating failed to:

- comply with applicable emission deadlines;
- do timely performance testing of pollution-control equipment;
- prepare an operation and maintenance plan for the pollution-control equipment; and
- keep daily records of pressure drop across its pollution-control system.

Federal regulations for hard-chrome plating tanks and anodizing tanks

went into effect Jan. 25, 1997. Performance testing had to be done before July 25, 1997.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Pine View Plating has 10 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing regulations for hazardous air pollutants, to protect public health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is found in chromic acid mist released into the atmosphere as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

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Last Updated: 3/30/99 15:18

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa080.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: March 31, 1999

No. 99-OPA081

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH COHEN; INCLUDES \$84,200 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with Cohen Industrial Scrap Processors on alleged clean-air violations at the company's scrap processing facility, 990 West 5th St., Cincinnati, OH. An \$84,200 penalty was assessed.

EPA filed an administrative complaint against Cohen last August, alleging the company had improperly disposed of appliances containing ozone-depleting refrigerants.

During an inspection last April, EPA observed Cohen employees releasing refrigerants into the air while disposing of an appliance. The employees also failed to recover any remaining refrigerants or to verify that all refrigerants had been recovered from the appliances before disposal in accordance with EPA regulations.

"EPA's mission is protection of human health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations"

Chlorofluorocarbon refrigerants deplete the stratospheric, or "good," ozone layer, allowing dangerous amounts of cancer-causing ultraviolet rays from the sun to strike the earth. Production of some of these chemicals was stopped in 1995, and Federal law strictly controls their use and handling. Releasing them into the air is forbidden.

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Last Updated: 3/31/99 16:07€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa081.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



Media Contact: Bri Bill  
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For Immediate Release: March 31, 1999

No. 99-OPA082

## **EPA EXTENDS COMMENT PERIOD FOR MASTER METALS CLEANUP PLAN TO APR. 30**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today it has extended the comment period on the proposed cleanup plan for lead contamination at the Master Metals Superfund site (Cleveland, OH) through Apr. 30.

The comment period was originally scheduled to close March 31. A public meeting to discuss the cleanup plan was held March 18 at Pilgrim Congregational Church, 2592 West 14th St.

The 4-acre property, in an industrial area at 2850 West 3d St., was home to two secondary lead smelting and lead recycling businesses. From 1933 to 1979, it was operated by NL Industries. The facility was then sold to Master Metals, which continued operations until Aug. 1993--when Ohio EPA ordered its shutdown for numerous environmental, health, and safety violations.

After an EPA site analysis and investigation, a group of 53 responsible parties did a two-phase interim cleanup, which ended in Jan. 1998.

EPA recommends a cleanup plan that includes:

- Excavation of contaminated soil outside the site boundaries, followed by consolidation with on-site contaminated soils;
- Covering the consolidated soils with 2 feet of clean fill and a top layer of vegetation, plus replacement of the excavated soils with clean fill;

- Environmental monitoring for at least 30 years, or until the site reaches targeted cleanup levels; and
- Deed restrictions on future development.

EPA, in cooperation with Ohio EPA and the City of Cleveland, will review the site conditions regularly. Estimated cost of the proposed plan, to be paid for by the responsible parties: \$500,000 to \$550,000.

Written comments on the proposed plan may be sent to: Bri Bill, Community Involvement Coordinator (P-19J), U.S. EPA Region 5, 77 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60604; fax: 312-353-1155; e-mail: [bill.briana@epa.gov](mailto:bill.briana@epa.gov). A fact sheet explaining the plan and other cleanup options is available from Bill via EPA's toll-free line: 800-621-8431. The fact sheet is also posted on EPA's regional home page: [www.epa.gov/region5/sites/](http://www.epa.gov/region5/sites/).

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Page maintained by: [Kristen Tyrpin](#), Office of Public Affairs

Last Updated: 3/31/99 16:10

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa082.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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Legal Contact: Nidhi O'Meara  
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For Immediate Release: April 1, 1999

No. 99-OPA083

## **EPA CITES G&W ELECTRIC FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited G&W Electric Co. for alleged violations of Federal hazardous air pollutant regulations at the company's plant, 3500 West 127th St., Blue Island, IL.

EPA said the company, which makes electrical transmission voltage power-system products, did not comply with Federal solvent-cleaning air toxicant regulations at the Blue Island complex. Specifically, G&W failed to submit required notifications and to take proper steps to control solvent emissions.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. The company has 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division, said: "Hazardous air pollutants are potentially a serious threat to human health and the environment. EPA will take all necessary steps to ensure compliance with hazardous air pollutant regulations."



The hazardous chemical solvents covered by these EPA regulations are used in solvent cleaning and are known or suspected carcinogens.

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Page maintained by: [Kristen Tyrpin](#), Office of Public Affairs

Last Updated: 4/1/99 15:10

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa083.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: April 1, 1999

No. 99-OPA084

## **EPA CITES ADVANCE CIRCUITS FOR HAZARDOUS CHEMICAL REPORTING VIOLATIONS; PROPOSES \$85,100 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against Advance Circuits, Inc. (St. Louis Park, MN), for violating Federal law on hazardous chemical reporting. EPA has proposed a \$85,100 fine.

During an April 1998 inspection at the circuit board manufacturing facility, EPA learned that the company had not submitted the required 1996 and 1997 forms for three hazardous chemicals to the Minnesota Emergency Response Commission and the St. Louis Park fire department.

The company submitted the required information 9 days after EPA announced the inspection--6 days before the on-site visit. EPA administers the reporting requirement under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act, which requires annual reports by March 1.

In this case, Advance Circuits had about 1,000 lb of chlorine and 550 lb of formaldehyde stored on site for the 1996 and 1997 reporting years, and about 9,500 lb of sulfuric acid for 1996 and 36,500 lb for 1997. The law

requires reporting of these extremely hazardous chemicals when more than 500 lb are stored at a facility.

"Compliance with the chemical reporting laws is critical, because fire departments, hospitals, and other authorities must have the necessary information to respond appropriately when a release occurs," said regional Superfund director William Muno. "Public health, as well as the environment, is at stake."

Since 1989, EPA Region 5 has filed 201 separate complaints for hazardous chemical reporting violations, resulting in 188 settlements, \$4.52 million in total fines, and \$2.44 million in environmental projects.

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Page maintained by: [Kristen Tyrpin](#), Office of Public Affairs

Last Updated: 4/27/99 9:24

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa084.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: April 8, 1999

No. 99-OPA085

## **EPA PROPOSES FINAL CLEANUP PLAN AT LAMMARS BARREL SITE; MEETING APR. 22**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently proposed a final cleanup plan to address contamination at the Lammars Barrel Factory site (Beavercreek, OH), and at nearby residential drinking-water wells.

EPA will accept public comments on its plan through May 12. A public meeting will be held Thursday, Apr. 22, 7 p.m., Beavercreek City Hall, 1368 Research Park Dr. Written comments may also be sent directly to Bri Bill, community involvement coordinator, U.S. EPA (P-19J), 77 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60604-3590, fax: 312 353-1155, e-mail: [bill.briana@epa.gov](mailto:bill.briana@epa.gov).

The Lammars Barrel Factory, 3990 East Patterson Rd., was a chemical recycling facility from 1953 until 1969, when it was destroyed by a fire. Since 1985, EPA and Ohio EPA have taken numerous steps to deal with ground-water contamination at the site, including extension of municipal water lines to many previously unconnected homes.

In determining its cleanup plan, EPA considered a range of options. EPA recommends: extending county water lines to homes with contamination

above Federal guidelines, plus construction of a high-powered vacuum system to remove liquid and gas from contaminated soil and ground water on the property. The plan also includes long-term monitoring of the local area's ground-water plume, to ensure the safety of drinking water wells previously unaffected by the site. Cost of the project: about \$1.5 million, to be paid for by EPA.

Copies of the proposed plan and other site documents are available for review at Beaver Creek Library's reference desk, 3618 Dayton-Xenia Rd. A fact sheet outlining the plan can be obtained at the meeting, directly from Bri Bill (312-353-6646), or can be printed from Region 5 web site: [www.epa.gov/Region5/sites/](http://www.epa.gov/Region5/sites/).

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa085.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: April 6, 1999

No. 99-OPA086

## **EPA CITES SELLS PRINTING FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Sells Printing Co. LLC for alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's printing plant, 16000 West Rogers Dr., New Berlin, WI.

EPA said the company violated emission limits on volatile organic compounds (VOC's), recordkeeping requirements, and compliance scheduling. The allegations are based on a State inspection of the plant last October and a company response to an EPA information request received last December.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. The company has 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA's goal is to protect public health and the environment, and we will take all necessary steps to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation

## Division.

VOC's combine in the atmosphere with other chemicals to form ground-level ozone, which can cause breathing problems, reduced lung function, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and reduced resistance to colds and other infections. Ozone can aggravate asthma and may speed up aging of lung tissue.

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Last Updated: 4/7/99 8:17

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa086.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: April 6, 1999

No. 99-OPA087

## **REVISION TO RELEASE NO. 99-OPA064€**

In a release issued March 16, 1999, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 stated that Federal regulations on asbestos -- a hazardous air pollutant -- had allegedly been violated during renovation of the St. Lawrence School, 44633 Utica Rd., Utica, MI.

At EPA's request, an inspector from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) on March 29 made a second inspection of the St. Lawrence facilities and determined that, although the notice provided to the State identified the church and school as being the subject of the renovation, the boiler room where the alleged violations took place is located in a building which only serves as the church and is not part of the school.

The inspector reports that the church was the only building where the boiler in question was used. The school and the church are two separate buildings, with separate utilities.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa087.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: April 7, 1999

No. 99-OPA088

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH STONE CONTAINER; INCLUDES \$68,500 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with Stone Container Corp. on alleged clean-air violations at the company's pulp-and-paper plant, 500 North Fourth St., Coshocton, OH. A \$68,500 penalty was assessed.

(Stone Container makes corrugated cardboard products from wood pulp at the plant.)

The agreement resolves an administrative complaint that EPA filed against the company last September. EPA alleged that Stone Container had exceeded emission limits in its State installation permit on particulates (smoke, ash, dust) from its wood waste-fired boiler No. 6.

When the agreement was entered, EPA issued an order to Stone Container requiring the company to complete improvements to its scrubber and increase its use of natural gas to fire its boilers and thus cut particulate emissions. The company must do periodic stack testing for 3 years to verify compliance of boiler emissions.

Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division,

said: "EPA's mission is protection of human health and the environment. We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations."

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can affect children, the elderly, and people with heart and lung conditions the most.

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Last Updated: 4/7/99 13:54

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa088.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: April 7, 1999

No. 99-OPA089

## **EPA CITES SIZE CONTROL FOR CLEAN AIR ACT VIOLATIONS; INCLUDES \$154,000 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against Size Control Co. for alleged violations of Federal regulations on chromium, a hazardous air pollutant, at the company's electroplating plant, 825 Chase Ave., Elk Grove Village, IL. A \$154,000 penalty is proposed.

EPA said the company violated testing, reporting, and planning requirements of chromium regulations that went into effect Jan. 25, 1997.

Size Control has 30 days from receipt of the complaint to file an answer and request a hearing. It may request an informal conference to discuss the allegations anytime.

"Hazardous air pollutants are potentially a serious threat to human health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the regulations."

Hexavalent chromium, which is regarded as a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is found in chromic-acid mist released into the air as

part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, with possible short-term effects that include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects could include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

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Last Updated: 4/7/99 15:35

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa089.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: April 8, 1999

No. 99-OPA090

## **EPA TO SPONSOR 3 HAZ. CHEMICAL € REPORTING SEMINARS IN INDIANA€**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 will present three free seminars to help Indiana companies comply with hazardous chemical reporting regulations. The day-long seminars are cosponsored by the Indiana Emergency Response Commission (IERC).

The seminars, which run from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., will be held:

- April 13, Executive Inn, Vincennes
- April 15, Days Inn Airport, Indianapolis
- May 6, Best Western, Ft. Wayne

Each seminar will cover emergency planning, hazardous chemical inventory reporting, and emergency notification requirements under the Federal Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know law. Staff from EPA, IERC, and local emergency planning agencies will be available at the seminars to answer questions about reporting requirements, regulated chemicals, threshold calculations, and penalties for noncompliance.

For seminar registration information or a brochure, contact Janis Shearer; phone: (312) 466-0222, fax; (312) 466-0266; or email: [jshearer@dynamac.com](mailto:jshearer@dynamac.com).

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa090.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: April 8, 1999

No. 99-OPA091

## **EPA CITES FOAMEX FOR CHEMICAL RELEASE REPORTING VIOLATIONS; PROPOSES \$27,500 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against Foamex L.P. (Ft. Wayne, IN), for violation of Federal laws on the reporting of a hazardous chemical release. EPA has proposed a \$27,500 fine.

EPA alleged that on May 5, 1997, the polyurethane foam product facility failed to promptly report the release of 21,847 lb of toluene diisocyanate (TDI). All TDI releases above 100 lb must be reported promptly to the National Response Center and the State and local emergency response planning committees.

The release occurred when a transfer pump was left unattended and an automatic shutoff valve malfunctioned--allowing the chemical to swamp over an overflow tank, out onto the pavement, and into a storm ditch. While the TDI did not migrate beyond the facility's boundaries, an environmental contractor had to be called to the scene to build a temporary containment dam. After the incident, some contaminated storm ditch soils were excavated and sent to a hazardous waste disposal facility in Windsor,



Ontario (Canada).

TDI, a carcinogen, is an extremely hazardous chemical that can irritate the respiratory system, and cause asthma and flu-like symptoms.

"Compliance with the chemical reporting laws is critical, because fire departments, hospitals, and other authorities must have the necessary information to respond appropriately when a release occurs," said regional Superfund director William Muno. "Public health, as well as the environment, is at stake."

Since 1989, EPA Region 5 has filed 201 separate complaints for hazardous chemical reporting violations, resulting in 188 settlements, \$4.52 million in total fines, and \$2.44 million in environmental projects.

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Last Updated: 4/8/99 15:32

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa091.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: April 8, 1999

No. 99-OPA092

## **EPA AWARDS \$50,000 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT FOR VELSICOL SITE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently awarded a \$50,000 technical assistance grant to the Pine River Superfund Task Force, a community organization in Alma, MI.

This grant provides funds for hiring a technical advisor for the Velsicol Chemical Superfund site, St. Louis, MI. The advisor will interpret technical data for the organization and act as a liaison between the group and EPA.

The 52-acre Velsicol site was home to a chemical processing plant from 1936 to 1978. The plant's operations resulted in contamination at the site, as well as in sediment of the nearby Pine River. EPA and Michigan Department of Environmental Quality have been involved in testing, analysis, and monitoring at the site since 1982. Significantly, dredging and excavation of DDT-contaminated Pine River sediment is expected to begin in the next few weeks.

Site documents are available for review at TA Cutler Memorial Library, 110 West Sahinaw, St. Louis, MI.

Since 1989, EPA Region 5 has awarded 19 Superfund technical assistance grants to community organizations. A grant to a group with an interest in Wisconsin's Fox River site was also awarded this week. In Michigan, a

total of six technical assistance grants have been awarded--most recently, in 1997 --to a community group in Mancelona, with an interest in the Tar Lake site.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa092.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: April 8, 1999

No. 99-OPA093

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH BORDEN; INCLUDES \$154,740 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with Borden Chemical, Inc., on alleged clean-air violations at the company's foundry sand manufacturing plant, 1019 Jericho Rd., Aurora, IL. A \$154,740 penalty was assessed.

EPA notified Borden in September 1997 that it was exceeding federally enforceable State limits on volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions from its foundry sand manufacturing process. The violations were found during an EPA inspection and through an EPA information request.

In February 1998, EPA filed an administrative complaint against Borden, alleging the company exceeded State VOC emission limits because it failed to cut its VOC emissions by 81 percent, as required by regulations.

The plant is in metropolitan Chicago, which does not meet health-based standards for ozone, a byproduct of VOC's.

"Metropolitan Chicago suffers from high levels of ozone during hot summer days," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "EPA enforcement of VOC emission regulations

protects public health by cutting these ozone levels."

VOC's combine in the atmosphere with other chemicals to form ground-level ozone, which can cause breathing problems, reduced lung function, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and reduced resistance to colds and other infections. Ozone can aggravate asthma and may speed up aging of lung tissue. Children, the elderly, and people with chronic respiratory diseases are the most sensitive.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa093.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: April 8, 1999

No. 99-OPA094

## **EPA NAMES REGIONAL PRESIDENT'S ENVIRONMENTAL YOUTH AWARD WINNERS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 today announced the regional winners of the President's Environmental Youth Awards for the 1998 school year.

The first-place winners are four Springfield, IL, girls who call themselves the "Anonymous Environmental Protectors." Sandra Hildebrandt, Colleen Kelly, Felicia Geist, and Lindsay Geist earned the award by completing a variety of environmental activities in their community. Their project is one of 10 winners nationwide. The "Anonymous Environmental Protectors" will be honored at a national ceremony in Washington April 15.

Through a series of environmental projects, the "Protectors" succeeded in raising awareness of environmental issues in their community. After researching environmental issues on the internet and at their library, the group identified several activities that would improve the environment and educate others. They picked up litter along a trail at public gardens, removed non-native plants from specific areas, posted signs at the library to educate people about endangered species, and created a 4th of July float to encourage residents to recycle their tin cans. In addition, the "Protectors" held a run to raise money for tree plantings in their park.

"We received many outstanding entries this year and I commend all their efforts," said Acting Regional Administrator David A. Ullrich. "The

initiative shown by the Anonymous Environmental Protectors to protect and improve their environment is outstanding. By educating themselves and their community, they have made many more people aware of environmental issues. They are the environmental leaders of the future."

EPA also recognized these finalists:

- First runner-up: Joshua Passman, (Shorewood, WI) did an experiment to see if convection towers are a viable alternate source of energy. He found that in theory, the towers would produce energy while cleaning the air. However, he concluded that industry must cut down emissions of harmful pollutants because the towers cannot neutralize all harmful particles.
- Second runner-up: Science Club, Marquette High School (3401 West Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, WI) created and performed a traveling educational skit entitled "The Journey of Garbage." High school students performed the skit for elementary students to teach them the importance of recycling. The students were then encouraged to organize recycling programs in their schools. This is the second consecutive year that the Science Club has been recognized in the President's Environmental Youth Awards program.
- Third runner-up: Third- and fourth-graders at Carlin Park School (800 North Williams St., Angola, IN) performed an environmental play written by two teachers. The play was designed to teach the audience about the rainforest and how it is threatened by the development around it. Donations collected on the evening of the performance allowed students to purchase and save 5 acres of rainforest in South America.

The President's Environmental Youth Awards program is a national contest sponsored annually by EPA, to honor creative environmental projects, developed and carried out by elementary and high school students.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



Media Contact: Denise Gawlinski  
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For Immediate Release: April 8, 1999

No. 99-OPA095

## **EPA AWARDS \$50,000 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT TO FOX RIVER COMMUNITY GROUP**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently awarded a \$50,000 technical assistance grant to the Clean Water Action Council, a community organization in Green Bay, WI.

The grant will be used to hire a technical advisor for Wisconsin's Lower Fox River site. The advisor will interpret technical data for the organization and act as a liaison between the group and EPA and its intergovernmental partners.

Since 1989, EPA Region 5 has awarded 19 Superfund technical assistance grants to community organizations, including four in Wisconsin. A grant was also awarded this week to a group involved in the Velsicol site (St. Louis, MI).

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: April 9, 1999

No. 99-OPA096

## **EPA CITES DEPERE FOUNDRY FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited DePere Foundry Inc. for alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's gray-iron foundry, 805-815 South Sixth St., DePere, WI.

EPA said DePere violated State standards for visible emissions of particulates (dust, smoke, ash) and for fugitive dust emissions at the foundry.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. DePere has 30 days from receipt of this finding to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA's goal is to protect public health and the environment, and we will take all necessary steps to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division.

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can affect children, the

elderly, and people with heart and lung conditions the most.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: April 9, 1999

No. 99-OPA097

## **EPA CITES DETROIT COMPANY FOR ASBESTOS VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Northwest Detroit Neighborhood Development, Inc., Detroit, MI, for alleged violations of Federal regulations on asbestos -- a hazardous air pollutant -- during demolition of six Detroit buildings in 1998.

EPA said Northwest, owner of the buildings, failed to thoroughly inspect them for asbestos and to notify the proper authorities before starting demolition. All six buildings were on Fenkell Street: numbers 20531, 20601, 20611, 20615, 20619, and 20635-37.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Northwest has 10 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing the asbestos regulations to protect public health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure that companies comply with Federal regulations."

Asbestos is a known carcinogen that can cause mesothelioma (a type of lung cancer) and asbestosis (a lung disease) many years after exposure.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: April 9, 1999

No. 99-OPA098

## **EPA OK'S FIRST TRAINING PROGRAM FOR LEAD-BASED PAINT**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently approved the first Federal lead-based paint training program in the Nation. The Milwaukee Lead-Asbestos Information Center, Inc., was give the go-ahead to provide courses for workers involved in lead hazard evaluation and control.

As of March 1, EPA is responsible for administering a training and certification program in those States and Indian reservations that have not obtained authorization for lead-based paint activities. To be authorized, State and tribal programs must be "as protective as" the Federal program--and they must be enforced.

EPA Region 5 has granted program authorization to Ohio and Wisconsin and continues to support the efforts of other States to qualify. The approval of the Milwaukee program will ensure that qualified training and certification is available to current and prospective lead-based paint workers at all levels.

According to Phyllis Reed, chief of the regional Pesticides and Toxics Branch: "This action represents a significant milestone toward building partnerships with training organizations to manage and reduce lead hazards in our communities and to protect children's health."

The Milwaukee center is accredited to offer basic and refresher courses for workers, supervisors, risk assessors, and inspectors. It can operate in four federally administered states: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Minnesota.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa098.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: April 13, 1999

No. 99-OPA099

## **EPA: CONSTRUCTION OF CAP FOR NL-TARACORP SLAG PILE BEGINS THIS WEEK**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today that construction of a cap for a slag pile at the NL Industries-Taracorp Superfund site (Granite City, IL) will begin this week.

The project, expected to continue through September, includes:

- Excavating of several small slag and battery casing piles, along with contaminated soils (above 1,000 parts per million of lead), on the industrial portion of the NL site;
- Placing of the piles and contaminated soils on the existing 3.5-acre, 250,000-ton Taracorp slag pile;
- Regrading the entire pile to a smooth surface, followed by placement of a synthetic liner and soil cap;
- Topping with a final layer of clean soil and vegetation.

The work will be done by ENTACT, Inc., and funded by some of the responsible parties, under EPA oversight. Dust control measures, such as wetting-down surfaces to be graded and fogging work areas with clean water, will help ensure that lead dust does not drift off the site.

On a separate track, cleanup of residential lead-soil of about 1,300 yards is expected to wrap up by the end of the year.

The 16-acre NL Industries-Taracorp site, 2 miles east of St. Louis, across the Mississippi River, was a secondary lead smelter and refining plant from 1903 until 1983. Lead contamination from the site, including airborne smelter stack emissions and battery chips, has been identified in a number of residential areas in Granite City, as well as in neighboring Eagle Park Acres, Madison, and Venice.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa099.htm>€





# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: April 12, 1999

No. 99-OPA100

## **IEL TECHNICAL INFORMATION COMMITTEE MEETING APR. 21; PUBLIC INVITED**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 will hold a meeting for members of the Technical Information Committee (TIC) for the Industrial Excess Landfill Superfund site (Uniontown, OH), 7 p.m., Wednesday, April 21, United Methodist Church, 13370 Cleveland Ave., Uniontown.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the ground water monitoring plan and other technical issues related to proposed changes in the cleanup plan. Community members are invited to attend.

The TIC--which has not been active recently--was formed in 1989, when EPA signed its original Record of Decision, which outlined a cleanup plan for the site. The TIC was established because community members indicated an interest in reviewing and providing comments on technical documents during the remedial design and remedial action phases of the Superfund process.

Site-related documents may be reviewed at the Lake Township Clerk's Office, 12360 Market North, and the Hartville Branch Library, 411 East Maple St, both Hartville.

For more information contact Denise Gawlinski, community involvement coordinator, (800) 621-8431 or e-mail: [gawlinski.denise@epa.gov](mailto:gawlinski.denise@epa.gov)

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: April 15, 1999

No. 99-OPA101

## **EPA SETTLES WITH MARSH SUPERMARKETS; INCLUDES \$25,483 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently signed an agreement with Marsh Supermarkets, Inc. (Yorktown, IN), for violation of Federal laws on the reporting of a hazardous chemical release. The company will pay a \$25,483 fine.

Sometime between July 3 and July 7, 1997, an estimated 1,000 lb of anhydrous ammonia was released from the Marsh warehouse refrigeration system when a rooftop relief valve malfunctioned. The company, EPA alleged in its complaint, failed to promptly notify the proper authorities of the incident. All anhydrous ammonia releases above 100 lb must be reported promptly to the National Response Center and the State and local emergency response planning committees.

Since 1989, EPA Region 5 has filed 206 separate complaints for hazardous chemical reporting violations, resulting in 194 settlements with \$4.60 million in total fines and \$2.66 million in environmental projects.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: April 13, 1999

No. 99-OPA102

## **EPA CITES CENTRIA FOR HAZ. WASTE € VIOLATIONS; PROPOSES \$132,593 FINE€**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently issued an administrative complaint to Centria (Cambridge, OH) for hazardous waste violations and proposed a \$132,593 penalty.

In May 1998, EPA and Ohio EPA inspected the facility and found that the company had not properly identified, labeled, or stored solvents and waste paints, all of which are hazardous wastes. Centria also failed to evaluate a hazardous waste storage tank and equip it with required air emission controls. In addition, the company did not have an adequate training program in hazardous waste management; had not tested or maintained emergency equipment; and had not done the required inspections of containers and tanks used to store hazardous wastes.

EPA alleges that the air emissions violations began in Dec. 1996. The facility returned to compliance on March 15, 1999.

"Hazardous waste management regulations are designed to protect workers and the public from potentially dangerous chemicals," said Robert Springer, director, regional Waste, Pesticides, and Toxics Division.

Centria has the right to request a settlement conference or a hearing with EPA about the alleged violations, or the proposed fine, within 30 days of receiving the complaint.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa102.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: April 15, 1999

No. 99-OPA103

## **CLEANUP TO BEGIN IN MAY AT CANNELTON INDUSTRIES SITE; OPEN HOUSE APR. 21**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today that a \$5 million cleanup at the Cannelton Industries, Inc., Superfund site (Sault Ste. Marie, MI) will begin in late May or early June.

Excavation work will take place Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Area residents can expect to see construction vehicles and workers in protective clothing at the site. The project includes air monitoring and dust control measures to limit the disruption to homes and businesses near the site.

An open house to discuss the cleanup will be held Wednesday, Apr. 21, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Lincoln Elementary School Auditorium, 810 East 5th Ave. Representatives from EPA and Michigan Department of Environmental Quality will be available to speak one-on-one with area residents and others with an interest in the site.

The Cannelton site lies on the shore of the St. Mary's River, about 1 mile upstream of the Soo Locks and 1.5 miles west of downtown Sault Ste. Marie. The Northwestern Leather Company operated a tannery on the property from 1900 to 1958. The plant had a very limited sewage system, and as a result, tannery wastes were dumped in ditches on the property, and discharged into, and along, the western shoreline of the river.

EPA became involved in the site in 1989, announcing an original cleanup plan in 1992. Following pre-design studies, a revised cleanup plan--called a Record of Decision amendment--was finalized in 1996. The engineering design for the plan was finalized in December 1998.

The cleanup, paid for by Cannelton, will proceed in five separate areas of the property. In addition, long-term ground-water monitoring will continue after the cleanup to make sure that the site does not pose a threat to the river. Construction work is expected to be complete by this fall. EPA will supervise the cleanup, with assistance from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa103.htm>





# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



Media Contact: Phillipa Cannon  
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For Immediate Release: April 14, 1999

No. 99-OPA104

## **MEDIA ADVISORY: EPA TO PRESENT AWARD TO DALE SANITARY DISTRICT APR. 15**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Acting Regional Administrator David A. Ullrich will present the Dale, WI, Sanitary District No. 1 with a national award for improved operations and maintenance Apr. 15, at 11:45, Dale Municipal Building on U.S. 10.

EPA rated the district's wastewater treatment plant the second most-improved in the Nation for 1998. The plant had been in noncompliance since 1987 and possibly needed mechanical improvements to solve operation problems. But, with the help of an EPA trainer, the community, and a consulting engineering firm, the plant's performance dramatically improved: therefore, it will not need to expand in order to meet its permit limits. Its improved operation helps to protect water quality in the Rat and Wolf Rivers, Lake Winnebago, and, ultimately, Lake Michigan.

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Last Updated: 4/15/99 14:14€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa104.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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Legal Contact: Janice Loughlin  
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For Immediate Release: April 14, 1999

No. 99-OPA105

## **EPA CITES COUNTRYMARK FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Countrymark Cooperative, Inc., for alleged violations of Federal and State clean-air regulations at the company's petroleum refinery, 1200 Refinery Rd., Mount Vernon, IN.

EPA said Countrymark operated its flare, which emits sulfur dioxide into the air, without a State permit. In addition, the company failed to correctly inspect for leaks of volatile organic compounds (VOC's).

These are preliminary findings of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Countrymark has 30 days from receipt of these findings to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA's goal is to protect public health and the environment, and we will take all necessary steps to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division.

Sulfur dioxide causes acid rain. Exposure to sulfur dioxide can also impair breathing, aggravate existing respiratory diseases like bronchitis, and reduce the ability of the lungs to clear foreign particles.

VOC's combine with other chemicals in the air to form ground-level ozone (smog). Ground-level ozone can cause breathing problems, reduced lung function, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and reduced resistance to colds and other infections. Ozone can also aggravate asthma and speed up aging of lung tissue. Children, the elderly, and people with lung diseases are the most sensitive.

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Last Updated: 4/15/99 14:07€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa105.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: April 14, 1999

No. 99-OPA106

## **EPA CITES ILLINOIS CEMENT FOR AIR POLLUTION; INCLUDES \$55,000 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against Illinois Cement Co. for alleged violations of Federal clean-air regulations at the company's cement plant and quarry, 1601 Rockwell Rd., LaSalle, IL. A \$55,000 penalty is proposed.

EPA said dust levels from the crusher discharge conveyor and a conveyor transfer point at the quarry -- as well as from a conveyor transfer point at the cement plant -- exceeded Federal standards for opacity (the amount of light obscured) during an Oct. 28, 1998, inspection. Dust levels from a conveyor transfer point at the cement plant also exceeded Federal standards for opacity during a Mar. 2, 1999, inspection.

Illinois Cement has 30 days from receipt of the complaint to file an answer and request a hearing. It may request an informal conference to discuss the allegations anytime.

"EPA's goal is to protect public health and the environment, and we will take all necessary steps to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation

Division.

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can affect children, the elderly, and people with heart and lung conditions the most.

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Last Updated: 4/15/99 14:10€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa106.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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Media Contact: William Omohundro  
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Legal Contact: Cynthia Kawakami  
(312) 886-0564

For Immediate Release: April 14, 1999

No. 99-OPA107

## **EPA CITES UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited the University of Wisconsin for alleged violations of State clean-air regulations at the university's La Crosse campus.

EPA said emissions of particulates (smoke, ash, dust) from boiler No. 2 at the university's heating plant exceeded State standards during a stack test done Jan. 21-22, 1998.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. The university has 30 days to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing clean-air regulations to protect public health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can affect children, the elderly, and people with heart and lung diseases the most.

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Last Updated: 4/15/99 14:18€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa107.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: April 19, 1999

No. 99-OPA109

## **EPA RECOGNIZES ENERGY STAR BUILDINGS PARTNERS AS PART OF EARTH DAY CELEBRATION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 is recognizing 15 companies in the region for keeping harmful pollutants out of the air through EPA's Energy Star Buildings partnership.

The goal of this national voluntary program is to cut air pollution by eliminating energy waste in commercial and industrial buildings. By upgrading their buildings with energy-efficient lighting, heating, cooling, and ventilating equipment, partners reduce their energy use, save money, and help protect the Earth.

Partners in Region 5 that have demonstrated exceptional progress in the Energy Star Buildings program are: Andrew Corporation Communication Products and Systems, Orland Park, IL; Arrowhead Environmental Control Inc., Broadview, IL; VA Medical Center, Indianapolis, IN; Honeywell Inc., Bloomington, MN; Target Stores, Minneapolis, MN; Fairview Southdale Hospital, Edina, MN; and North Memorial Healthcare, Robbinsdale, MN.

Parma Community General Hospital, Parma, OH; CEC Consultants, Cleveland, OH; Milwaukee Insurance, Milwaukee, WI; Shopko Supermarkets, Green Bay, WI; Johnson Controls, Inc. Controls Business,



Milwaukee, WI; Wismarq Light Co. Inc.; Milwaukee WI; Saint Joseph's Hospital, Chippewa Falls, WI; and Green Bay Packers, Green Bay, WI.

When fossil fuels -- such as coal, oil, or natural gas -- are burned to generate electricity, emissions of carbon dioxide, sulfur dioxide, and nitrogen oxides are released into the environment. These emissions contribute to smog, acid rain, and global climate change.

"EPA applauds the achievements of these Energy Star Buildings partners," said David A. Ullrich, acting regional administrator. "Earth Day is a perfect time to recognize them for their leadership in saving valuable energy resources and in cutting pollution."

Nationwide, as of Nov. 1998, more than 2,800 Energy Star Buildings participants cut their energy use by 22.4 billion kilowatt hours and prevented the emission of 35.5 billion lb of carbon dioxide.

In EPA Region 5, participants have cut their annual energy use by 1,629.5 million kilowatt hours and prevented the emission of 2,889.4 million lb of carbon dioxide, 29.5 million lb of sulfur dioxide, and 10.8 million lb of nitrogen oxide. The carbon dioxide reduction is the equivalent of taking 682,568 cars off the road, or of planting almost a million acres of trees.

For information about the progress of these 15 partners, visit the Earth Day energy efficiency "Virtual Exposition" web site at [www.epa.gov/buildings](http://www.epa.gov/buildings).

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa109.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



Technical Contact: Janette Marsh  
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Media Contact: Phillipa Cannon  
(312) 353-6218

For Immediate Release: April 21, 1999

No. 99-OPA110

## **EPA AWARDS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GRANT FOR MENOMONIE, WI PROJECT**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has awarded a Sustainable Development Challenge Grant to the Wisconsin Farmland Conservancy to complete an innovative Aliveable community@ project in Menomonie, WI.

The grant was one of 41 grants awarded nationally on Friday. The program provides seed money that encourages using sustainable development strategies to solve environmental problems. Recipient organizations include local governments, nonprofit organizations, and community development agencies.

Awards totaling about \$5 million will be given after the 41 final grant packages are approved. During this round of funding, EPA received 646 proposals requesting \$82 million. Over the three-year history of the sustainable development grant program, EPA has funded 96 projects totaling \$10.5 million.

The Menomonie project, entitled "The Liveable Community: A Model Development for a Small City," involves a 100-acre site in a growing community on the outskirts of the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. The grant will allow the Wisconsin Farmland Trust to work with local zoning officials and other stakeholders in developing a design plan that reduces runoff and includes energy-efficient housing, smaller lot sizes,

and homes available to low- and moderate-income families. EPA will provide a \$45,500 challenge grant to match an \$18,500 contribution by the Wisconsin Farmland Trust (total budget: \$64,000).

Two other sustainable development grants were awarded in EPA Region 5 -- to the City of Chicago Department of Planning and Development and to Milwaukee's 16th Street Community Health Center.

Information about the Sustainable Development Challenge Grant program, including the 41 new projects, is on the EPA Headquarters Web site:

[www.epa.gov/ecocommunity](http://www.epa.gov/ecocommunity).

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa110.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: April 20, 1999

No. 99-OPA111

## **EPA CITES 2 MILWAUKEE AUTO SHOPS FOR CLEAN AIR ACT VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited two Milwaukee (WI) companies for alleged violations of Federal regulations on chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) refrigerants that can damage the stratospheric, or "good," ozone layer.

The companies are S & S Auto Sales, Inc., 9832 West Appleton Ave., and Super Service, Inc., 10712 West Hampton Ave.

EPA said both companies serviced motor vehicle air conditioners with a refrigerant called McCool Chill-It -- without using properly trained and certified technicians.

In addition, they failed to install the required unique fittings and to apply warning labels on motor vehicle air conditioners they had charged with McCool Chill-It.

These are preliminary findings of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue compliance orders, assess administrative penalties, or bring suits against the two companies. They have 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to

resolve them.

"EPA's mission is protection of human health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations."

Depletion of the stratospheric ozone layer by CFC refrigerants allows dangerous amounts of cancer-causing ultraviolet rays from the sun to strike the earth. Production of some of these chemicals was stopped in 1995, and Federal law strictly controls their use and handling. Releasing them into the air is forbidden.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa111.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



Media Contact: Phillipa Cannon  
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Legal Contact: Nicole Cantello (CWA case)  
(312) 886-2870

Deirdre Tanaka (CAA case)  
(312) 886-6730

For Immediate Release: April 23, 1999

No. 99-OPA113

## **EPA SETTLES WITH WCI STEEL; INCLUDES \$1.7 MILLION FINE AND RIVER CLEANUP**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently settled two environmental lawsuits with WCI Steel, Inc. (Warren, OH). The company will pay \$1,740,000 in penalties, spend between \$750,000 and \$1,000,000 to remove contaminated sediments from the Mahoning River, make improvements to prevent untreated wastewater from entering the river, and improve its management of asbestos removal. The company has completed repairs to its air pollution control equipment and will continue to monitor its emissions of air pollutants.

The consent decrees were lodged in U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio in Cleveland, April 14, resolving violations alleged in 1995 Clean Water Act and 1996 Clean Air Act lawsuits.

WCI treats its contaminated process water before discharging it into the Mahoning River. Under the Clean Water Act consent decree, the company has agreed to stop unauthorized chlorine discharges, reduce oil discharges, and meet stormwater discharge limits. It will also make sure that process waters from its blast furnace are being recycled and not escaping into the river. To keep untreated wastewater from entering the river and prevent flooding of the two wastewater holding ponds, WCI will remove sludge

from both ponds, then line one of them and fill-in the other.

WCI has also agreed to carry out two supplemental environmental projects. It will collect aquatic organisms from the Mahoning River to help Ohio EPA assess water quality. And it will dredge and dispose of sediments from part of the river, next to the mill. The sediments are contaminated with metals and other pollutants as a result of decades of industrial discharges into the river by various steel companies and other industries.

"The improvements and environmental projects WCI has agreed to will benefit the Mahoning River, improve air quality and worker safety," said Acting Regional Administrator David A. Ullrich. "Sound environmental practices not only protect public health and the environment, they can result in financial benefits for companies that implement them."

A notice of the proposed settlement will be published in the Federal Register, followed by a 30-day public comment period.

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Last Updated: 4/23/99 16:58

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa113.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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MPCA Contact: Becky Helgesen  
(651) 282-6244

Andersen Windows Contact: Libby Johnston  
(651) 430-5441

For Immediate Release: April 22, 1999

No. 99-OPA114

## **REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY RULE FOR ANDERSEN CORP. PUBLISHED IN FEDERAL REGISTER**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today that a proposed, site-specific, regulatory flexibility rule for Andersen Corp.'s window-manufacturing facility (Bayport, MN) was published April 19 in the Federal Register.

The proposed rule also seeks public comment on a draft Final Project Agreement (FPA)--implemented under a national EPA pilot program known as Project XL--among EPA, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Washington County, and Andersen, which is designed to test new approaches for meeting environmental goals and responsibilities.

A 30-day public comment period has begun, following the publication of the rule. The draft agreement is available for review at the Bayport Public Library, 582 North 4th St. and on EPA Headquarters Web site: <http://www.epa.gov/projectxl>. Comments may be sent to: Rachel Rineheart, U.S. EPA Region 5, Air and Radiation Division (AR-18J), 77



West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60604-3590.

The Andersen XL project will test an innovative performance ratio measurement based on volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions per standard measure of production. The new approach is designed to encourage continued expansion of environmentally-sensitive production methods and processes, while discouraging solvent-based coating and wood preservative methods. At the same time, the approach allows the company to pursue even greater production efficiencies and emissions improvements, as well as increased production levels.

A community advisory committee, formed by Andersen to provide input on development of the XL agreement, has met regularly since December 1997. For information on the next meeting, call: Libby Johnston, 651 430-5441

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Last Updated: 4/23/99 8:49€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa114.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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Media Contact: William Omohundro  
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Legal Contact: Thor Ketzback  
(312) 353-6720

For Immediate Release: April 26, 1999

No. 99-OPA115

## **EPA CITES BISON PLATING FOR CLEAN AIR VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Bison Plating, Inc., for alleged violations of Federal regulations on chromium--a hazardous air pollutant--at the company's electroplating plant, 600 Sherman Ave., Adell, WI.

EPA said Bison failed to comply with planning, recordkeeping, reporting, and testing requirements of Federal regulations for decorative-chrome plating tanks and anodizing tanks, which went into effect Jan. 25, 1997.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Bison has 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing regulations for hazardous air pollutants, to protect public health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is

found in chromic acid mist released into the air as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

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Last Updated: 4/26/99 16:02€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa115.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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IEMA Media Contact: Julia Gentile  
(217) 782-8712

For Immediate Release: April 26, 1999

No. 99-OPA116

## **EPA AND ILL. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY TO SPONSOR**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 and Illinois Emergency Response Agency (IEMA) will present three free seminars in May, to help companies comply with hazardous chemical reporting regulations.

The seminars, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., will be held:

- May 4, Three Rivers Safety Center, Joliet;
- May 11, Econolodge, Mount Vernon;
- May 13, Crowne Plaza, Springfield.

Each seminar will cover emergency planning, hazardous chemical inventory reporting, and emergency notification requirements under the Federal Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know law. Staff from EPA, IEMA, and local emergency planning agencies will be available at the seminars to answer questions about reporting requirements, regulated chemicals, threshold calculations, and penalties for noncompliance.

For seminar registration information or a brochure, contact Janis Shearer; phone: 312-466-0222, fax; 312-466-0266; or email: [jshearer@dynamac.com](mailto:jshearer@dynamac.com).

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Last Updated: 4/27/99 8:52€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa116.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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NOTE TO MEDIA: EPA representatives will be available at the site on Thursday, April 29, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., for interviews and photo opportunities.

For Immediate Release: April 26, 1999

No. 99-OPA117

## **EPA: CLEANUP BEGINS AT BAKER WOOD CREOSOTING SITE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today that cleanup to remove creosote-contaminated soil at the Baker Wood Creosoting site (Marion, OH) will begin this week. Residents and businesses near the site can expect to see heavy equipment, construction vehicles, and workers in protective clothing through mid-May.

The \$300,000 project (funded by EPA) will include the removal of 2,000 cubic yards of creosote waste and heavily contaminated soil with elevated levels of pesticides and metals. Future activities, following this initial phase of the cleanup, will include testing to identify additional contaminated areas and to determine the extent of sediment contamination at the Little Scioto River, resulting from past releases of creosote.

The Baker Wood site, at the northwest corner of Holland Rd. And Kenton St., is about one-half mile northwest of downtown Marion. The current owner is Baker Wood Limited Partnership. The previous owner--Sims Bros., Inc.--operated a scrap metal salvage yard at the site.

From the 1890's to the 1960's, the Baker Wood Preserving Co. used the

site to treat railroad ties and wood products with creosote, petroleum, and other solvents. EPA believes that chemical waste from the site was discharged directly into the combined sewers that drain into the nearby North Rockswale Ditch and the Little Scioto River.

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Last Updated: 4/26/99 15:41€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa117.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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Legal Contact: Hedi Bogda-Cleveland  
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For Immediate Release: April 29, 1999

No. 99-OPA118

## **EPA SETTLES WITH ARCH CHEMICALS FOR CHEMICAL RELEASE REPORTING VIOLATIONS; INCLUDES \$276,304 IN FINES AND PROJECTS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently signed an agreement with Arch Chemicals, Inc. (Brandenburg, KY), for violation of Federal laws on the reporting of a hazardous chemical release. The company will pay a \$52,604 civil penalty and complete three environmental projects totaling \$223,700.

This past February, Olin Corp.--the company cited originally for this violation--transferred various assets, including this facility, to Arch Chemicals.

On Jan. 15, 1997, the Olin facility reported a 3,000 lb release of propylene oxide to a water-filled ditch that leads to the Ohio River. The chemical was released when a cooling water line froze and broke. Olin notified the National Response Center and local Kentucky authorities of a 3,000 lb release. (All releases over 100 lb of propylene oxide must be reported.) Olin later learned from an internal review that the actual release volume was 16,000 lb--considerably more than originally reported.



Due to the release, a large volume of contaminated water flowed into the Evansville, IN water-treatment facility, some 140 miles down river. As a result, a water supply that supports a community of 150,000 people was affected, and a local pharmaceutical plant was forced to close for a few days.

Propylene oxide can cause irritation to the eyes, skin, and respiratory system, and is a potential carcinogen. It is an extremely hazardous substance under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act.

In addition to the fine, Arch Chemicals will complete three environmental projects. The projects will increase the facility's ability to detect and analyze chemical leaks and releases, and help prevent overflows during product transfers.

Since 1989, EPA Region 5 has filed 206 separate complaints for hazardous chemical reporting violations, resulting in 194 settlements with \$4.60 million in total fines and \$2.66 million in environmental projects.

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Last Updated: 4/29/99 16:31€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa118.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: April 29, 1999

No. 99-OPA119

## **EPA CITES DOW CHEMICAL FOR MULTIPLE CHEMICAL REPORTING VIOLATIONS; PROPOSES \$661,237 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against Dow Chemical Co. (Midland, MI), for violation of Federal laws on the reporting of hazardous chemical releases on three separate occasions. EPA has proposed a \$661,237 fine.

EPA alleged that the company failed to promptly report the release of hazardous chemicals to the proper authorities in three incidents between November 1997 and October 1998. The Dow facility was previously cited for an incident on Aug. 24, 1994, which resulted in an October 1997 settlement that included a \$24,760 fine and an environmental project to enhance local emergency response capabilities.

The incidents covered in the proposed penalty:

1. On Nov. 10, 1997, Dow released 9,100 lb of methyl chloride when a pressure relief device failed and plant operators continued with the process. The facility reported the incident to the National Response Center, the State Emergency Response Commission, and

the Local Emergency Planning Committee about 13 hours after the release, with a written follow-up report submitted a week later. Under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) and the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA--commonly known as Superfund), all releases of methyl chloride above 100 lb must be reported promptly.

2. On Sept. 2, 1998, Dow released 10 lb of vinyl chloride when a chemical reactor was being cleaned. The incident was reported more than 7 hours after the release, with a written follow-up report submitted six days later. Under EPCRA and CERCLA, all releases of vinyl chloride above 1 lb must be reported promptly.
3. On Oct. 12, 1998, Dow released 99 lb of ethylene oxide when a maintenance operator mistakenly drained a process valve into the plant's chemical sewer system. The incident was reported 12 hours after the release, with a written follow-up reported submitted 10 days later. Under EPCRA and CERCLA, all releases of ethylene oxide above 10 lb must be reported promptly.

In all three incidents, the chemicals eventually volatilized and were vented into the atmosphere. No injuries to workers or area residents were reported.

"Compliance with the chemical reporting laws is critical, because fire departments, hospitals, and other authorities must have the necessary information to respond appropriately when a release occurs," said regional Superfund director William Munro. "Public health, as well as the environment, is at stake."

Since 1989, EPA Region 5 has filed 206 separate complaints for hazardous chemical reporting violations, resulting in 194 settlements with \$4.60 million in total fines and \$2.66 million in environmental projects.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: April 28, 1999

No. 99-OPA120

## **U.S.- INDIANA SETTLE WITH HAMMOND SANITARY DISTRICT; INCLUDES \$2.1 MILLION FOR GRAND CAL RESTORATION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5, U.S. Dept. of Justice, and the Indiana Dept. of Environmental Management (IDEM) today announced a \$36 million settlement that will help clean up the heavily polluted west branch of the Grand Calumet River.

The Hammond Sanitary District has agreed to pay \$225,000 in penalties, split equally between the U.S. and the State, contribute \$2.1 million to the Grand Calumet River Restoration Fund, and spend \$34 million on environmental improvements to its system.

The settlement involves three consent decrees lodged April 23 in Federal court, resolving claims that the Sanitary District, the City of Hammond, and the Town of Munster were responsible for more than 19,000 violations of the Clean Water Act through the discharge of untreated and improperly treated sewage into the west branch of the

Grand Calumet River over the past decade. The Federal Government filed suit in 1993.

The Sanitary District has agreed to spend \$22 million on construction projects to eliminate illegal discharges and more than \$12 million on sludge lagoon closure. Hammond and Munster have agreed to correct delays that have hampered the Sanitary District's ability to improve its operations. The municipalities have also agreed to carry out a program to eliminate inflows to the sewer system from residential downspouts.

"For too long the west branch of the Grand Calumet River has been little better than an open sewer. This agreement is a significant step toward putting an end to that," said David A. Ullrich, Acting Regional Administrator. "In the last few years, Federal and State actions against polluters have resulted in agreements to clean up this long-abused river, and we will see water quality improvements in both the Grand Cal and Lake Michigan as a result."

"The Grand Calumet River is a valuable natural resource that we continue to work hard to restore," said Lois J. Schiffer, Assistant Attorney General for Environment and Natural Resources at the Dept. of Justice, which represented EPA in this case. "This settlement is another important step in that direction. It will provide much-needed resources to help clean up the west branch of the river, and require that local municipalities improve their sewer system. That's good news for the citizens of Hammond, for our environment, and for the celebration of Earth Day."

"The settlement is an important step in the restoration of the Grand Calumet River," said IDEM Commissioner Lori F. Kaplan. "It will help protect the Grand Calumet River from future pollution and will help fund the removal of contaminated sediments."

This settlement, including river cleanup projects, follows several others reached with companies along the Grand Calumet River. Notably, it follows a 1995 settlement with major industrial dischargers (Cerestar USA, Inc., Ferro Corp., and Lever Bros.) to the Sanitary District. That settlement established the Grand Calumet River Restoration Fund to pay for the dredging and disposal of contaminated sediments in the river. The fund is administered by the State of Indiana, in consultation with EPA and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The publication of the consent decree in the Federal Register will be followed by a 30-day public-comment period.

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Last Updated: 4/29/99 9:45€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa120.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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Legal Contact: Elizabeth Murphy  
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For Immediate Release: April 29, 1999

No. 99-OPA121

## **EPA CITES PARIS CLEANERS FOR CLEAN AIR VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Paris Cleaners for alleged violations of Federal clean-air regulations at the company's dry cleaning plant, 1975 Celina Rd., St. Marys, OH.

EPA said Paris Cleaners uses perchloroethylene -- a hazardous air pollutant -- in its cleaning process. It said the company operates two 40-lb transfer machines and five tumbler dryers installed in 1979 that were not properly enclosed and vented.

In addition, Paris Cleaners failed to give EPA timely notification of its existence and other information required by the Clean Air Act.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Paris Cleaners has 30 days from receipt of this finding to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"Hazardous air pollutants are potentially a serious threat to human health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional

Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the regulations."

Short-term exposure to high concentrations of perchloroethylene -- particularly in poorly ventilated areas -- can cause dizziness, light-headedness, nausea, kidney dysfunction, confusion, difficulty in speaking and walking, and loss of consciousness. Long-term exposure can damage the liver and nervous system. Perchloroethylene is classified as a probable, but low-hazard, cancer-causing agent in humans.

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Last Updated: 4/29/99 16:38€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa121.htm>€





# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: April 29, 1999

No. 99-OPA122

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH SUN REFINING; INCLUDES \$168,950 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with Sun Refining and Marketing Co., resolving alleged clean-air violations at the company's oil refinery, 1819 Woodville Rd., Toledo, OH. A \$168,950 penalty was assessed.

EPA filed an administrative complaint against Sun Refining last October, alleging the company had violated Federal regulations for the hazardous air pollutant benzene and State emission limits for sulfur dioxide.

In addition to resolving the violations alleged in the administrative complaint, the company has agreed to do inspections and monitoring at the water separator, to record results of the inspections and monitoring, and to report these results to EPA.

"Hazardous air pollutants are potentially a serious threat to human health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the regulations."

Benzene is a known human carcinogen, and sulfur dioxide can cause acid

rain and can irritate and inflame lung tissue. Children, the elderly, and those with existing lung disease are the most vulnerable.

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Last Updated: 4/29/99 16:42€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa122.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: April 30, 1999

No. 99-OPA124

## **NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA TOUR AND PHOTO-OP AT GOSPORT, IN, CLEANUP SITE, TUES., MAY 4, 10 A.M. - NOON**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will host a media tour and photo-opportunity at the Hoosier Wood Treating site, Tues., May 4, 10 a.m. - Noon. The site, which contains an abandoned waste pit, drums, contaminated soils, is in Owen County, on Highway 47, about 1/4 mile north of the White River. (From Bloomington, the drive takes about 40 minutes.)

Representatives from EPA and Indiana Department of Environmental Management will be available at the site to answer questions and explain the project.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa124.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: April 30, 1999

No. 99-OPA125

## **EPA: UPDATE MEETING ON VAN DALE JUNKYARD SITE MAY 6**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 will hold an informal meeting to update community residents on cleanup at the Van Dale Junkyard Superfund site, Thursday, May 6, 5 to 7 p.m., Washington County Public Library, 615 Fifth St., Marietta, OH.

Ongoing cleanup work at the site, 1.5 miles northeast of Marietta on Township Road 83, recently restarted for the 1999 construction season. Area residents can expect to see heavy equipment, increased vehicle traffic, and workers in required protective clothing near the site throughout the summer.

The site was a junkyard from the 1940's until 1980. During this period, it received a variety of scrap materials, automobiles, and batteries, as well as several thousand drums of industrial waste.

For more information on the cleanup, contact Bob Paulson, Community Involvement Coordinator, 800-621-8431 or 312-886-0272, or email: [paulson.robert@epa.gov](mailto:paulson.robert@epa.gov). Site documents are available for review at the Washington County Public Library.

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Last Updated: 5/3/99 14:52

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa125.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: April 30, 1999

No. 99-OPA127

## **EPA TO HOST DOWNLINK OF NATIONAL TOWN MEETING FOR A SUSTAINABLE AMERICA**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today the public is invited to view downlink sessions of the National Town Meeting for a Sustainable America next Monday through Wednesday, May 3-5, at its Chicago office.

The sessions will be in EPA's Great Lakes Center, 12th Floor, 77 West Jackson Blvd. They will be in the Lake Huron Room on Monday and Tuesday and in the Lake Superior Room on Wednesday. The National Town Meeting will be held in Detroit.

### **Monday, May 3**

#### **Crossing Boundaries/Building Partnerships**

7-8:45 a.m. - Why Sustainable Development Matters and Strategies €  
for Action €

11 a.m.-1 p.m. - Healthy Communities, Healthy Economies €

### **Tuesday, May 4**

#### **Building Partnerships**

7:30-8:15 a.m. - Event to be Announced

10-11 a.m. - Address by Vice-President Al Gore (Note: Timing €  
subject to change) €

11 a.m. - 1 p.m. - CEO Forum and Lunch: Sustainable €  
Development and Competitive Advantage: Meeting the Triple €  
Bottom Line €

### **Wednesday, May 5**

#### **Making Commitments**

8-9:30 a.m. - Youth Roundtable

10 a.m. - 12 p.m. - National Roundtable

Sponsored by the President's Council on Sustainable Development and the Global Environment and Technology Foundation, the National Town Meeting will showcase best practices around the country that promote sustainable development by balancing economic, environmental, and social goals.

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Last Updated: 5/3/99 15:00€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa127.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: May 3, 1999

No. 99-OPA123

## **NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS: EPA HOSTS AWARDS CEREMONY FOR SOUTH BEND SUPERFUND JOB TRAINING ON THURS., MAY 6, 6 TO 8 P.M.**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 will host a graduation ceremony and photo-opportunity to recognize completion of the Superfund Job Training Initiative for the Douglas Road Superfund site, Mishawaka, IN.

The ceremony, featuring Regional Superfund Director William Muno as keynote speaker, will be held Thurs., May 6, 6 to 8 p.m., Charles Martin Youth Center, 802 Lincoln Way West, South Bend. Representatives from the offices of Congressman Roemer and South Bend Mayor Luecke, DePaul University, South Bend Heritage Foundation, Charles Martin Youth Center, and the State Opportunities Industrialization Center will also be in attendance.

The Job Training Initiative, a partnership between EPA, DePaul, and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, provided technical training and certification in asbestos- and lead abatement, and hazardous cleanup materials operations, for 18 minority participants, ages 18-25,



from the South Bend area.

The newly-graduated trainees will be licensed to do environmental work in both Illinois and Indiana, and will have an opportunity to work with the current Douglas Road site cleanup contractors, CH2M Hill and Kelchner, Inc. A job fair for the trainees will be held May 11 at the Charles Martin Youth Center.

A news release and fact sheet will be available at the event, and online from the EPA Region 5 Web site ([www.epa.gov/Region5](http://www.epa.gov/Region5)) on May 6.

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Last Updated: 5/3/99 15:07€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa123.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: May 4, 1999

No. 99-OPA126

## **EPA: CLEANUP BEGINS AT HOOSIER WOOD TREATING SITE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today that a cleanup of an abandoned waste pit and contaminated soils at the Hoosier Wood Treating site (Gosport, IN) begins this week. Area residents and businesses can expect to see heavy equipment, construction vehicles, and workers in required protective clothing through mid-May.

A second phase of the project, when workers will return to the site to prepare the materials for transfer to off-site disposal facilities, will begin about a month later.

The \$400,000 cleanup is funded through Superfund and will be managed by a Chicago-based EPA emergency response team, in cooperation with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) and Owen County. The work includes:

- Removal and disposal of an above-ground tank that contained hazardous pentachlorophenol (PCP) wastes.
- Cleanup, disposal, and backfilling of a small sludge pit beneath the tank.

- Removal and disposal of 5 to 10 drums and other containers with hazardous chemical residues.
- Removal and disposal of about 500 tons of contaminated soils.

The EPA cleanup addresses only the hazardous materials--those with PCP levels above 530 parts per million--that pose an imminent and substantial risk to area residents. Additional site analysis will need to be completed to address the lower-level contamination.

The site is in Owen County, on Highway 67, about 1/4 mile north of the White River. Several homes are located next to the property. Though fenced, the site poses a hazard to children and trespassers who could come in contact with the remaining hazardous materials. In the event of floods or other emergency conditions, the materials could also migrate off-site, posing additional hazards to residents.

From about 1975 to 1994, the Hoosier Wood Treating Co. operated a facility that preserved wood products with PCP and/or a copper chromium arsenic (CCA) solution. During its operation, IDEM cited the company for hazardous waste storage and disposal violations, some of which were unresolved when the property was abandoned.

During 1996 and 1997, IDEM conducted preliminary cleanup at the site, including removal of 6,000 gallons of PCP-contaminated sludge from the two tanks; 5,000 gallons of CCA in a third tank; 2,000 gallons of petroleum wastes from two underground storage tanks; and disposal of various laboratory chemicals. In 1997, a fire that started during the cleanup resulted in a temporary evacuation of residents, but did not have a long-term impact.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa126.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: May 4, 1999

No. 99-OPA128

## **EPA: DETROIT'S COBO CENTER JOINS ENERGY-SAVING PROGRAM**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today that Cobo Conference Exhibition Center, 1 Washington Blvd., Detroit, MI, has joined EPA's energy-saving and pollution-cutting Energy Star Buildings program.

EPA said Cobo Center, which is hosting the President's Council on Sustainable Development Conference this week, has committed to do energy-efficiency upgrades in its 2.1 million square feet of exhibition space.

Cobo Center has already replaced 24,000 fluorescent light fixtures with 3,600 energy-saving halide fixtures, significantly improving lighting quality and efficiency in the exhibition halls.

The Center is also planning to upgrade its heating, ventilating, and air-conditioning systems. The improvements are expected to save the Center \$24 million which will be used to pay for the upgrades.

"EPA applauds the extraordinary commitment Cobo Center is making to implement the voluntary Energy Star Buildings program," said Acting Regional Administrator David A. Ullrich. "Cobo Center's leadership shows that environmental protection and profitable business decisions go hand in hand."

The upgrades will cut energy consumption by more than 20 million kilowatt hours. This translates to an air pollution reduction of over 28 million lb of carbon dioxide, which is equivalent to planting over 3,000 acres of trees.

The Energy Star Buildings program--created in 1995 as an extension of its Green Lights Program--encourages energy-efficient lighting, heating, and cooling systems that cut emissions of air pollutants associated with global climate change, smog, and acid rain. More information on the two programs is available at EPA's Web site: [www.epa.gov/energystar/](http://www.epa.gov/energystar/); or by calling 1-888-782-7937.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: May 1, 1999

No. 99-OPA129

## **MEDIA ADVISORY: PREVIEW NATIONAL TOWN MEETING LEGACY PROJECT MAY 4: NEW WETLANDS GARDEN FOR BELLE ISLE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 invites you to preview a new wetlands garden in Belle Isle Park May 4 at 11 a.m. Volunteers, including Detroit high school students participating in National Wildlife Federation's Earth Tomorrow program, will be planting native vegetation to create the garden. In addition to beautifying the park, the garden will control stormwater runoff.

EPA, in cooperation with Detroit Recreation Dept., Wayne Co., Michigan Dept. of Environmental Quality, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the U.S. Coast Guard, is creating the wetlands garden in conjunction with the National Town Meeting for a Sustainable America. It is one of three environmentally sustainable projects being developed as a Town Meeting legacy for Detroit.

The Defense Dept. (DoD), in conjunction with the Town Meeting, will be doing similar plantings with youth groups in 12 states. Sherri W. Goodman, Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Environmental Security, will discuss DoD's new program at this time.

**WHAT:** Preview of new wetlands garden and announcement of DoD ecological restoration projects. As part of Earth Tomorrow

program's "Spring Celebration," high school students will be working with EPA and other volunteers to plant native vegetation.

**WHEN:** May 4 at 11 a.m.

**WHERE:** Nature Center in Belle Isle Park. The garden is on the corner of Lakeside Dr. and Oakway Trail on Belle Isle.

**WHO:** U.S. EPA Acting Regional Administrator David A. Ullrich; Sherri W. Goodman, Under Secretary of Defense for Environmental Security; Barbara Bramble, Vice President, National Wildlife Federation; EPA volunteers; teachers and students participating in National Wildlife Federation Earth Tomorrow program; and officials from Detroit Recreation Dept. and Wayne Co.

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Last Updated: 5/3/99 15:17€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa129.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: May 4, 1999

No. 99-OPA130

## **EPA TO BEGIN PLANTING NEW WETLANDS GARDEN IN BELLE ISLE PARK**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today that it will begin planting a new wetlands garden in Belle Isle Park in Detroit. In addition to beautifying the park, the garden will help control storm-water runoff and prevent it from polluting the Detroit River.

EPA chose to restore the wetlands as a legacy for the National Town Meeting for a Sustainable America. The project was suggested by the Detroit Recreation Dept. High school students participating in the National Wildlife Federation's Earth Tomorrow program have pledged to maintain the garden when it is completed.

Other organizations participating in the project are: Wayne County, Michigan Dept. of Environmental Quality, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Coast Guard, Friends of Belle Isle, Friends of the Detroit River, Detroit Area Master Gardeners, Marine Pollution Control, and Grunwell-Cashero Co, Inc. JJR, Inc., (Ann Arbor, MI) has donated landscape design and will oversee the project.

The garden will be planted in front of the Belle Isle Nature Center in a low spot where standing water has been a problem. When restored, the garden



will be half wetlands and half prairie, also known as bioswale.

Volunteers began preparing the site on April 20, and planting began this week and will continue for the next couple of years.

The Detroit River is one of 14 rivers in the Nation that have been designated as American Heritage Rivers. EPA has committed to improving water quality in the river through the Detroit River Remedial Action Plan.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa130.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: May 6, 1999

No. 99-OPA131

## **EPA HONORS 18 GRADUATES OF SOUTH BEND SUPERFUND JOB TRAINING INITIATIVE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 tonight honors 18 graduates of the Superfund Job Training Initiative for the Douglas Road Superfund site (Mishawaka, IN). A ceremony will be held this evening, 6 to 8 p.m., Charles Martin Youth Center, 802 Lincoln Way West, South Bend.

EPA Regional Superfund Director William Muno will be the keynote speaker. Others attending the event will include: representatives from the offices of Congressman Roemer and South Bend Mayor Luecke, DePaul University, South Bend Heritage Foundation, Charles Martin Youth Center, and the State Opportunities Industrialization Center.

The program, which ran from March 8 to May 3, was open to minorities, ages 18-25, from the South Bend area. The Job Training Initiative, a partnership between EPA, DePaul, and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), provided technical training and certification in asbestos-and lead abatement, and hazardous cleanup materials operations. The graduates are now licensed to do environmental work in both Illinois and Indiana, and will have an opportunity to work with the current Douglas Road site cleanup contractors, CH2M Hill and Kelchner, Inc. A job fair for the graduates will be held May 11 at the Charles Martin Youth Center.

The 30-acre Douglas Road site is near the corner of Douglas and Grape Roads in Mishawaka. From 1954 to 1979, Uniroyal Plastics stored industrial waste materials at the site, including solvents, fly ash, paper, wood stock, rubber, and plastic scrap. The ongoing cleanup, supervised by EPA, includes construction of a 16-acre landfill cap, and an on-site wetland to treat contaminated ground water pumped from beneath the site.

"The graduates should be proud of what they've accomplished and we look forward to watching the first steps in their new environmental careers," said Muno. "The Job Training Initiative is an excellent partnering tool, bringing communities, government, and business together to clean up and restore the environment. In the future, we hope to build on the success in South Bend with many more job training partnerships at Superfund sites."

The Superfund Job Training Initiative supports President Clinton's 1994 Executive Order to provide fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people in environmental decision-making. To date, NIEHS has awarded funds to four institutions nationally--including DePaul in the Midwest--to implement the program.

A fact sheet, which includes photos of the graduates, is available at: [www.epa.gov/region5](http://www.epa.gov/region5).

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: May 6, 1999

No. 99-OPA132

## **EPA: CLEANUP BEGINS AT NORRIS DRIVE BATTERY SITE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today that cleanup at the Norris Drive Battery site (Anderson, IN) will begin next week. Residents and businesses near the site can expect to see heavy equipment, construction vehicles, and workers in protective clothing through mid-June.

The 3-acre site, which includes the Faith Baptist Church, 620 Norris Drive, south of the Anderson city limits, contains lead-battery chips and casings and lead-contaminated soils. Temporary fencing will be installed around the site during the cleanup. In addition to the on-site hazards, in the event of heavy rain or other emergency conditions, the hazardous materials could migrate off-site, posing risks to public health and the environment.

The cleanup will be managed by a Chicago-based Superfund emergency response team, in cooperation with Indiana Department of Environmental Management. The cleanup will include daily air monitoring, to ensure that lead-dust does not go beyond the site border. An EPA representative will be available at the site trailer office during work hours, for area residents who may have questions about the project.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa132.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



Media Contact: Phillipa Cannon  
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For Immediate Release: May 6, 1999

No. 99-OPA133

## **DO YOU KNOW WHAT'S IN YOUR DRINKING WATER?**

**by David A. Ullrich, Acting Regional Administrator,  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5**

This is National Drinking Water Week and this year marks the 25th anniversary of the Safe Drinking Water Act. It's not likely to be a celebration most people pay attention to, but the fact that the week passes with little notice is perhaps something to celebrate in itself. Americans are extremely fortunate that they can take the safety of their drinking water for granted. Over the past 25 years, the number of Americans served by public water systems has increased tremendously.

But how much do you know about the water you drink every day?

Do you know where your drinking water comes from? Do you know whether or not to drink the water when traveling? How safe is the water in the small town where you are sending your son or daughter to college? You have a right to know this. And, in fact, the public has demanded it. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is now requiring suppliers to tell the public what is in their drinking water.

Consumers have long been asking: What is in my water? Is it safe to drink? Just how do I know it is safe to drink? Many of these questions and more will be answered in the new consumer confidence reports. You will start to receive the first of these reports from your drinking-water suppliers between now and October. After that, you will receive the reports annually.

Think of it as a nutrition label on your kitchen faucet. The reports will contain monitoring results described in an easy-to-read table. Health-based standards will also be provided for comparison.

The consumer confidence report rule is the first new drinking water regulation from the EPA in several years and the first of several to deal with the community right-to-know provision of the SDWA Amendments of 1996. This rule was developed in cooperation with water suppliers, environmental groups, and State regulatory agencies, and will enable Americans to make practical, informed decisions about their health and their environment.

The reports must include such things as:

- The source of water, and its susceptibility to contamination;
- A table showing detected contaminants and corresponding drinking-water standards;
- Compliance with other provisions of the drinking-water regulations;
- Educational information about contaminants detected;
- Telephone numbers for obtaining additional information, including the water supplier's number and EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

The new reports may also contain additional information, including historical facts, plant tour availability, watershed initiatives, treatment upgrades or plant expansions, and even conservation techniques. Each water system has a unique story to tell.

Many water suppliers view this new rule as a step towards improving customer communications. Suppliers will continue to be required to notify the public if any violation of a contaminant standard has been discovered.

I believe that as the public's understanding is enhanced, their participation in the protection and delivery of safe drinking water will grow. Over the next four years, the States and local communities will be conducting an assessment of drinking-water quality and potential threats to each public

water system. You can help protect your sources of drinking water by becoming involved in this process.

When you receive a special brochure in your water bill, take the time to look at it. Study it, save it, and if you have questions, call your water supplier and get the answers. It is your right to know.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: May 7, 1999

No. 99-OPA134

## **NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS:**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 yesterday informed Indiana Governor Frank O'Bannon that EPA is planning to publish a proposed rulemaking that would reclassify the Louisville (KY) area, including Clark and Floyd Counties (IN), from moderate to serious nonattainment for the one-hour ozone standard.

Because the area is impacted by transport of air pollution from other States, EPA will also propose to make an option available that could provide Indiana with more flexibility and extend the time that the State has to comply with the ozone standard.

A copy of EPA's letter to Governor O'Bannon is attached.

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Last Updated: 5/11/99 17:44€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa134.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: May 11, 1999

No. 99-OPA135

## **EPA UPDATES NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST; ONE ILLINOIS SITE ADDED**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) updated on Monday the National Priorities List of Superfund hazardous waste sites. Within the six States that comprise EPA Region 5, one site was added to the list: DePue-New Jersey Zinc-Mobil Chemical (DePue, IL). The 860-acre site is in Bureau County, alongside DePue Lake, which flows into the Illinois River.

Sites on the list are eligible for long-term cleanup under the Superfund program. The DePue site is a State-lead site, which means Illinois EPA will manage the cleanup, with EPA oversight.

The update includes seven new general sites and three new federal facilities sites. Currently, there are 1,212 final sites (156 federal facilities) and 63 proposed sites nationwide. To date, 599 sites have reached construction completion.

A zinc smelter began operating at the DePue site in the early 1900's, with

additional operations that, at times, included production of sulfuric acid, diammonium phosphate fertilizer, and lithopone paint. Environmental contamination, including elevated levels of heavy metals, exists in numerous areas around the site. These include: a 15-acre primary zinc smelter slag pile, a 160-acre phosphogypsum pile which is leaching ammonia and other contaminants, the former plant area, and an undetermined number of additional waste disposal areas.

EPA, Illinois EPA, and a group of potentially responsible parties have analyzed the site, drafted preliminary engineering design plans, and taken limited cleanup actions since the early 1980's. Currently, Illinois EPA has a number of cleanup actions and engineering studies underway.

An EPA fact sheet on the DePue site is available at:  
[www.epa.gov/superfund/sites/npl](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/sites/npl).

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: May 11, 1999

No. 99-OPA136

## **EPA CITES KEIL CHEMICAL FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited the Keil Chemical Division of Ferro Corp. for alleged violations of Federal and State clean-air regulations at the company's plant, 3000 Sheffield Ave., Hammond, IN.

Keil Chemical makes Pyro-Chek, a plastic flame retardant, at the plant and in the process emits ethylene dichloride and vinyl chloride. The substances are hazardous air pollutants that can cause cancer and lead to ozone pollution.

EPA said the company has been operating the Pyro-Chek process without a permit since 1980. Keil Chemical has modified the process at least three times since then without getting the required construction permit and without meeting the lowest achievable emission rate and other permitting requirements.

The process is a major source of volatile organic compounds (VOC's) that can combine in the air with other chemicals to form ground-level ozone. Northwest Indiana does not meet the Federal health-based standard for ozone.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Keil Chemical has 30 days to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"Hazardous air pollutants are potentially a serious threat to human health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the regulations."

Ground-level ozone can cause breathing problems, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and can aggravate asthma. It can reduce lung function and resistance to colds and other infections and may speed the aging of lung tissue. Children, the elderly, and persons with chronic respiratory disease are the most sensitive.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: May 18, 1999

No. 99-OPA137

## **EPA CITES A&W CUSTOM CHROME FOR CLEAN AIR VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited A&W Custom Chrome, Inc., for alleged violations of Federal regulations on chromium--a hazardous air pollutant--at the company's electroplating plant, 17726 East Nine Mile Rd., Detroit, MI.

EPA said A&W failed to comply with testing requirements of Federal regulations for decorative-chrome plating tanks and anodizing tanks, effective Jan. 25, 1997.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. A&W has 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing regulations for hazardous air pollutants, to protect public health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is

found in chromic acid mist released into the air as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

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Last Updated: 5/26/99 16:35€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa137.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: May 18, 1999

No. 99-OPA138

## **EPA CITES FORD; INCLUDES \$55,000 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against Ford Motor Co. for alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's plant, 966 South Mississippi River Blvd., St. Paul, MN. A \$55,000 penalty is proposed.

EPA said Ford failed to submit reports required by its State air-pollution permit.

Ford has 30 days from receipt of the complaint to file an answer and request a hearing. It may request an informal conference to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them anytime.

"EPA is committed to enforcing clean-air regulations to protect public health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa138.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: May 18, 1999

No. 99-OPA139

## **EPA CITES JENNINGS PUMP; INCLUDES \$24,600 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against Jennings Pump Co. for alleged violations of Federal regulations on chromium--a hazardous air pollutant--at its electroplating plant, 19175 Mount Elliott Rd., Detroit, MI. A \$24,600 penalty is proposed.

EPA said Jennings failed to do an initial compliance test in 1996 and failed to keep required records.

Jennings has 30 days from receipt of the complaint to file an answer and request a hearing. It may request an informal conference to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them anytime.

"EPA is committed to enforcing regulations for hazardous air pollutants to protect public health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is found in chromic acid mist released to the atmosphere as part of the

electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa139.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: May 19, 1999

No. 99-OPA141

## **EPA AND DOJ SIGN CONSENT DECREE FOR FIELDS BROOK SITE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 and U.S. Department of Justice have recently lodged a consent decree with 25 companies to finish the design and conduct the cleanup of the "Sediment" and "Floodplain/Wetlands Soils" units of the Fields Brook Superfund site, Ashtabula, OH. The two units covered under the consent decree, signed on May 14, address the cleanup of the brook.

Under terms of the agreement, the 25 companies will pay the government \$1,703,817 million in past costs and \$840,000 in natural resource damages. The companies will also pay for and manage the cleanup of contaminated Fields Brook soils and sediments, and provide long-term monitoring and maintenance of the landfill to be built at the site.

The settling companies are currently working on the final design of the cleanup. Beginning next spring, they will start building the landfill that will hold the contaminated soil and sediment to be removed from the brook. Most of the excavation work will take place in 2001, with some planting and other restoration work continuing into 2002.

Fields Brook's 4-mile main channel flows through an industrialized

section of Ashtabula, and then through residential neighborhoods before it reaches the Ashtabula River. Historical discharges and runoff from these areas have contaminated the site's soils and sediment with PCB's, chlorinated benzenes and solvents, low-level radionuclides, and other hazardous substances. Some industrial areas near the brook are still contaminated and could recontaminate the brook. Before the brook cleanup begins, these "Source Control" areas of the site are being addressed in a separate action from the work to be performed under the new consent decree.

In other site news, EPA recently issued a document, called an Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD), that established industrial and residential radium cleanup levels for new contamination discovered during tests in 1998. (The area covered in the ESD was already part of the Source Control unit.) The ESD also upgraded the design of the on-site landfill, and modified the current uranium cleanup levels with more conservative guidelines.

Copies of the ESD and other site-related documents are available for review at Ashtabula County District Library, 335 West 44th St., Ashtabula.

Early this summer, EPA will issue a fact sheet which explains the ESD in detail and further outlines the schedule for site cleanup.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: May 19, 1999

No. 99-OPA142

## **EPA CITES AK STEEL FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited AK Steel Corp. for alleged violations of Federal and federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's steel mill, 1801 Crawford St., Middletown, OH.

EPA said that, between 1984 and 1995, AK Steel made changes to its blast furnace without getting a permit, thus significantly increasing emissions of particulates (dust, smoke, ash) from the blast furnace.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. AK Steel has 30 days from receipt of the notice to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing clean-air regulations to protect public health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates has its greatest effect children, the elderly, or those with heart or lung conditions.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa142.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: May 19, 1999

No. 99-OPA143

## **EPA TO SPONSOR HAZARDOUS CHEMICAL SEMINAR IN TWIN CITIES AREA JUNE 2**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 will present a free seminar to help Minnesota companies comply with hazardous chemical reporting regulations. It will be held Wednesday, June 2, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Capitol View Conference Center, 70 West County Road B2, Little Canada.

The seminar will cover emergency planning, hazardous chemical inventory reporting, and emergency notification requirements under the Federal Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know law. Staff from EPA and local emergency planning agencies will be available at the seminars to answer questions about reporting requirements, regulated chemicals, threshold calculations, and penalties for noncompliance.

For seminar registration information or a brochure, contact Janis Shearer: phone, (312) 466-0222, fax, (312) 466-0266; or email, [jshearer@dynamac.com](mailto:jshearer@dynamac.com).

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: May 21, 1999

No. 99-OPA144

## **EPA CITES ACME HARD CHROME FOR CLEAN AIR VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Acme Hard Chrome, Inc., for alleged violations of Federal regulations on chromium--a hazardous air pollutant--and State clean-air regulations at the company's electroplating plant, 555 Freedom Ave., Alliance, OH.

EPA said Acme, which operates 10 hard-chrome plating tanks, failed to do a timely performance test showing it met the chromium emission limit for four tanks. Acme also failed to apply for State installation permits for five tanks.

Federal regulations for hard-chrome plating tanks and anodizing tanks went into effect Jan. 25, 1997. Performance testing had to be done before July 25, 1997 for existing sources.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Acme has 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing regulations for hazardous air pollutants,

to protect public health and the environment," said Richard Karl, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is found in chromic acid mist released into the atmosphere as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: May 26, 1999

No. 99-OPA145

## **EPA PROPOSES CLEANUP PLAN FOR SHEBOYGAN RIVER AND HARBOR SITE; COMMENT PERIOD BEGINS, MEETING JUNE 30**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently proposed a cleanup plan to address contaminated sediment and soil at the Sheboygan River and Harbor Superfund site (Sheboygan County, WI).

A 60-day public comment period runs from June 1 to July 30. A public meeting to explain the plan, including a forum for oral and written comments, will be Wednesday, June 30, 7 p.m., Rocca Meeting Room, Mead Public Library, 710 North 8th St., Sheboygan.

EPA's proposed cleanup plan addresses the site as five separate projects. For each, EPA evaluated a range of alternatives and recommended a cost-effective cleanup plan that protects human health and the environment. The five projects and cleanup proposals are:

- Upper River Sediment: Removal of 18,200 cubic yards of sediment-containing 93 percent of the Upper River's PCB's--from 26 highly contaminated areas (Alternative 3-IV-A).
- Middle River Sediment: Implementation of an extensive

monitoring program to determine the condition of the river and long-term potential human health impacts (Alternative 2).

- Lower River and Inner Harbor Sediment: Dredging of 100,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediment between the Pennsylvania Avenue Bridge and the Inner Harbor Mouth to ensure safe navigational depth (Alternative 5).
- Floodplain Soil: Removal of off-site disposal of soil containing PCB concentrations above 10 parts per million (Alternative 4).
- Ground Water: Additional investigation to determine the extent of the PCB contamination and the potential sources of the contamination (Alternative 2).

A detailed fact sheet that explains the site history, possible alternatives, and recommended plan is available at: [www.epa.gov/region5/](http://www.epa.gov/region5/). The fact sheet has also been mailed to interested citizens and officials, and will be available at the public meeting.

Information repositories, containing an archive of site documents and background, are located at the Mead Public Library and Sheboygan City Hall, 828 Center Ave., 2nd Floor. For more information, contact: Susan Pastor, Community Involvement Coordinator, 800-621-8431, or e-mail, [pastor@epa.gov](mailto:pastor@epa.gov).

The site includes the lower 14 miles of the river from the Sheboygan Falls Dam to, and including, the Inner Harbor. Within the site, at least 46 separate areas show contamination by PCB's, and to a lesser degree, heavy metals. This segment of the river runs through three communities-- Sheboygan Falls, Kohler, and Sheboygan, before flowing into Lake Michigan. Currently, a consumption advisory is in effect for certain species of Sheboygan River and Lake Michigan fish.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa145.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



Media Contact: Phillipa Cannon  
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For Immediate Release: May 24, 1999

No. 99-OPA146

## **EPA TO SAMPLE CHICAGO RIVER SEDIMENTS MAY 24 -28**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Research Vessel Mudpuppy will sample sediments in the North branch of the Chicago River (between North Ave. and Wilmette) from May 24 through 28. More sampling will take place later this summer. The sampling is being done to learn more about contaminant levels in river sediments. Call Phillipa Cannon at (312) 353-6218 for exact location of boat on specific days.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa146.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: May 28, 1999

No. 99-OPA147

## **EPA SUES ELMER'S CRANE & DOZER FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 recently filed suit in federal district court against Elmer's Crane and Dozer, Inc., (Traverse City, Michigan) for alleged violations of the Clean Air Act at three of the company's plants in Maple City, MI, and Karlin, MI.

EPA said that Elmer's Crane and Dozer failed to obtain the proper permits to install and operate the three plants. The company also failed to conduct timely and proper performance testing on its equipment, thus increasing the risk of particulate emissions.

"EPA is committed to enforcing clean air regulations to protect public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all steps necessary to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates has its greatest effect on children, the elderly, and people with heart and lung conditions. EPA seeks civil penalties of up to \$27,500 per day per violation.

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Last Updated: 6/17/99 16:38€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa147.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 1, 1999

No. 99-OPA148

## **REVISION TO RELEASE NO. 99-OPA121 EPA CITES PARIS CLEANERS FOR CLEAN AIR VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 issued a news release on April 29, 1999, which included a statement that perchloroethylene -- a hazardous air pollutant -- is also a volatile organic compound (VOC) that contributes to ozone formation.

In February 1996, EPA took perchloroethylene off its list of VOC's that contribute to ozone formation because it was found to have a very limited reaction to sunlight.

All chemical compounds removed from the list of VOC's that contribute to ozone formation can be found in the Code of Federal Regulations at 51 C.F.R. §51.100(s)(1).

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Last Updated: 6/1/99 15:08€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa148.htm>€





# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 1, 1999

No. 99-OPA149

## **EPA CITES WOODLAND PAVING FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Woodland Paving Co. for alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's asphalt plant, 3566 Millcreek Ave., Comstock Park, MI.

EPA said stack emissions testing in June 1998 showed that Woodland violated carbon monoxide emission limits in its installation permit.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Woodland has 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing clean-air regulations to protect public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

When carbon monoxide enters the bloodstream, it reduces delivery of oxygen to the body's organs and tissues. Exposure to high levels of carbon

monoxide can impair vision, hand movement, learning ability, and performance of complex tasks. Persons with heart disease have the greatest risk when exposed to this pollutant.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 3, 1999

No. 99-OPA151

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH NYLONGE; € INCLUDES \$17,812 FINE AND \$65,074 PROJECT€**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached an agreement with Nylonge Corp. on alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's sponge-making plant, 1301 Lowell St., Elyria, OH. The company will pay a \$17,812 penalty and spend \$65,074 on a pollution-cutting project.

The agreement resolves an EPA administrative complaint filed in December 1998 alleging Nylonge had operated from 1990 to 1995 without a proper permit.

The \$65,074 will pay for continuing operation of an existing caustic scrubber that will enable Nylonge to cut emissions beyond permit requirements in the summer for the next three years. The company will comply with permit limits through the use of biofiltration technology.

The scrubber will cut carbon disulfide emissions by about 20 percent and hydrogen sulfide emissions by as much as 90 percent. Carbon disulfide and hydrogen sulfide are hazardous air pollutants. Carbon disulfide is a volatile organic compound (VOC).

"Hazardous air pollutants are potentially a serious threat to human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with the regulations."

Breathing very high levels of carbon disulfide can be life threatening because of its effects on the nervous system. Breathing low levels for long periods may result in headaches, fatigue, insomnia, and nerve problems.

VOC's combine with other chemicals in the air to form ground-level ozone (smog). Ground-level ozone can cause breathing problems, reduced lung function, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and reduced resistance to colds and other infections. Ozone can also aggravate asthma and damage lung tissue. Children, the elderly, and people with lung diseases are the most sensitive to ozone exposure.

Exposure to high levels of hydrogen sulfide can be fatal to humans. Even at low concentrations, it can cause eye and mucous membrane irritation.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa151.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 4, 1999

No. 99-OPA152

## **EPA CITES BARRON AND FOREST GREEN METALS FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Don M. Barron Contractor, Inc., 408 Cedar St., Farmerville, LA, and Forest Green Metals and Recycling, 11298 Sebring Dr., Forest Park, OH, for alleged violations of Federal regulations to protect stratospheric ozone.

EPA said the companies improperly disposed of appliances containing ozone-depleting refrigerants during renovations at Forest Ridge Apartments and Town Homes, 5036 Hawaiian Ter., Cincinnati, OH.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Barron and Forest Green have 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with regulations to protect the stratospheric-ozone layer."

Chlorofluorocarbon refrigerants deplete the stratospheric, or "good," ozone layer, allowing dangerous, cancer-causing ultraviolet rays from the sun to strike the earth. Production of some of these chemicals was stopped in 1995, and now Federal law strictly controls their use and handling. Releasing them into the air is prohibited.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa152.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 4, 1999

No. 99-OPA153

## **EPA CITES HOLNAM FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Holnam Inc., for alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's cement plant, 15215 Day Rd., Dundee, MI.

EPA said emissions of particulates (dust, ash, smoke) from the plant's clinker coolers exceeded State limits. The violations were discovered during company stack tests.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Holnam has 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing clean-air regulations to protect public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can affect children, the elderly, and people with heart and lung diseases the most.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 14, 1999

No. 99-OPA154

## **EPA CITES TRI-K CYLINDER FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Tri-K Cylinder Service Inc., for alleged violations of Federal regulations on chromium--a hazardous air pollutant--at the company's electroplating plant, 4539 Wayne Rd., Springfield, MI.

EPA said Tri-K failed to comply with reporting, work practice, and testing requirements of Federal regulations for hard-chrome plating plants, which became effective Jan. 25, 1997.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Tri-K has 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing regulations for hazardous air pollutants, to protect public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is found in chromic acid mist released into the air as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 14, 1999

No. 99-OPA155

## **EPA CITES COLEMAN TRUCKING; INCLUDES \$55,000 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against Coleman Trucking, Inc. (3580 East 93rd St., Cleveland, OH), for alleged violations of Federal asbestos regulations during demolition of four houses in Canton, OH. A \$55,000 penalty has been proposed.

EPA said Coleman Trucking, an asbestos abatement company, used improper asbestos-removal procedures while demolishing the houses on April 7 and 8, 1997. The job was part of an Ohio Department of Transportation Route 30 extension project in Stark County.

The company has 30 days from receipt of the complaint to file an answer and request a hearing. It may request an informal conference with EPA at any time to discuss the allegations.

"EPA will take steps necessary to protect the public from the harmful effects of asbestos, a hazardous air pollutant," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We are committed to enforcing clean-air regulations to protect public health and the environment."

Asbestos is a known cancer-causing substance that can cause mesothelioma (a type of lung cancer) and asbestosis (a lung disease) many years after exposure.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 15, 1999

No. 99-OPA157

## **EPA TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARING IN CLEVELAND ON PROPOSED NEW STANDARDS FOR TAILPIPE EMISSIONS AND SULFUR IN GASOLINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will hold a public hearing in Cleveland Thursday, June 17, on a proposed major program to significantly cut emissions from cars, sport utility vehicles, minivans, and pickup trucks and to cut sulfur in gasoline.

The hearing will begin at 10 a.m. at the Holiday Inn Lakeside City Center, 1111 Lakeside Ave. A 30-minute press availability session will begin at 12:15 p.m.

Witnesses will include representatives of the auto and oil industries, State governments, environmental and public health groups, and the general public.

In a report to Congress in July 1998, EPA concluded that more stringent vehicle standards are needed to meet the ozone and particulate matter air quality standards, and that cost-effective technology would be available to meet the standards.

The Cleveland hearing will be the last of four held on the proposed new emission standards and gasoline sulfur content. Others were in

Philadelphia, Atlanta, and Denver.

Additional information on the proposal and methods of submitting comments is available at EPA's Worldwide Web site:

<http://www.epa.gov/oms/consumer/f99010.htm>.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 17, 1999

No. 99-OPA159

## **EPA: FINAL CLEANUP BEGINS AT TRI-COUNTY/ELGIN LANDFILLS SITE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today that final cleanup at the Tri County/Elgin Landfills Superfund site (South Elgin, IL) has begun. Residents and local businesses can expect to see construction equipment, increased vehicle traffic, and workers in required protective clothing through late fall or possibly next spring.

The 66-acre site comprises two adjacent landfills bordering Cook, DuPage, and Kane Counties, two-thirds of a mile southeast of the Village of South Elgin.

Tri-County Landfill was part of a gravel mining operation prior to the 1940's, and a solid waste landfill from 1968 to 1976. The existing landfill cover was installed in 1981. The Elgin Landfill property was a sand and gravel mining operation until the late 1950's. Waste disposal at the site began in 1961 and continued until 1976.

The final cleanup is based on a plan approved by EPA in 1992, and revised, based on new data, in 1996. It includes:

- Excavation of contaminated soil and sediment from a 1-acre wetland south of the Tri-County site. The soil will then be consolidated on the Tri-County site.
- Installation of a landfill gas extraction system and a new perimeter

fence.

- Construction of an asphalt cap for the Elgin Landfill portion of the site.
- Evaluation of the effectiveness of natural attenuation--natural cleansing of the contaminated groundwater--over a 5-year period, following construction of the landfill cap and gas collection system.
- Institutional controls, such as deed restrictions limiting future use of the property.

The work, expected to cost about \$16 million, is being done under an Unilateral Administrative Order by the two responsible parties, Browning Ferris Industries of Illinois and Waste Management of Illinois.

A copy of the cleanup plan and other site documents are available for review at the Gail Borden Public Library, 200 North Grove Ave., Elgin. For more information, call Gordon Blum, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator, 312-353-8501, or e-mail: [blum.gordon@epa.gov](mailto:blum.gordon@epa.gov)

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa159.htm>€





# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 16, 1999

No. 99-OPA160

## **EPA GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE LECTURE TO FEATURE CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND CHICAGO PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT. OFFICIALS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today that public health officials from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) in Atlanta and the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) will speak on "Climate Change and Public Health" at 10 a.m. Thursday, June 24, at EPA's Chicago office.

The speakers are Dr. Michael A. McGeehin, chief of the Health Studies Branch of the CDC's National Center for Environmental Health, and Dr. John Wilhelm, deputy commissioner of the CDPH.

This is the second of a series of EPA regional lectures on global climate change. The lecture will be held at EPA Region 5, 77 West Jackson Blvd., Lake Michigan Rm., 12th Flr.

In 1990, Congress established the U.S. Global Climate Change Research Program and required a national assessment of the impacts of climate change and climate variability. Human health is a key part of the assessment.

Dr. McGeehin is co-chair of this assessment. He will discuss the national

assessment and the investigation into the possible relationship between climate change and water-borne disease, heat-related disease and death, insect-borne disease, air pollution-related respiratory effects, and injury and illness from extreme weather.

Dr. Wilhelm will discuss the 1995 Chicago heat wave. He will describe what happened, how the city responded, lessons learned, and how Chicago is preparing for current and future heat waves.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa160.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 16, 1999

No. 99-OPA161

## **EPA CITES ELECTROLIZING CORP.; INCLUDES \$54,332 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against Electrolizing Corp. of Ohio for alleged violations of Federal regulations on chromium--a hazardous air pollutant--at the company's electroplating plant, 1325 East 152nd St., Cleveland, OH. A \$54,332 penalty has been proposed.

EPA said Electrolizing did not properly operate its continuous monitoring equipment. In addition, the company did not do timely performance testing on its hard chrome plating tanks.

Electrolizing has until July 6 to file an answer and request a hearing. It may request an informal conference with EPA to discuss the allegations anytime.

"Hazardous air pollutants are potentially a serious threat to human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the regulations."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous, cancer-causing substance, is

found in chromic acid mist released into the air as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa161.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 16, 1999

No. 99-OPA162

## **EPA CITES CSC FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited CSC, Ltd., for alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's steel mini-mill, 4000 Mahoning Ave., Warren, OH.

EPA said emissions from CSC's boiler stack house exceeded limits for opacity, or the amount of light obscured by particulates (smoke, dust, ash), during State inspections done in July, August, September, and October 1996.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. CSC has 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations."

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can affect children, the elderly, and people with heart and lung diseases the most.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa162.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 16, 1999

No. 99-OPA163

## **EPA CITES WISCONSIN COLOR PRESS FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Wisconsin Color Press, Inc., for alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's printing plant, 5400 West Good Hope Rd., Milwaukee, WI.

EPA said Wisconsin Color Press failed to do timely compliance emission tests on devices controlling ozone-forming volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions from four lithographic printing presses. In addition, the company failed to submit timely written compliance certification.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Wisconsin Color Press has 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"Metropolitan Milwaukee suffers from high levels of ozone during hot summer days," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "EPA enforcement of VOC emission regulations protects public health by cutting these ozone levels."

VOC's combine in the atmosphere with other chemicals to form ground-level ozone, which can cause breathing problems, reduced lung function, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and reduced resistance to colds and other infections. Ozone can aggravate asthma and damage lung tissue. Children, the elderly, and people with chronic respiratory diseases are the most sensitive. Ozone can also damage crops and trees.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa163.htm>€





# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 22, 1999

No. 99-OPA164

## **EPA, IDEM TO HOLD MEETING ON RHODIA HAZARDOUS WASTE PERMITS JULY 22; PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD BEGINS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 and Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) will hold a meeting to discuss proposed Federal and State hazardous waste permits to be issued to Rhodia Co., Inc. (formerly Rhone-Poulenc), Hammond, IN.

The meeting will be Thursday, July 22, 7 to 9 p.m., Ramada Inn, 4141 Calumet Ave., Hammond. A public comment period, which includes the public meeting, runs June 21 through August 6.

The Federal permit will allow Rhodia to receive and store hazardous waste at the Hammond facility, and to burn the waste in its industrial furnace, according to conditions specified in the permit. Comments on the proposed Federal permit may be sent to Jae Lee, Waste Pesticides and Toxics Division, Waste Management Branch (DW-8J), U.S. EPA Region 5, 77 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL, 60604, or e-mail, [lee.jae@epa.gov](mailto:lee.jae@epa.gov).

The State permit requires Rhodia to conduct soil, and if warranted, ground-water sampling, in areas of the facility where the company historically released, or may have released, hazardous wastes. The State permit also requires the company to comply with air emission standards for equipment

leaks. Comments on the State permit may be sent to: Ruth Jean, Solid and Hazardous Waste Division, IDEM, 100 North Senate Ave., P.O. Box 6015, Indianapolis, IN, 46206-6015, or email: [rjean@dem.state.in.us](mailto:rjean@dem.state.in.us).

An EPA fact sheet, which will be distributed at the meeting, is also available from Noemi Emeric, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator, 312-886-0995 or 800-621-8431, or e-mail, [emeric.noemi@epa.gov](mailto:emeric.noemi@epa.gov). The fact sheet, as well as copies of both draft permits, is available for review at Hammond Public Library, Reference Section, 564 State St. The Administrative record for the Rhodia facility may be reviewed at EPA's Chicago office and IDEM's Indianapolis office.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 18, 1999

No. 99-OPA165

## **EPA CITES ARENA AUTO FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Arena Auto (753 Lombardi Ave., Green Bay, WI) for alleged violations of Federal regulations to protect stratospheric ozone.

EPA said Arena Auto charged at least one vehicle not retrofitted with appropriate fittings with McCool Chill-It between June 30 and August 31, 1998. Arena Auto also failed to use warning labels on the vehicle charged with McCool Chill-It. McCool Chill-It is an ozone-depleting refrigerant substitute blend.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Arena Auto has 10 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take the necessary steps to ensure compliance with regulations to protect the stratospheric-ozone layer."

Chlorofluorocarbon refrigerants deplete the stratospheric, or "good," ozone layer, allowing dangerous, cancer-causing ultraviolet rays from the sun to strike the earth. Production of some of these chemicals was stopped in 1995, and now Federal law strictly controls their use and handling. Releasing them into the air is prohibited.

Information on compliance with the refrigerant recycling rule is available on the Worldwide Web at: [www.epa.gov/ozone/](http://www.epa.gov/ozone/) under the heading "Stationary Refrigerant & AC."

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa165.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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Legal Contact: Karl Karg  
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For Immediate Release: June 18, 1999

No. 99-OPA166

## **EPA CITES BP CHEMICALS FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited BP Chemicals, Inc., for alleged violation of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's plant on Ft. Amanda Rd., Lima, OH.

EPA said BP Chemicals began building a unit to make butanediol -- a hazardous air pollutant -- before its permit to prevent significant deterioration of air quality in the area became effective.

Companies must get this kind of permit before they can build or modify air-pollution sources in areas that already meet national health-based air quality standards for all air pollutants.

This is a preliminary finding of violation. To resolve it, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. BP Chemicals has 30 days to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegation and how to resolve it.

"Hazardous air pollutants are potentially serious threats to human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the

regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with the regulations."

Butanediol is suspected to be toxic to the nervous system and to the heart and blood.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa166.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 21, 1999

No. 99-OPA167

## **EPA AWARDS \$200,000 BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT GRANT TO ROCKFORD, IL**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 today awarded a \$200,000 Brownfield Assessment Pilot Grant to the City of Rockford, IL, to conduct environmental assessments in underutilized industrial areas.

EPA and local officials announced the grant at the Reed-Chatwood site (formerly known as the Barber-Coleman factory), which lies within Rockford's State-designated Enterprise Zone--a 9.2 square mile area targeted for development and commercial investment.

Rockford will use the grant to investigate potential environmental contamination and develop cleanup strategies at three "brownfield" properties: Reed-Chatwood, and the South Main and Short Elm Railroad

Yards. The funds will also be used to identify and inventory additional sites with redevelopment potential and to establish a Brownfield Advisory Board with representatives from neighborhood groups, local businesses and government agencies.

"Brownfield assessment grants, which will be enhanced by the Administration's Better America Bonds concept, are an important tool to help communities identify where their environmental challenges and opportunities intersect," said Regional Administrator Francis X. Lyons. "Rockford is an ideal city to lead the way with creative solutions to the interrelated problems of underutilized brownfields, urban sprawl, and community redevelopment."

"This grant helps Rockford take another major step in improving environmental conditions and sustaining our local economy," said Rockford Mayor Charles E. Box. "The Reed-Chatwood site, in particular, provides a perfect showcase for the mix of cleanup, redevelopment, and architectural preservation embodied in a strong, livable community."

Better America Bonds, a proposed financing tool that encompasses a broad spectrum of livability issues, would provide \$9.5 billion in interest-free bonding authority for communities to set their own priorities, make their own decisions, and manage growth as they see fit.

The site assessment grant is one of 57 awarded nationally today, totaling about \$11.4 million. The grants provide funds to support demonstration projects that seed the growth of new businesses and transit facilities, and preserve urban green spaces.

In the 6 states that comprise EPA Region 5, 11 grants were awarded. Since 1995, U.S. EPA's Brownfield program has provided more than 300 grants, totaling about \$69 million, to cities and development agencies across the country.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 21, 1999

No. 99-OPA169

## **EPA SEEKS COMMENTS ON CHANGES TO CLEANUP PLAN AT NEW LYME LANDFILL SITE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5 is seeking public comments on a proposed change in the cleanup plan for contaminated soil and ground water at the New Lyme Landfill Superfund site, New Lyme Township, Ashtabula County, OH. A 30-day comment period runs from June 21 to July 21.

The site was a landfill from 1969 to 1978, receiving residential, commercial, and industrial wastes, including paint, oil, coal tar, resins, and chemicals. An EPA cleanup plan for the site was approved in 1985, with work completed in 1990. Since then, the responsible parties have maintained a landfill gas control system, a ground-water pump-and-treatment system, and ground-water monitoring wells.

Based on new monitoring data, EPA has determined that the original cleanup plan lowered the water table, but has not completely removed the liquid waste collected within the landfill. Thus, EPA proposes to continue monitoring the site with a new focus on examining existing well groupings, and to discontinue operation of the ground-water treatment system. If necessary--based on future monitoring data--extraction wells and a new ground-water treatment system may be added at a later date.

The proposed change remains protective of human health and the environment, complies with State and Federal laws, and is cost-effective.

Written comments must be postmarked by July 21. They should be sent to: Susan Pastor, Community Involvement Coordinator, U.S. EPA (P-19J), 77 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60604. E-mail: [pastor.susan@epa.gov](mailto:pastor.susan@epa.gov). EPA will consider all comments received before making a final decision and, if there is significant interest, hold a public meeting.

Copies of the plan and other site documents are available for review at Henderson Memorial Public Library, 54 East Jefferson St., Jefferson. An administrative record, containing detailed information upon which the selection of the amended cleanup plan will be based, is located at the EPA Region 5 office in Chicago.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 22, 1999

No. 99-OPA170

## **EPA CITES GATX TERMINALS FOR CHEMICAL RELEASE REPORTING VIOLATIONS; PROPOSES \$78,257 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against GATX Terminals Corp. (Argo, IL) for violation of Federal laws on the reporting of hazardous chemical releases on two separate occasions. EPA has proposed a \$78,257 fine.

EPA alleged that on October 29, 1996, the company failed to promptly report the release of 56,631 lb of vinyl acetate. All vinyl acetate releases over 5,000 lb must be reported immediately to the National Response Center and the State and local emergency planning committees. EPA alleges that GATX notified the various agencies between 16 hours and 6 days after the incident.

The release occurred when a chemical pipeline was punctured during a high-wind storm and overflowed into a dirt containment area. About 12,000 lb of the chemical then washed into the on-site sewer system and from there, into the water treatment system managed by the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago.

The second incident occurred on February 10, 1999, when 11,630 lb of styrene leaked out of a storage tank and into a dirt containment area-- though this time the material did not leave the facility's boundaries. All releases of styrene above 1,000 lb must be reported immediately. With this incident, GATX reported the release to the appropriate agencies between 2 and 4 hours after the situation was discovered.

"Compliance with the chemical reporting laws is critical, because fire departments, hospitals, and other authorities must have the necessary information to respond appropriately when a release occurs," said regional Superfund director William Munro. "Public health, as well as the environment, is at stake."

Vinyl acetate can cause severe injury to the skin and eyes, and can cause irritation to the nasal passages and headaches. Prolonged exposure may cause lung damage. Styrene can cause skin and respiratory irritation. Repeated inhalation may cause liver damage.

Since 1989, EPA Region 5 has filed 211 separate complaints for hazardous chemical reporting violations, resulting in 200 settlements with \$4.79 million in total fines and \$3.09 million in environmental projects. For fiscal year 1999, EPA Region 5 has filed 19 cases and resolved 26.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 21, 1999

No. 99-OPA171

## **EPA CITES CHICAGO SPECIALTIES FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Chicago Specialties, LLC, for alleged violations of Federal and State clean-air regulations at the company's chemical-manufacturing plant, 735 East 115th St., Chicago.

Chicago Specialties makes several chemicals, including para-cresol, a chemical used in the production of antioxidants and food preservatives. The para-cresol production process emits several hazardous air pollutants, including toluene and other volatile organic compounds (VOC's).

EPA cited Chicago Specialties for:

- operating its para-cresol manufacturing process during breakdown or malfunction of the afterburner pollution control equipment;
- failing to maintain the afterburner at the required temperature;
- failing to comply with Federal standards that the plant became subject to because of increased hazardous air pollutant emissions

caused by the afterburner breakdowns and malfunctions;

- failing to control VOC emissions from the para-cresol operation by 90 percent at all times; and
- causing, threatening, or allowing the discharge or emission of contaminants into the air which tend to cause air pollution.

These are preliminary findings of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Chicago Specialties has 30 days from receipt of the findings to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing regulations for hazardous air pollutants to protect public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

VOC's combine in the air with other chemicals on warm, sunny days to form ground-level ozone, or smog. Metropolitan Chicago is unable to meet the health-based standard for ozone.

Ground-level ozone can cause breathing problems, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and can aggravate asthma. It can reduce lung function and resistance to colds and other infections, and may permanently damage lung tissue.

Breathing high levels of toluene affects the brain and can cause headaches, confusion, dizziness, sleepiness, and memory loss.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 21, 1999

No. 99-OPA172

## **EPA CITES ALBERTO CULVER FOR € HAZARDOUS WASTE VIOLATIONS€**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently issued an administrative complaint and order to Alberto Culver USA, Inc. (Melrose Park, IL), for illegally and improperly storing hazardous wastes, in violation of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. EPA has proposed a \$164,544 penalty.

During a February 1999 inspection, EPA observed eight 55-gallon drums that had been stored without a permit in the company's hazardous waste storage area longer than 180 days. Several of the drums were not dated, and the storage area was not easily accessible to EPA inspectors. In addition, EPA alleges that the company did not do the required weekly inspections.

EPA has ordered Alberto Culver to stop storing hazardous waste without a permit, submit a plan to close the storage area, and carry out the plan once it is approved.

"Improperly storing hazardous wastes may endanger workers, the public, and the environment," said Robert Springer, director of the regional Waste, Pesticides, and Toxics Division.

The company must respond to EPA within 30 days and may request either a hearing to contest the allegations or a meeting to settle the complaint.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 22, 1999

No. 99-OPA173

## **EPA CITES MUNCIE PRECISION HARD CHROME FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Muncie Precision Hard Chrome, Inc., for alleged violations of Federal regulations on chromium--a hazardous air pollutant--at the company's electroplating plant, 1001 East 18th St., Muncie, IN.

EPA said Muncie Precision Hard Chrome, which operates two hard-chrome electroplating tanks at the plant, violated the chromium emission limit. In addition, the company failed to do a timely performance test and failed to follow the requirements of an administrative order issued to it by EPA in November 1998.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. The company has 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing regulations for hazardous air pollutants," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies

comply with the Clean Air Act."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous, cancer-causing substance, is found in chromic acid mist released into the air as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 23, 1999

No. 99-OPA174

## **EPA CITES CALUMET STEEL FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Calumet Steel Co. for alleged violation of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's steel mini-mill, 311 East 11th St., Chicago Heights, IL.

EPA said particulate (dust, ash, smoke) emissions from Calumet Steel's melt shop and cast house exceeded the State standard during an emissions test done last March at EPA's request.

This is a preliminary finding of violation. To resolve it, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Calumet Steel has requested a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegation and how to resolve it.

"EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations."

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can affect children, the

elderly, and people with heart and lung diseases the most.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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Media Contact: Jennifer Ostermeier  
(312) 353-0618

For Immediate Release: October 28, 1999

No. 99-OPA311

## **EPA COMPLETES 5-YEAR REVIEW OF KENTWOOD LANDFILL**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently completed a status review of the Kentwood Landfill Superfund site, Kentwood, MI.

The Superfund law requires regular reviews (at least every 5 years) of sites where the cleanup has been completed. EPA's review confirmed that the pretreatment system and the ground water-leachate systems are properly functioning.

The 72-acre site, 4900 Walma Rd. (about 2 miles southeast of Grand Rapids), is bordered by Kentwood city municipal buildings, a church, and a low-density residential area to the south.

The cleanup plan consisted of excavating topsoil, capping the soil, installing treatment system to clean the ground water, and continuous monitoring of any leachate and ground water.

EPA concluded that cleanup at the Kentwood Landfill continues to protect human health and the environment. Some areas for improvement were noted. These will be dealt with by December 1999, through discussions

with EPA, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, City of Kentwood, and Kent County.

A copy of the cleanup plan, the 5-year review report, and other site documents are available for review at the Cadillac-Westford Library, 411 South Lake St., Cadillac, MI. Community members with questions may contact Jennifer Ostermeier, Community Involvement Coordinator, (P-19J), U.S. EPA Region 5, 77 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL. 60604, 800-621-8431 x. 30618, fax 312-353-1155, E-mail:[ostermeier.jennifer@epa.gov](mailto:ostermeier.jennifer@epa.gov).

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Last Updated: 11/3/99 14:44€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa311.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 24, 1999

No. 99-OPA176

## **EPA PREPARES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING AT FIELDS BROOK SITE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today that follow-up contamination sampling at the Fields Brook Superfund site (Ashtabula, OH) will begin late this week and continue through late July.

The sampling work will focus on identifying areas of radionuclide contamination in the brook sediment, along with nearby floodplain soils, for subsequent excavation. The effort will address the portion of the brook adjacent to the Millenium plant #2 area, State Road at Middle Road, down to where the brook flows through residential neighborhoods. The sampling crews performing the work will wear required protective clothing.

Based on previous screening and sampling of the brook in 1998, EPA does not anticipate that the radionuclide contamination extends to the portion of Fields Brook that flows through residential neighborhoods.

EPA will make the sampling results available to local residents and businesses as soon as they are available--most likely in late August. A public meeting, to discuss a variety of issues related to the site, will be scheduled for July.

Fields Brook's 4-mile main channel flows through an industrialized section of Ashtabula and then through residential neighborhoods before it reaches the Ashtabula River. Historical discharges and runoff from the industrial areas have contaminated the site's soils and sediment with PCB's, chlorinated benzenes and solvents, low-level radionuclides, and other hazardous substances.

For additional Fields Brook site information, please contact Denise Gawlinski, EPA community involvement coordinator, 800-621-8431.

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Page maintained by: [Kristen Tyrpin](#), Office of Public Affairs

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 25, 1999

No. 99-OPA177

## **EPA CITES CDT LANDFILL FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited CDT Landfill Corp. for alleged violations of Federal clean-air regulations at the company's municipal solid waste landfill, 2851 Mound Rd., Joliet, IL.

EPA said CDT failed to submit a report on nonmethane organic compound (volatile organic compound or VOC) emission rates, submit a gas collection and emission control system design plan on time, and apply for a Clean Air Act program permit.

Clean Air Act regulations for municipal solid waste landfills became effective May 30, 1996, for landfills that started construction, reconstruction, or modifications, or began taking waste on or after May 30, 1991.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. CDT has 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations."

VOC's combine in the air with other chemicals on warm days to form ground-level ozone, which can cause breathing problems, reduced lung function, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and reduced resistance to colds and other infections. Ozone can aggravate asthma and damage lung tissue. Children, the elderly, and people with chronic respiratory diseases are the most sensitive. Ozone can also damage crops and trees.

Joliet is in the Chicago metropolitan area--an area that currently does not meet the health-based standard for ground-level ozone.

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Last Updated: 6/28/99 11:15

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa177.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 25, 1999

No. 99-OPA178

## **EPA CITES K-T CORP. FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited K-T Corp. for alleged violations of Federal clean-air regulations at the company's facility, 850 Elston Dr., Shelbyville, IN.

K-T operates a batch vapor cleaning machine, installed in 1963, that uses perchloroethylene--a hazardous air pollutant--as a cleaning solvent. The machine had to comply with EPA regulations no later than Dec. 2, 1997.

EPA said that, in addition to exceeding its allowable emissions of perchloroethylene since Dec. 2, 1997, K-T failed to:

- ensure that the cleaning machine was designed or operated to achieve the required reduced room draft;
- monitor each of the machine's control devices;
- determine the potential to emit from all solvent-cleaning operations;

- maintain records; and
- submit proper notifications, annual reports, and reports of exceedances.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. K-T has 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"Hazardous air pollutants are potentially a serious threat to human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the regulations."

Short-term exposure to high concentrations of perchloroethylene--especially in poorly ventilated areas--can cause dizziness, light-headedness, nausea, kidney problems, confusion, difficulty in speaking and walking, and loss of consciousness. Long-term exposure can damage the liver and nervous system. Perchloroethylene is a probable low-hazard, cancer-causing agent in humans.

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Last Updated: 6/28/99 11:18€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa178.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 28, 1999

No. 99-OPA179

## **EPA CITES PRINT FLEX FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Print Flex, Inc., for alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's printing plant, 1045 Entry Dr., Bensenville, IL.

EPA said Print Flex built and operated four printing lines at the plant that emit volatile organic compounds (VOC's) without getting a permit and without proving that the lines emitted VOC's at the lowest achievable rate. The plant is in the Chicago metropolitan area, which does not meet the health-based standard for ground-level ozone, a byproduct of VOC's.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. EPA met with Print Flex on June 23 to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations."

VOC's combine in the air with other chemicals on warm summer days to form ground-level ozone, which can cause breathing problems, reduced lung function, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and reduced resistance to colds and other infections. Ozone can aggravate asthma and damage lung tissue. Children, the elderly, and people with chronic respiratory diseases are the most sensitive. Ozone can also damage crops and trees.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 29, 1999

No. 99-OPA181

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH ILLINOIS CEMENT; INCLUDES \$41,250 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with Illinois Cement Co. on alleged violations of Federal regulations on particulates (dust) at the company's cement plant and quarry, 1601 Rockwell Rd., LaSalle, IL. A \$41,250 penalty has been assessed.

In March, EPA filed an administrative complaint against Illinois Cement, alleging that dust levels from the crusher discharge conveyor and a conveyor transfer point at the quarry--as well as from a conveyor transfer point at the cement plant--exceeded Federal standards for opacity (the amount of light obscured) during an October 1998 inspection.

EPA said dust levels from a conveyor transfer point at the cement plant also exceeded Federal standards for opacity during a March 1999 inspection.

"EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations."

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can affect children, the elderly, and people with heart and lung conditions the most.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa181.htm>€





# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 29, 1999

No. 99-OPA183

## **EPA ORDERS DSC TO PROTECT BIRDS FROM OIL ON FORMER MCLOUTH STEEL SITE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently ordered DSC, Ltd. -- owner of the former McLouth Steel Products Corp. property on West Jefferson Ave. in Gibraltar, MI -- to protect migratory birds from oil waste on the site.

On April 9, 1999, a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service employee found 15 dead or dying migratory birds in the Tandem Mill Pond on the property. The birds had been exposed to oil wastes. DSC took immediate steps to stop the exposure by cleaning the oil off the pond. EPA has met with the company to discuss the source of the oil and to develop a long-term plan to protect wildlife at the site. The company has also been working with the Michigan Dept. Of Environmental Quality to develop plans for cleaning up the entire property, including Tandem Mill Pond.

Under Federal law, EPA can issue orders to protect human health and the environment from imminent and substantial danger.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 29, 1999

No. 99-OPA184

## **EPA CITES LACLEDE STEEL FOR HAZARDOUS WASTE VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently issued an administrative complaint to Laclede Steel Co. (Alton, IL) for hazardous waste violations and has proposed a \$109,189 civil penalty.

EPA alleges that in July 1998, an inspector observed dust from the facility's electric arc furnace (baghouse dust) accumulating on the ground, in violation of hazardous waste disposal regulations.

EPA has ordered the company to meet all hazardous waste disposal requirements, submit a plan to Illinois EPA to cleanup and properly dispose of hazardous wastes, and carryout that plan once it is approved.

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For Immediate Release: June 30, 1999

No. 99-OPA185

## **NEXT STEP IN FOX RIVER CLEANUP: EPA SUBMITS PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION TO NATIONAL REMEDY REVIEW BOARD**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5, in cooperation with its five intergovernmental partners, today submitted a preliminary cleanup recommendation for Wisconsin's Lower Fox River to EPA's national Remedy Review Board.

This material will not be submitted for public review.

The EPA Remedy Review Board process is an internal peer review for all proposed cleanups of more than \$30 million. The board, composed of senior Superfund managers and technical experts from EPA headquarters and regional offices, meets regularly to review major projects for technical feasibility, cost-effectiveness, and consistency with other Superfund sites nationally and EPA policy.

"Submittal of EPA's preliminary recommendation is an important procedural step that ensures that the final cleanup plan has absolute integrity and a technical foundation upon which to proceed to a final cleanup plan, to which we would hope all stakeholders could agree," said

Regional Administrator Francis X. Lyons.

"The material submitted to the review board is not, by any means, a final EPA plan for the Fox River, nor does it mean the Fox will be designated as an official Superfund site. However, for the purposes of an internal review, the material submitted to the Remedy Review Board does include a plausible cleanup plan for consideration. The range of costs for this plan approximates the work previously developed by Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources."

The Remedy Review Board will meet in late July to discuss current proposals, including the preliminary Fox cleanup plan, and will provide EPA Region 5 and its partner agencies with advisory recommendations by early September. The comments will then be discussed with the partner agencies and considered for the proposed cleanup plan. The proposed cleanup plan will be presented to the public in early 2000, in conjunction with a 60-day comment period and several public meetings.

As required by the Remedy Review Board process, both the potentially responsible parties (Fox River Group) and the technical assistance grant group (Clean Water Action Council) have been notified that they may summarize in writing any concerns or issues that they believe important to the board's review of the issues.

The material submitted to the Remedy Review Board does not address financial issues associated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Natural Resources Damage Assessment.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 30, 1999

No. 99-OPA186

## **EPA, GENERAL IRON REACH AGREEMENT TO STOP REFRIGERANT RELEASES**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached an agreement with General Iron Industries, Inc., that requires the company to stop all releases of refrigerants at the company's scrap-processing yard, 1909 North Clifton Ave., Chicago.

EPA issued a cease and desist order to General Iron on May 28, after refrigerant releases from appliances processed at the scrap yard were discovered.

Under the agreement, General Iron will begin scrap-handling procedures to stop the release of refrigerants from appliances. The company will keep accurate records of these activities and report them to EPA each month for six months.

"EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take the necessary steps to ensure compliance with regulations to protect the stratospheric-ozone layer."

Chlorofluorocarbon refrigerants deplete the stratospheric, or "good,"

ozone layer, allowing dangerous, cancer-causing ultraviolet rays from the sun to strike the earth. Production of some of these chemicals was stopped in 1995, and now Federal law strictly controls their use and handling. Releasing them into the air is prohibited.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 30, 1999

No. 99-OPA187

## **EPA CITES ADM FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Archer Daniels Midland Co. (ADM) for alleged violations of Federal and State clean-air regulations at the company's complex, 4666 Faries Parkway, Decatur, IL.

EPA said ADM made a major modification to its East Corn Plant without first getting a permit to prevent significant deterioration of air quality in the area. Companies must get this kind of permit before they can build or modify major air-pollution sources in areas that already meet national health-based air quality standards for all air pollutants.

ADM also exceeded limits on opacity, or the amount of light obscured by particulates (dust), from the East Corn Plant.

In addition, ADM violated requirements of its construction permit at its De-oiled Lecithin Plant, and it failed to meet requirements for pressure-relief devices that control volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions from its Denatured Alcohol Plant.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit



against the company. ADM has 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with the Clean Air Act to protect human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division.

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can affect children, the elderly, or those with heart and lung conditions the most.

VOC's combine in the air with other chemicals on warm summer days to form ground-level ozone, which can cause breathing problems, reduced lung function, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and reduced resistance to colds and other infections. Ozone can aggravate asthma and damage lung tissue. Children, the elderly, and people with chronic respiratory diseases are the most sensitive. Ozone can also damage crops and trees.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 30, 1999

No. 99-OPA180

## **EPA, MPCA, WASHINGTON COUNTY, AND ANDERSEN CORPORATION SIGN FIRST PROJECT XL "REGULATORY" AGREEMENT IN MINNESOTA**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA); Washington County, MN; and Andersen Corporation today signed a unique regulatory flexibility agreement. The signing ceremony was held at the Andersen Bayport, MN, facility, and was followed by a plant tour. The company manufactures energy-efficient windows and patio doors.

The agreement, developed under EPA's Project XL ("eXcellence and Leadership") is the first of its kind in Minnesota. Project XL, coordinated by EPA's Washington, DC, Office of Reinvention, seeks to test new approaches for meeting environmental goals and responsibilities. The Andersen project is the 13th XL agreement signed to date, with more than two dozen additional projects now under discussion with interested businesses and Federal, State, and local agencies.

The Andersen XL project will test an innovative performance-ratio measurement based on volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions per

standard measure of production. The new approach is designed to encourage continued expansion of the company's low-emission environmentally-sensitive production methods and processes, while discouraging high-emission solvent-based coating and wood preservative methods. At the same time, the approach allows the company to pursue even greater production efficiencies and emissions improvements, as well as increased production levels.

"EPA and its State agency partners are very excited about the potential benefits programs like XL can offer," said EPA Regional Administrator Francis X. Lyons. "We look forward to seeing continual improvement in Andersen's environmental partnership that benefits all Minnesota citizens."

"Our business and the environment will benefit directly under Project XL because Andersen will operate with more flexibility under new environmental limits set by our unique performance ratio," said Andersen President and CEO Donald L. Garofalo. "In fact, over time, the performance ratio requires continually better environmental performance on our part--a point that benefits all of us: Andersen, our employees, the community, and the environment."

Significantly, early in the XL development process, Andersen convened a community advisory committee to relate the concerns of local residents and to forge a link between the company and those most affected by its environmental performance. The committee will continue to meet on a regular basis.

Over the next 6 months, MPCA will develop a draft air emissions permit for Andersen, which will incorporate the requirements of the agreement. Following a public comment period (and possible revisions), MPCA will issue the permit and Andersen will begin to operate under the new XL regulatory structure. The permit will include monitoring and reporting requirements, which form the basis for ongoing evaluation of the company's performance.

Andersen, established in 1903, has previously been honored by EPA as 1998 and 1999 Outstanding Energy Star Homes Manufacturer Ally. The company's products have also been certified by Green Seal, an independent, non-profit organization, in recognition of high energy efficiency and related environmental benefits.

More information on Project XL is online at: [www.epa.gov/ProjectXL](http://www.epa.gov/ProjectXL).

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 30, 1999

No. 99-OPA188

## **EPA: ELI LILLY, DOW AGROSCIENCES RECEIVE GREEN CHEMISTRY AWARDS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) today announced that it has selected two Indianapolis companies -- Eli Lilly and Co. and Dow AgroSciences LLC -- to receive the 1999 Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge Awards. EPA Deputy Administrator Peter Robertson presented the awards in Washington, DC June 28.

EPA recognized scientists at Eli Lilly for developing a new manufacturing process for a central-nervous-system drug that eliminates chromium from the waste stream and reduces the amount of chemical solvents used in the process.

Dow AgroSciences was recognized for developing Spinosad, an insecticide that poses little risk to the environment. The insecticide is produced from a naturally occurring microorganism and targets chewing pests in cotton, trees, fruits, and vegetables -- without harming the most beneficial insects, animals, or birds.

President Clinton established the Green Chemistry Challenge Awards in 1995 to promote pollution prevention and industrial ecology. This year, a panel selected by the American Chemical Society chose four companies and one individual from among 100 entries to receive the awards.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: July 1, 1999

No. 99-OPA182

## **EPA TO SPONSOR THREE "INTRODUCTION TO SUPERFUND" WORKSHOPS, JULY 26-28; PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 will sponsor three "Introduction to Superfund" workshops in the Fox Valley area, July 26-28. The workshops are free, but space is limited and pre-registration is required.

The workshops---which EPA sponsors periodically at sites or proposed sites where community interest is considerable--cover general topics about the Federal Superfund statute and process. Questions that will be addressed include: "How does a contaminated site get on the Superfund National Priorities List?," "What criteria does EPA use in evaluating cleanup options?," "How can citizens get involved?," and "Who is responsible for paying for the cleanup?"

EPA staff leading the workshops will be separate from those working on the intergovernmental effort to clean up Wisconsin's Lower Fox River. The information presented will be of a general nature, and applicable to any cleanup project where Superfund is involved.

The workshops will be offered:

- Monday, July 26, 6 to 10 p.m., Brown County Library, 515 Pine

St., Green Bay.

- Tuesday, July 27, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Paper Valley Hotel, 333 West College Ave., Appleton (includes a lunch break).
- Wednesday, July 28, 8 a.m. to noon, Paper Valley Hotel.

Each of the workshops will present the same information, but the longer session on Tuesday, July 27, includes more interactive exercises.

Registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis. To register, call EPA's contractor: Deb Volkmer, Roy F. Weston Inc., 610-701-5178, fax, 610-701-7401, or e-mail, [volkmerd@mail.rfweston.com](mailto:volkmerd@mail.rfweston.com).

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Last Updated: 7/1/99 13:04€

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: July 6, 1999

No. 99-OPA196

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH POOR RICHARD ENTERPRISES; INCLUDES \$47,000 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with Poor Richard Enterprises on alleged violations of Federal regulations on asbestos--a hazardous air pollutant--at the company's waste-transfer site, 400 Whitall St., St. Paul, MN. A \$47,000 penalty was assessed.

EPA filed an administrative complaint against Poor Richard Enterprises in 1995 alleging the company discharged visible emissions into the air while handling asbestos-containing waste material generated by the company, and failed to use an emission treatment method required by EPA regulations.

EPA also said the company failed to properly dispose of asbestos-containing material at a waste disposal site operated according to Federal standards.

"EPA will take steps necessary to protect the public from the harmful effects of asbestos," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the

regional Air and Radiation Division. "We are committed to enforcing clean-air regulations to protect public health and the environment."

Asbestos is a known cancer-causing substance that can cause mesothelioma (a type of lung cancer) and asbestosis (a lung disease) many years after exposure.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: July 6, 1999

No. 99-OPA197

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH NORTHPORTE DEVELOPMENT; INCLUDES \$13,000 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with Northporte Development, Inc. (315 East Front St., Traverse City, MI), on alleged violations of Federal regulations on asbestos--a hazardous air pollutant--at a Bay City, MI, demolition site. A \$13,000 penalty was assessed.

The agreement resolves an EPA administrative complaint filed in September 1998, alleging that Northporte failed to notify EPA of its intent to demolish a one-block-long commercial property it owns in Bay City and did not remove asbestos before demolition, as required by Federal regulations.

"Hazardous air pollutants are potentially a serious threat to human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the regulations."

Asbestos is a known carcinogen that can cause mesothelioma (a type of

lung cancer) and asbestosis (a lung disease) many years after exposure.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: June 7, 1999

No. 99-OPA200

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH SIZE CONTROL; INCLUDES \$44,000 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with Size Control Co. on alleged violations of Federal regulations on chromium--a hazardous air pollutant--at the company's electroplating plant, 825 Chase Ave., Elk Grove Village, IL. A \$44,000 penalty was assessed.

The agreement resolves an EPA administrative complaint filed against Size Control in March, alleging that the company violated testing, reporting, and planning requirements of chromium regulations that went into effect Jan. 25, 1997.

"Hazardous air pollutants are potentially a serious threat to human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the regulations."

Hexavalent chromium, which is regarded as a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is found in chromic-acid mist released into the air as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, with possible short-term effects that include coughing and

wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects could include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

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Last Updated: 7/8/99 8:52

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa200.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: July 8, 1999

No. 99-OPA201

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH FIRST ENERGY & CEI ON 2 CLEVELAND-AREA POWER PLANTS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has reached agreement with First Energy Corp. and the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Co. (CEI) on alleged clean-air violations at their coal-fired power plants in Avon Lake and Eastlake, OH. No penalty was assessed.

The agreement resolves EPA citations to the two plants in August 1998 for exceeding State visible-emission limits. Particulates (smoke, soot), which cause the visible emissions, are byproducts of coal burning.

Under the agreement, First Energy and CEI must comply with State particulate emission limits at both plants. If a boiler at either plant fails to meet these limits, the companies must shut it down and hire a qualified consultant to inspect the boiler and the pollution control equipment. They must take corrective measures, if recommended, to reach compliance.

"EPA is committed to enforcing clean-air regulations to protect public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps

to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can affect children, the elderly, and people with heart and lung diseases the most.

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Last Updated: 7/8/99 16:47€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa201.htm>€





# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: July 8, 1999

No. 99-OPA202

## **EPA CITES MARSULEX FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Marsulex, Inc., for alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's sulfuric acid plant, 7680 Ottawa Rd., Cairo, OH.

EPA said Marsulex bought the plant in October 1996 from Coulton Chemical Corp. Coulton began a construction project in January 1996 that increased the facility's production capacity and its potential for emitting sulfur dioxide. This was done without the company first getting a permit to prevent significant deterioration of air quality, which would have required additional pollution controls.

Companies must get this kind of permit before they start to build or to modify air-pollution sources in areas that already meet national health-based air quality standards for all air pollutants.

Marsulex has operated the plant without the required permit and controls since October 1996, emitting some 780 tons of excess sulfur dioxide annually.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may

issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Marsulex has 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations."

Exposure to sulfur dioxide can impair breathing, aggravate existing respiratory diseases like bronchitis and asthma, and reduce the ability of the lungs to clear foreign particles. Children, the elderly, and people with chronic heart and lung diseases are the most sensitive.

Sulfur dioxide is a precursor of acid rain, which causes serious harm to lakes, trees, plants, fish, and other living things. It also corrodes stone buildings, monuments, and metals.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa202.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: July 8, 1999

No. 99-OPA203

## **EPA TO HOST 2 AVAILABILITY SESSIONS JULY 14 ON FIELDS BROOK SITE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 will host two informal availability sessions to discuss cleanup progress at the Fields Brook Superfund site, Ashtabula, OH. The sessions will be held Wednesday, July 14, 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 9 p.m., Ashtabula Chamber of Commerce, 4536 Main Ave.

Recent developments at the site include:

- Establishment of industrial and residential cleanup levels for radium at the site.
- Cleanup begins at the Millennium facility.
- A legal agreement between EPA and 25 potentially responsible parties to have these companies finish the design and conduct the cleanup of the brook.

A summary fact sheet, which will be available at the sessions on July 14, has been mailed to about 500 area residents and local officials. Additional

site documents are available for review at Ashtabula County District Library, 335 West 44th St., and the Kent State Campus Library, 3325 West 13th St., both in Ashtabula.

For more information or to obtain a copy of the fact sheet, call Denise Gawlinski, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator, 800-621-8431 or 312-886-9859, or e-mail, [gawlinski.denise@epa.gov](mailto:gawlinski.denise@epa.gov).

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa203.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: July 8, 1999

No. 99-OPA204

## **EPA CITES XCTC FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited XCTC, Limited Partnership (L.P.), for alleged violations of Federal and State clean-air regulations at a tissue-manufacturing plant it formerly owned, 13101 South Pulaski Rd., Alsip, IL.

EPA said XCTC (formerly FSC Paper Co., L.P., and Chicago Tissue Co., L.P.) built the plant in 1988-1989 without first getting a Federal construction permit required for new major air-pollutant sources.

The company then operated the plant from July 1, 1991, through February 15, 1993, without meeting the required lowest achievable emission rate for volatile organic compounds (VOC's), precursors of ground-level ozone.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. EPA provided XCTC 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"Metropolitan Chicago suffers from high levels of ozone during hot summer days," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air

and Radiation Division. "EPA enforcement of VOC emission regulations protects public health by cutting these ozone levels."

VOC's combine in the atmosphere with other chemicals to form ground-level ozone, which can cause breathing problems, reduced lung function, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and reduced resistance to colds and other infections. Ozone can aggravate asthma and damage lung tissue. Children, the elderly, and people with chronic respiratory diseases are the most sensitive. Ozone can also damage crops and trees.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: July 9, 1999

No. 99-OPA205

## **EPA: CLEANUP COMPLETE AT YARD NEAR HARBOR PLATING WORKS SITE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today that cleanup of contaminated soil from a private residential yard near the Harbor Plating Works site (Benton Harbor, MI) is now complete.

The cleanup, managed by a Chicago-based EPA Superfund emergency response team, in cooperation with Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and local officials, took place at a yard north of the site where heavy metals such as lead and chromium, used in electroplating processes, appeared to have migrated. In addition to the yard that was cleaned, four other properties in the area were tested for contamination. (These did not require cleanup.)

The project was completed in 11 days and resulted in the excavation and off-site disposal of about 300 cubic yards of contaminated soil, plus backfilling with clean soil and restoration of the yard's landscaping.

The Harbor Plating Works site, a former electroplating operation at 724

South Fair Ave., was abandoned in 1990. The site is about 300 feet west of Ox Creek, which flows into the Paw Paw River. In 1992, following an investigation by Michigan Department of Natural Resources (now Michigan Department of Environmental Quality) and the local fire department, EPA completed a \$1.4 million cleanup of more than 200 drums, 60 vats, and nearly 100 small containers of hazardous materials.

Currently, all that remains of the facility is a concrete slab, which covers most of the 3/4-acre site. In 1991, title to the property reverted to the State of Michigan in lieu of unpaid taxes. The property was later turned over to the City of Benton Harbor.

In other site news, EPA, in the near future, will also test for soil contamination at the former plant site. The property is currently fenced, with access limited to government officials and cleanup personnel.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa205.htm>





# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: July 12, 1999

No. 99-OPA206

## **5-YEAR REVIEW OF LASKIN-POPLAR OIL SITE COMPLETE; MONITORING TO CONTINUE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today that a required 5-year review of cleanup at the Laskin-Poplar Oil Superfund site (Ashtabula County, OH) is now complete. The review confirmed that the cleanup remedy continues to be effective and protective of human health and the environment.

The review was conducted by Ohio EPA, with oversight and final approval by EPA Region 5. The Superfund law requires reviews of sites (at least every 5 years) where cleanup is complete, but where pollutants are still managed on-site.

The site, a former greenhouse and waste oil recycler, is in Jefferson Township, southwest of the intersection of State Route 307 and Poplar Street, next to Cemetery Creek--which ultimately flows into the Grand River. Between 1981 - 1992, EPA and a group of responsible parties conducted extensive cleanup and disposal of contaminated oil, sludge, and soil, as well as waste containers and polluted surface water, at the 9-acre site.

In 1993, under a consent decree with EPA, the responsible parties

completed the final cleanup work, which included a reinforced ground-water diversion trench, a low-permeability cap over the contaminated area, and a fence around the property. Deed restrictions on future use of the property were also established.

Since the work was finished, there have been regular site inspections, along with ground- and surface-water monitoring--which confirm that the cleanup actions were successful in lowering the ground-water to a level below the contaminated soils, and that the ground- and surface-water have not been impacted by the site.

Site documents, including the 5-year review, are available at Ashtabula Public Library, 355 West 44th St.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa206.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: July 12, 1999

No. 99-OPA207

## **EPA PROPOSES CLEANUP PLAN FOR ELECTRO-VOICE SITE; COMMENT PERIOD BEGINS, MEETING JULY 14**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently proposed a cleanup plan for off-property ground-water contamination at the Electro-Voice Superfund site, Buchanan, MI. A 30-day public comment period on the plan runs through August 8. A public meeting to discuss the plan and to receive comments will be held Wednesday, July 14, 7 p.m., Buchanan City Hall, 302 North Redbud.

The site, now known as EV-International Inc., is a sound equipment manufacturer located at 600 Cecil St. Environmental concerns at the property stem from historical discharges of electroplating wastes into two clay-lined lagoons, from 1952 to 1962, and disposal of paint wastes and solvents into a dry well, from 1964 to 1973. Past actions supervised by EPA and Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, from 1993 to 1997, addressed contaminated soils and the more highly-contaminated groundwater beneath the Electro-Voice property.

A fact sheet discussing the proposed cleanup plan and cleanup options will be available at the meeting. The fact sheet and many other site documents are also available for review at Buchanan Public Library, 117 West Front St. Residents with questions or who would like to have a fact sheet mailed to them, may call Jennifer Ostermeier, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator, 800-621-8431, xt. 3-0618.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa207.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: July 12, 1999

No. 99-OPA208

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH RAYCO; INCLUDES \$20,000 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with Rayco Plating, Inc., on alleged violations of Federal regulations for chromium--a hazardous air pollutant--at the company's electroplating plant, 10023 West Fort St., Detroit, MI. A \$20,000 penalty was assessed.

The agreement resolves an EPA administrative complaint filed in September 1998, alleging Rayco violated various work practice, recordkeeping, monitoring, and testing requirements for chromium emissions.

"Hazardous air pollutants are potentially a serious threat to human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the regulations."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is found in chromic-acid mist, released into the air as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-

term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: July 13, 1999

No. 99-OPA210

## **EPA PARTNERSHIP TO HELP SANDOVAL ELEMENTARY GO "GREEN"**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Regional Administrator Francis X. Lyons today announced that EPA Region 5 will partner with Chicago Public Schools to substantially upgrade the environmental curriculum for 4th, 5th, and 6th graders at Sandoval Elementary.

EPA chose this school as part of its ongoing efforts to increase environmental awareness among minority communities. Sandoval serves the predominantly Hispanic Gage Park neighborhood.

"We view this as a prime opportunity to get children -- specifically, Hispanic children -- more interested and more involved in the environment," said EPA Regional Administrator Francis X. Lyons.

"There are not nearly enough Hispanics pursuing degrees in the fields of science, math, engineering, and law. And that is reflected in employment at scientific agencies such as EPA."

EPA plans to work with the school on several projects, including providing educational resources, working with teachers to incorporate environmental education curriculum into the school's academic program,

providing guest speakers, and mentoring students.

In coordination with the partnership, Sandoval will launch a school-wide recycling program and teach students about the importance of the City of Chicago's "Blue Bag" recycling program.

Gery Chico, President of the Chicago Board of Education, said, "The partnership complements and supplements school curriculum and will put Sandoval students in contact with leading professionals who might influence the career paths of our students. In the shorter term, students might even take their environmental lessons home and teach their families about recycling and conservation."

Sandoval was chosen for several reasons. One, 90 percent of the school's enrollment is Hispanic. Two, the school and the park next to it were built on the site of an abandoned rail yard and are excellent examples of brownfields redevelopment, which EPA champions. And three, it is the first Chicago public school to combine a school and park campus, which provides students ready access to a living ecological laboratory.

The goals of the partnership are to increase the students' knowledge about the environment; stimulate interest in related subjects such as science, mathematics, and social studies; and encourage them to pursue environmental careers in engineering, science, law, and communications. Staff from EPA's Hispanic Employment and Superfund Programs will serve as mentors and role models.

The partnership is a product of the Chicago Public Schools School Partners Program that helps pair private- and public-sector organizations with individual Chicago public schools. Since 1993, the program has generated over 400 corporate partnerships and more than \$15 million in vital school resources and projects. Partners also volunteer time in the form of tutoring, mentoring, and fund raising drives.

EPA took two immediate steps to mark the beginning of the partnership -- EPA staff taught a lesson to students about the value of trees in the environment and donated a new bicycle to the school. EPA won the bike last May by having the largest percentage of employees to participate in the Chicagoland Bicycle Federation's 1999 Bicycle Commuter Challenge. Sandoval Principal Anna Garcia Berlanga said the bike will be used as a prize in a recycling contest to be held during the 1999-2000 school year.



The Chicago Public Schools is the nation's third-largest school district and the second-largest employer in Illinois, with nearly 43,000 employees. The school system operates 589 schools and serves 431,000 students.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: July 15, 1999

No. 99-OPA211

## **EPA CITES CITGO FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited CITGO Petroleum Corp. for alleged violations of Federal regulations on controlling emissions of benzene--a hazardous air pollutant--at the company's oil refinery, 135th St. and New Ave., Lemont, IL.

EPA said CITGO failed to provide appropriate records for benzene waste and failed to adequately control benzene emissions from benzene waste at the refinery. EPA discovered the violations during an August 24-27, 1998, inspection.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. CITGO has 30 days from receipt of the notice to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division, said: "Hazardous air pollutants are a serious threat to human health and the environment. EPA will take all necessary steps to ensure total compliance with the regulations."

Benzene can cause cancer in humans. Short-term exposure can cause

drowsiness, headaches, and loss of consciousness. Long-term exposure has been linked to blood and bone marrow diseases, chromosome changes, and leukemia.

Benzene is also a volatile organic compound that contributes to the formation of ground-level ozone, or smog. Ground-level ozone can cause breathing problems, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and can aggravate asthma. It can reduce lung function and resistance to colds and other infections and can damage lung tissue. Children, the elderly, and people with chronic respiratory diseases are the most sensitive.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: July 21, 1999

No. 99-OPA214

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH ICOR INTERNATIONAL; INCLUDES \$25,000 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with ICOR International, Inc. (2351 Kentucky Ave., Indianapolis, IN), on alleged violations of stratospheric ozone regulations. A \$25,000 penalty was assessed.

ICOR makes a substitute refrigerant called HOT SHOT and a refrigerant recovery device called Spooter II.

The agreement resolves an administrative complaint EPA filed against ICOR in September 1998. The complaint alleged that the company failed to equip small cans of HOT SHOT with required fittings, maintain certification of Spooter II equipment by an EPA-approved testing organization, and properly label Spooter II equipment.

"EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations."

Chlorofluorocarbon refrigerants deplete the stratospheric, or "good,"

ozone layer that shields the earth from dangerous ultraviolet radiation, which can cause skin cancer and cataracts and can weaken the immune system. Production of some of these chemicals was stopped in 1995, and now Federal law strictly controls their use and handling. Releasing them into the air is prohibited.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa214.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: July 22, 1999

No. 99-OPA215

## **EPA TO SIGNUP RESIDENTS FOR NEW WATER SUPPLY AT EVERGREEN MANOR SITE, JULY 28 - AUGUST 6; PUBLIC MEETING JULY 28**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 will begin construction of a new water supply in September for the Evergreen Manor Groundwater Contamination Superfund site, Winnebago County, IL. A public meeting to explain the project will be held Wednesday, July 28, 7 p.m., Kinnikinnick School, 5410 Pine Lane, Roscoe. Representatives from Illinois Department of Public Health, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, and North Park Public Water District will be at the meeting.

EPA representatives will also be available to signup eligible residents and answer questions before the meeting, from 2 to 7 p.m., at Kinnikinnick School. Residents can also signup for connection to the water system during regular business hours, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., on July 29 - 30 and August 2 - 6, at North Park Public Water District, 1350 Turret Drive, Machesney.

Connection to the water system is voluntary, but requires completion of a consent form. EPA will pay for all construction work, but cannot pay for inadequate plumbing which requires upgrading.

The site, about 3 miles south of the Illinois/Wisconsin border, is 1.5 miles northwest of the Village of Roscoe and includes about 250 homes in the

Evergreen Manor, Hononegah Heights, and Olde Farm subdivisions. The source of the contaminated ground-water plume, first discovered in 1990, has not been clearly determined.

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Last Updated: 7/26/99 16:27€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa215.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: July 26, 1999

No. 99-OPA216

## **EPA AWARDS \$100,000 SUPERFUND REDEVELOPMENT GRANT FOR TAR LAKE SITE; 40 ADDITIONAL GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR FY 2000**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has awarded a \$100,000 Superfund Redevelopment Grant to Antrim County, MI, to evaluate potential reuses at the Tar Lake Superfund site (Mancelona, MI). The grant is one of 10 announced on Friday, July 23. One site in each of the 10 EPA Regions nationwide received a grant.

The grants are a key component of EPA's new Superfund Redevelopment Initiative, in which communities can receive up to \$100,000 to assist in developing plans for reusing formerly contaminated Superfund sites. The initiative builds upon existing EPA efforts, such as the Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative and relies on many of the same tools created under the Superfund Administrative Reforms. The Brownfields program has awarded over 300 grants, totaling \$69 million, to State and local governments and economic development agencies since 1995.

The Tar Lake grant will be managed by Antrim County, which will use the money to hire a consultant to look at potential reuse options, and seek



additional input from government and community organizations. The 200-acre site, which includes a geologic depression known locally as Tar Lake, was contaminated by wood tar from an iron manufacturing facility from the late 19th century until the 1940's.

Over the past year, EPA, in coordination with Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) and local officials, removed more than 46,000 tons of wood tar from the "lake" and surrounding area. When the \$10 million project wrapped up this past June, EPA regraded the area and covered it with topsoil. Most of the tarry material was mixed with sawdust and sent to a Niagara Falls, NY, disposal facility for reuse as fuel.

When the preliminary cleanup finished, EPA and MDEQ began to address the remaining lower-level contamination at the site. Initial steps included: gathering samples from onsite soil, ground water, and surface water, along with samples from lakes, creeks, and private drinking wells near the site. Once this data is analyzed, EPA will release a report, and—if environmental conditions warrant further work—a cleanup plan.

Earlier this year, Antrim County received a \$200,000 Brownfield Pilot Grant to investigate underutilized or abandoned sites in the Mancelona and neighboring Custer communities. Assisting with this process is a recently-formed Brownfield Action Team composed of local residents and officials from Federal, State, and local agencies.

Another 40 Superfund Redevelopment Grants of up to \$100,000 will be awarded through a competitive process in FY 2000. For more information, call the Superfund/RCRA Hotline (800-424-9346), or see the web site: [www.epa.gov/superfund/programs/recycle/index.htm](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/programs/recycle/index.htm).

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa216.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: July 26, 1999

No. 99-OPA217

## **EPA CITES LAFARGE FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has recently cited Lafarge Corp. for alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's cement plant, 11435 County Rd. 176, Paulding, OH.

EPA said visible emissions of particulates (dust, smoke, ash) from Lafarge's clinker coolers No. 1 and 2 exceeded the State standard for opacity (the amount of light obscured by particulates). The exceedances were observed by EPA, State, and company representatives.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Lafarge has 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations."

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can affect children, the elderly, and people with heart and lung diseases the most.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: July 28, 1999

No. 99-OPA219

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH LUCAS SUMITOMO; INCLUDES \$30,000 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with Lucas Sumitomo Brakes, Inc., on alleged violations of Federal regulations on chromium--a hazardous air pollutant--at the company's electroplating plant, 1650 Kingsview Dr., Lebanon, OH. A \$30,000 penalty was assessed.

The agreement resolves an EPA administrative complaint filed concurrently with the agreement that alleged Lucas Sumitomo had violated Federal chromium monitoring, recordkeeping, and work practice regulations.

EPA cited the company last December for failure to adequately monitor and keep records on the operation of its pollution control equipment. The company was also cited for failure to operate pollution controls on its hard-chrome electroplating process in the required manner.

EPA said the company has changed its monitoring operations to prevent future violations. It has also done a new performance test that showed its emissions comply with the Federal chromium limit.

"Hazardous air pollutants are potentially a serious threat to human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "It is crucial that companies properly and timely monitor their pollution control equipment to ensure that they comply with emission limits for these pollutants."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is found in chromic-acid mist released into the air as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforation of the nasal septum.

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Last Updated: 7/28/99 15:39€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa219.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: July 28, 1999

No. 99-OPA220

## **EPA CITES HERITAGE FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Heritage Environmental Services, LLC, for alleged violations of Federal regulations on benzene--a hazardous air pollutant--at the company's commercial hazardous waste facility, 15330 Canal Bank Rd., NE, Lemont, IL.

(The company treats, stores and disposes of hazardous wastes generated by chemical manufacturing plants, coke by-product recovery plants, or oil refineries.)

EPA said Heritage failed to determine the quantity of benzene waste it received annually from off-site facilities. In addition, the company failed to submit a report on the total quantity of benzene received in 1997.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. EPA met with Heritage July 19 to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"Hazardous air pollutants are a serious threat to human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air

and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the regulations."

Benzene is known to cause cancer in humans. Short-term exposure to benzene can cause drowsiness, headaches, and loss of consciousness.

Long-term exposure has been linked to various blood and bone marrow diseases, chromosome damage, and leukemia.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa220.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: July 28, 1999

No. 99-OPA221

## **EPA CITES ARISTECH FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Aristech Chemical Corp. for alleged violations of Federal and State clean-air regulations at its Haverhill Plant, Ironton, OH.

Aristech operates five production units at the plant that make hazardous organic chemicals: phenol, acetone, alpha methylstyrene, cumene hydroperoxide, bisphenol A, aniline, and diphenylamine.

EPA said Aristech failed to comply with Federal regulations on the control of organic hazardous air pollutants. The company also filed an incomplete application for a federally enforceable operating permit for a major air pollution source.

In addition, EPA said Aristech began a construction project that increased the plant's capacity and its potential for emitting hazardous air pollutants. The company did this without first getting a permit to prevent significant deterioration of air quality, which would have required additional pollution controls.



Companies must get this kind of permit before they start to build or to modify air-pollution sources in areas that already meet national health-based air quality standards for all air pollutants.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Aristech has 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division, said: "Hazardous air pollutants are a serious threat to human health and the environment. EPA will take all necessary steps to ensure total compliance with the regulations."

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: July 29, 1999

No. 99-OPA222

## **EPA CITES INTERNATIONAL MALTING FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited International Malting Co., LLC, for alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's Froedtert Malt, West Plant, 2100 South 43d St., Milwaukee, WI.

EPA said visible emissions of particulates (dust) from the company's grain-loading process exceeded the standard for opacity (the amount of light obscured by the dust) during a State inspection last December.

Last September, a State inspector discovered evidence that the company had failed to take precautions in keeping particulates from becoming airborne during handling, transporting, or storing.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. EPA met with International Malting July 14 to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation

Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations."

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can affect children, the elderly, and people with heart and lung diseases the most.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa222.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: July 30, 1999

No. 99-OPA223

## **EPA CITES R&L MARKETING; INCLUDES \$1,711 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against R&L Marketing, Inc., for alleged violations of Federal regulations restricting the sale of chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) refrigerants. A \$1,711 penalty was proposed.

EPA said R&L Marketing, 730 South Military Rd., Fond du Lac, WI, sold the refrigerant to unauthorized buyers and did not keep proper sales records.

The company has 30 days from receipt of the complaint to file an answer and request a hearing. It may also request an informal conference with EPA at any time to discuss the allegations.

"EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure compliance with regulations to protect the stratospheric-ozone layer."

Chlorofluorocarbon refrigerants deplete the stratospheric, or "good," ozone layer, allowing dangerous, cancer-causing ultraviolet rays from the

sun to strike the earth. Production of some of these chemicals was stopped in 1995, and now Federal law strictly controls their use and handling. Releasing them into the air is prohibited.

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Last Updated: 8/3/99 9:23

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: August 4, 1999

No. 99-OPA224

## **EPA SEEKS COMMENTS ON KOCH REFINING PROPOSED WASTE DISPOSAL CLOSURE; COMMENT PERIOD ENDS SEPT. 3**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 is seeking comments on its proposed approval of Koch Refining Co.'s plan to close three adjacent waste areas at its Rosemount, MN, facility. A 30-day comment period ends Sept. 3. If there is enough interest, EPA will also hold a public hearing.

The waste areas--which were used until December 1998 for wastewater runoff from petroleum coke processing and routinely fill up with sediment--are collectively known as the Coker Pond Unit. Under the Koch plan, the company will remove all waste liquids and contaminated sediment from the Coker Pond Unit, and will investigate and decontaminate a subsurface asphalt liner, as well as additional equipment, structures, and facilities.

The proposed plan complies with requirements of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. All work will be managed and paid for by Koch, with oversight by EPA and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

Public comments must be received by Tuesday, Sept. 3, at 5 p.m. They may be sent to: Thomas Manning, Project Manager, U.S. EPA (DRP-8J), 77 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60604; fax, 312-353-4788; or e-mail, [manning.thomas@epa.gov](mailto:manning.thomas@epa.gov)

More information about the Koch Refining closure plan is available at EPA's Chicago office, and information repositories at: Galaxie Library, 14955 Galaxie Ave., Apple Valley; Westcott Library, 1340 Westcott, Eagan; and Pleasant Hill Library, 1490 S. Frontage Rd., Hastings.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: August 10, 1999

No. 99-OPA225

## **EPA, ENVIRONMENT CANADA TARGET LAKE SUPERIOR POLLUTANT REDUCTIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Environment Canada have recently endorsed a report which outlines targets for reducing discharges of nine critical pollutants into Lake Superior. The targeted pollutants are those most likely to adversely impact human or ecological health, as well as recreational activities, such as fishing or swimming.

The report, entitled "Protecting Lake Superior: Lakewide Management Plan, Stage 2, Load Reduction Targets for Critical Pollutants," was developed over the past three years with extensive input from six jurisdictions and numerous stakeholder groups, including U.S. tribes. The jurisdictions include: U.S. Government, States of Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, Government of Canada, and Province of Ontario. The Lake Superior Lakewide Management Plan is part of an ongoing binational program to restore and protect Lake Superior's ecosystem.

The targeted pollutants include dioxin, mercury, hexachlorobenzene (HCB), octachlorostyrene (OCS), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB's); and the pesticides chlordane, DDT, dieldrin, and toxaphene.

The next step in the Lake Superior plan is to develop and implement a binational strategy to reduce the releases of the nine critical pollutants into the lake, with an ultimate goal of zero discharges.



Copies of the report are available from Shelia Wells, U.S. EPA (W-15J) Lake Superior Regional Team, 77 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60604-3590, phone, 312-886-0132, or e-mail wells.shelia@epa.gov. Information on the Lake Superior Binational Program is available at:  
[www.glnpo.epa.gov/glnpo/lakesuperior/](http://www.glnpo.epa.gov/glnpo/lakesuperior/)

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: August 18, 1999

No. 99-OPA226

## **EPA CITES 2 DETROIT-AREA PARTIES; INCLUDES \$49,000 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against St. Lawrence Church and School and Industrial Waste Cleanup, Inc. (IWC), a renovation contractor.

They were cited for alleged violations of Federal regulations on asbestos--a hazardous air pollutant--during a 1997 renovation of the St. Lawrence Church and School, 44633 Utica Rd., Utica, MI. A \$49,000 penalty was proposed.

EPA said IWC, 12838 Gavel St., Detroit, MI, did not follow all steps required by EPA regulations in removing asbestos-containing material from the St. Lawrence Church and School.

The parties have 30 days from receipt of the complaint to file an answer and request a hearing. They may also request an informal conference with EPA at any time to discuss the allegations.

"EPA is committed to enforcing the asbestos regulations to protect public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps

to ensure that asbestos contractors comply with the Federal regulations."

Asbestos is a known cancer-causing substance that can cause mesothelioma (a type of lung cancer) and asbestosis (a lung disease) many years after exposure.

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Last Updated: 8/18/99 17:11

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa226.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: August 11, 1999

No. 99-OPA227

## **EPA: CLEANUP COMPLETE AT FRANK FOUNDRY SITE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently completed a \$150,000 cleanup at the Frank Foundry site, Muncie, IN.

The 10-acre site--an abandoned iron foundry located at 1324 South Brotherton St--was last used for iron casting operations in 1985, and investigated by EPA in 1992 and 1998. The investigative work included characterization of the materials left on-site, as well as efforts to identify responsible parties to pay for all or some of the cleanup. At this time, EPA has paid for the completed work, but will continue with its investigation.

The cleanup, which ran from late June through late July, was supervised by a Chicago-based Superfund emergency response team. The project included:

- Analysis and off-site disposal of about 150 drums and 50 small containers of hazardous materials scattered throughout the site.
- Off-site disposal of about 100 electric capacitors filled with PCB-contaminated oil.
- Off-site disposal of two roll-off boxes of non-hazardous debris.

"The Frank Foundry site has been a concern for quite some time," said Bob Jones, director of the Delaware County Health Department. "We appreciate EPA's help in resolving this situation and arranging for disposal of the hazardous materials that were left at the property."

Three buildings, about 500 scrap tires, and a few pallets of non-hazardous construction materials remain at the site, which is surrounded by a barbed-wire fence.

"The City wholeheartedly appreciates the efforts and action taken by EPA to cleanup Frank Foundry--a major eyesore in our community," said Muncie Mayor Dan Canan. "With this long-standing problem behind us, we look forward to new development and a positive direction for this site."

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: August 12, 1999

No. 99-OPA228

## **EPA CITES DEPERE FOUNDRY; INCLUDES \$77,850 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has recently filed an administrative complaint against DePere Foundry, Inc., for alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's gray-iron foundry, 805-815 South Sixth St., DePere, WI. A \$77,850 penalty has been proposed.

EPA said DePere violated State standards for visible emissions of particulates (dust, smoke, ash) at the foundry.

DePere has 30 days from receipt of the complaint to file an answer and request a hearing. It may request an informal conference with EPA at any time to discuss the allegations.

"EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations."

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can affect children, the elderly, and people with heart and lung diseases the most.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: August 12, 1999

No. 99-OPA229

## **EPA CITES CHROME TECH OF WISCONSIN FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Chrome Tech of Wisconsin, Inc., for alleged violations of Federal regulations on chromium--a hazardous air pollutant--at the company's electroplating plant, 10020 South 45th St., Franklin, WI.

EPA said Chrome Tech failed to comply with EPA work practice, monitoring, and reporting regulations.

These are preliminary findings of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. EPA met informally with Chrome Tech August 3 to discuss the company's compliance with Federal chromium regulations.

"EPA is committed to enforcing regulations for hazardous air pollutants to protect public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is



found in chromic acid mist released into the atmosphere as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing.

Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: August 13, 1999

No. 99-OPA230

## **EPA SEEKS PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CLEANUP PLAN FOR PAGEL'S PIT SITE; MEETING AUG. 25**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has released a proposed cleanup plan for a previously unaddressed portion of the Pagel's Pit Superfund site, near Rockford, IL. In addition, EPA is proposing a change to the existing 1991 plan for the site. A public meeting to discuss the plan will be held Wednesday, Aug. 25, 7 p.m., Howard Johnson Hotel, 3909 11th St. A 30-day public comment period closes September 11.

The site, a currently operating landfill about 5 miles south of Rockford on Lindenwood Road, was previously a sand and gravel quarry. Samples taken at the site in the mid-1980's detected contaminants in the groundwater. Another Superfund site, Acme Solvent, lies east of Pagel's Pit, and contamination from it enters the same aquifer.

The 1991 plan for the portion of the site known as Operable Unit 1 addressed everything but the groundwater in the southeast corner of the site. Part of this remedy was a planned pump-and-treatment system for the groundwater in Operable Unit 1. EPA has since decided that this system is not needed at this time, primarily because the capping of the landfill and the removal of much of the leachate, and the operation of the Acme Solvent pump-and-treatment system, will eliminate or greatly reduce the sources of the contamination. EPA also found that such a system as planned would be larger and more elaborate than had been anticipated.

Thus, instead, EPA proposes a remedy of monitored natural attenuation—allowing the groundwater to be cleansed through natural processes. However, the plan also includes a contingency that if the contamination does not naturally decrease within a reasonable length of time, more active steps will be taken.

For the area known as Operable Unit 2—the groundwater in the southeast corner of the site—EPA proposes that no action be taken (other than ongoing monitoring), with the groundwater allowed to recover via natural attenuation. This plan is consistent with EPA’s proposed remedy for the rest of the site.

A fact sheet on the proposed plan will be available at the meeting or can be obtained from community involvement coordinator Gordie Blum, 800-621-8431, xt. 38501. The fact sheet and other site documents are also available for review at the Rockford Public Library, 215 North Wyman St.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: August 16, 1999

No. 99-OPA231

## **EPA CITES TECHMETALS; INCLUDES \$36,190 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against Techmetals, Inc., alleging violations of Federal hazardous air-pollutant regulations and State permitting requirements at the company's electroplating plant, 2200 East First St., Dayton, OH. A \$36,190 civil penalty was proposed.

EPA cited Techmetals last March for failure to notify EPA about construction of the company's new chromium electroplating tanks at its Dayton plant, to get State permits for the tanks, and to do required performance tests.

Techmetals has 30 days from receipt of the complaint to file an answer and request a hearing. It may also request an informal conference with EPA at any time to discuss the allegations.

"EPA is committed to enforcing regulations for hazardous air pollutants to protect public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is found in chromic-acid mist released into the air as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing.

Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: August 16, 1999

No. 99-OPA232

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH JLM CHEMICALS; INCLUDES \$40,000 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with JLM Chemicals, Inc., on alleged violations of Federal regulations on organic hazardous air pollutants at the company's plant, 3350 West 131st St., Blue Island, IL. A \$40,000 penalty was assessed.

(JLM makes two organic chemical products, cumene and phenol, at two process units in the plant.)

The agreement resolves an EPA administrative complaint alleging JLM had not properly installed all the required control systems and did not notify EPA of its compliance status. The violations were discovered by EPA inspectors in June 1997. (Vents from synthetic organic chemical process units became subject to the EPA regulations in April 1997.)

"Hazardous air pollutants are a serious threat to human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the regulations."

Cumene, at room temperature, is a colorless liquid that has a sharp, penetrating odor. Short-term effects include dizziness, skin and eye irritation, and skin rash. Noncarcinogenic long-term effects include drying and cracking skin and damage to the lungs, liver, or kidneys. It has not yet been tested for its ability to cause cancer in animals.

Phenol is a flammable, colorless or white solid, which is mainly sold and used as a liquid for making plastics, disinfectants, and medical products. It has an irritating, sickeningly sweet, strong odor. Repeated exposure to low levels of phenol in drinking water has been linked to diarrhea and mouth sores in humans. Ingesting very large amounts has resulted in death.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: August 16, 1999

No. 99-OPA233

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH FORD; INCLUDES \$38,500 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with Ford Motor Co. on alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's plant, 966 South Mississippi River Rd., St. Paul, MN. A \$38,500 penalty was assessed.

The agreement resolves an administrative complaint issued in March alleging Ford failed to submit reports required by its State air-pollution permit.

"EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations."

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: August 17, 1999

No. 99-OPA234

## **EPA: REPORT ON STATUS OF LAKE ERIE MANAGEMENT PLAN AVAILABLE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today that a status report on an international plan to manage water quality and habitat of Lake Erie is now available to the public.

The report reviews progress towards identifying problems, objectives, and solutions for Lake Erie.

It was produced in partnership with the Federal governments of Canada and United States, Province of Ontario, and States of Michigan, New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, which are working on the overall plan.

The international plan, called the Lake Erie Lakewide Management Plan, will provide a framework for agencies, organizations, and individuals to coordinate their activities aimed at improving the environmental quality of Lake Erie.

In September 1994, government leaders of Canada and United States endorsed development of a Lake Erie Lakewide Management Plan under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, a treaty outlining stewardship of the Great Lakes Basin.

Copies of the status report and other Lake Erie reports are available on

EPA Worldwide Web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/lakeerie/> or at  
<http://www.cciw.ca/glimr/lakes/erie/> 

For more information, contact Rita Garner of EPA by e-mail  
([garner.rita@epamail.epa.gov](mailto:garner.rita@epamail.epa.gov)) or by fax (312-886-7804); or Marlene  
O'Brien of Environment Canada by e-mail ([Marlene.O'Brien@ec.gc.ca](mailto:Marlene.O'Brien@ec.gc.ca))  
or by fax (905-336-4906).

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: August 18, 1999

No. 99-OPA235

## **CLEANUP BEGINS AT WOODSTOCK MUNICIPAL LANDFILL**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today that a projected \$8 million cleanup has begun at the Woodstock Municipal Landfill site, near Woodstock, IL. Residents and businesses in the vicinity of the Superfund site, near the intersection of Routes 47 and 14, can expect to see workers in required protective clothing and construction vehicles through late fall.

The cleanup, paid for by the responsible parties, will have two phases, both overseen by EPA in cooperation with Illinois EPA. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will be responsible for the on-site oversight, on behalf of EPA.

The current phase, which runs through October, will prepare the site for construction of a landfill cap in spring 2000. This work includes:

- Clearing the site of trees and vegetation;
- Excavating contaminated wetland sediments, which will then be placed in an on-site landfill;
- Sifting on-site soils to eliminate stones, for eventual reuse as landfill cover; and

- Closing on-site monitoring wells that are no longer needed.

The second phase will run through the 2000 construction season and includes:

- Regrading and contouring the site; €
- Constructing the landfill's geomembrane, drainage, and topsoil € layers, as well as installing a landfill gas venting system;
- Installing a surface-water and sedimentation control system; and
- Comprehensive monitoring and institutional controls on future uses of the site.

Residents with questions about the cleanup may call community involvement coordinator Derrick Kimbrough, at 312-886-9749, or e-mail: [kimbrough.derrick@epa.gov](mailto:kimbrough.derrick@epa.gov). Site documents are available for review at the Woodstock Public Library, 414 West Judd St.

The 43-acre site was a privately owned dump and an open-burning area from 1935 to 1958, when it was purchased by the City of Woodstock. It was a mixed-use landfill, accepting municipal, commercial, and industrial wastes until 1975. From 1989 to 1992, EPA did extensive investigation and analysis of the site. A cleanup plan was selected in 1993, followed by development of engineering and architectural plans.

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Last Updated: 8/18/99 15:57€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa235.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: August 18, 1999

No. 99-OPA236

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH TOMEN € AGRO; INCLUDES \$11,514 FINE & PROJECT€**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with Tomen Agro, Inc., on alleged violations of Federal and State clean-air regulations at the company's chemical production plant, 3647 Shepard Rd., Perry, OH.

The agreement, which includes an \$11,514 penalty and a pollution-control project costing at least \$92,200, resolves a complaint alleging the company violated regulations that govern the perchloromethyl mercaptan production process. Specifically, EPA said Tomen Agro failed to:

- fully implement a preventive maintenance and malfunction plan;
- comply with operational restrictions in its installation permit for its wet scrubber and a new final wet scrubber; and
- demonstrate compliance within 150 days after a compliance extension ended.

As its pollution control project, Tomen Agro has agreed to install, within 10 months, a high-efficiency jet pulse dust-collection system at its rework facility, designed to cut particulate (smoke, dust, ash) emissions.

The perchloromethyl mercaptan process produces carbon disulfide, carbon tetrachloride, hydrochloric acid, and sulfur dioxide emissions. Carbon disulfide, carbon tetrachloride, and hydrochloric acid are hazardous air pollutants.

Margaret Guerriero, director of the regional Air and Radiation Division, said: "Hazardous air pollutants are a serious threat to human health and the environment. EPA will take all necessary steps to ensure compliance with hazardous air pollutant regulations."

Carbon tetrachloride is a suspected human carcinogen that can cause eye irritation and central nervous system and liver damage. Carbon disulfide can cause headaches and dizziness and can lead to coronary heart disease and liver and kidney damage. Hydrochloric acid can irritate the nose, throat, and respiratory tract.

Exposure to sulfur dioxide can cause breathing problems, aggravate existing respiratory diseases like bronchitis and asthma, and reduce the ability of the lungs to clear foreign particles. Children, the elderly, and people with chronic heart and lung diseases are the most sensitive.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: August 18, 1999

No. 99-OPA237

## **EPA CITES WESTERN ROTO ENGRAVERS FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Western Roto Engravers, Inc., for alleged violations of Federal regulations on chromium--a hazardous air pollutant--at the company's WRE/ColorTech electroplating plant, 668 Seville Rd., Wadsworth, OH.

EPA said Western failed to comply with testing, planning, and reporting requirements of the chromium regulations.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. EPA met with Western August 12 to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

EPA is committed to enforcing regulations for hazardous air pollutants to protect public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is

found in chromic acid mist released into the air as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforation of the nasal septum.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa237.htm>€





# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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Illinois EPA Contact: Carol Fuller  
  
(217) 524-8807

For Immediate Release: August 19, 1999

No. 99-OPA238

## **EPA TO REMOVE DRUMS, SECURE CANTON INDUSTRIAL CORP. SITE; REDEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT TO FOLLOW**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 this week began a short-term \$700,000 cleanup at the Canton Industrial Corp. site, Canton, IL. Residents and businesses near the central business district can expect to see heavy equipment, construction vehicles, and workers in required protective clothing through late September.

The 33-acre property, 260 East Elm St., has been the site of several manufacturing and foundry operations since 1847. From 1919 to 1983, International Harvester produced farm equipment at the site. After the current owner failed to pay back taxes, last June, Fulton County and the City of Canton started proceedings to take title to the site—an action they expect soon to become final.

During 1995 - 1996, Illinois EPA removed more than 600,000 scrap tires at a cost of \$300,000. After an August 1997 fire, Illinois EPA requested that EPA conduct an environmental site assessment at the property.

The current work includes upgrading the perimeter fence to secure the property from trespassers, followed by removal and proper disposal of more than 200 drums and smaller containers of laboratory chemicals, paint, paint wastes, and other potential hazardous or flammable materials.

Afer this material is removed, contractors hired by the city will begin an environmental assessment of site conditions, plus preparation of short- and long-term redevelopment plans. To facilitate this, EPA in 1998 awarded Canton a \$200,000 Brownfield Assessment Demonstration Pilot Grant. Later, Canton also received a \$120,000 grant from Illinois EPA for related site assessment work. Future work may include removal of underground storage tanks and asbestos-containing material from buildings on the property, and a study regarding the extent of soil contamination.

"We're pleased that the EPA is moving ahead with this effort to remove the hazardous materials and secure the site," said Mayor Donald Edwards. "Now that we're working together with EPA and Illinois EPA, the city is optimistic we'll see the Canton Industrial site back in productive use in the not too distant future."

Brownfields are abandoned or underused properties, often in urban areas, where fear of environmental liability has slowed redevelopment efforts. Since 1995, EPA has awarded more than 300 Brownfield grants, totaling \$69 million, to assist cities and development agencies around the United States.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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(312) 353-8501

For Immediate Release: August 24, 1999

No. 99-OPA239

## **EPA TO DISCUSS SAUGET AREA 1 SAMPLING AT AUG. 31 VILLAGE MEETING**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 will discuss upcoming sampling for environmental contamination at the Sauget Area 1 Superfund site, as part of a Cahokia village meeting, Tuesday, Aug. 31, 7 p.m., Bethel United Church, 2200 Camp Jackson Rd., Cahokia, IL. There are two Superfund sites in the immediate area., each comprising multiple spots where industrial and municipal waste was disposed, dating back to the 1930's. Sauget Area 1 is comprised of six waste sites, covering about 40 acres, most of which are between Illinois Rt. 3 and Falling Springs Rd., near Sauget and Cahokia. Area 1 also includes about 4 miles of contaminated sediments in Dead Creek. Sauget Area 2 is comprised of five areas, primarily spread over 344 acres in Sauget, with a small part of the site in Cahokia. All of Area 2 is west of Rt. 3, extending to the bank of the Mississippi River.

Representatives from EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers will be present at the meeting to discuss upcoming work in Area 1, including the collection of samples from residential neighborhoods. Beginning around Sept. 8, contractors hired by Solutia, Inc.—the company potentially responsible for some of the contaminated material—will collect soil, sediment, ground water, surface water, and waste samples, with oversight from EPA. The sampling workers will, at times, be outfitted in required protective clothing and respirators.

The project, which will continue until next April or May, will generate data for two studies, one on human health risks and one on environmental risks, associated with these areas. The studies will then be used to propose engineering and cleanup plans for the Area 1 site. Full-scale cleanup actions may begin in 2001 or 2002.

For more information, call Gordie Blum, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator, 312-353-8501, or e-mail: [blum.gordon@epa.gov](mailto:blum.gordon@epa.gov).

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: August 30, 1999

No. 99-OPA241

## **EPA CITES TRANE FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited The Trane Co. for alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's air-conditioner production plant, 3600 Pammel Creek Rd., LaCrosse, WI.

EPA said a company stack test done last April revealed that particulate (smoke, dust, ash) emissions from Trane's Boiler No. 6 exceeded State limits. In addition, Trane failed to comply with requirements of an EPA information request by shutting down boilers No. 5 and 6 for three weeks before it tested the stacks.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Trane has 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations."

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can affect children, the elderly, and people with heart and lung diseases the most.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: August 31, 1999

No. 99-OPA242

## **EPA CITES COPPERWELD FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Copperweld Shelby Div. for alleged violations of Federal and State clean-air regulations at the company's steel pipe tube and hard chrome electroplating plant, 132 West Main St., Shelby, OH.

EPA said Copperweld failed to comply with testing and reporting requirements of Federal regulations for hard-chrome plating plants.

In addition, volatile organic compound (VOC) and nitrogen oxide emissions from Copperweld's hot mill rotary hearth furnace exceeded permitted levels during a company performance test done last October.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. EPA met with Copperweld August 3 to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing regulations for hazardous air pollutants, to protect public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take

all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is found in chromic acid mist released into the air as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

VOC's and nitrogen oxides combine in the air with other chemicals on warm summer days to form ground-level ozone, which can cause breathing problems, reduced lung function, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and reduced resistance to colds and other infections. Ozone can aggravate asthma and damage lung tissue. Children, the elderly, and people with chronic respiratory diseases are the most sensitive. Ozone can also damage crops and trees.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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Media Contact: William Omohundro  
(312) 353-8254

Legal Contact: Susan Tennenbaum  
(312) 886-0723

For Immediate Release: August 31, 1999

No. 99-OPA243

## **EPA CITES A&W CUSTOM CHROME; INCLUDES \$2,500 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against A&W Custom Chrome, Inc., for alleged violations of Federal regulations on chromium--a hazardous air pollutant--at the company's electroplating plant, 17726 East Nine Mile Rd., Detroit, MI. A \$2,500 penalty was proposed.

EPA said the company failed to comply with monitoring requirements of Federal regulations for decorative-chrome plating tanks and anodizing tanks.

A&W has 30 days from receipt of the complaint to file an answer and request a hearing. The company may also request an informal conference with EPA at any time to discuss the allegations.

Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division, said: "Hazardous air pollutants are a serious threat to human health and the environment. EPA will take all necessary steps to ensure compliance with hazardous air pollutant regulations."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is

found in chromic acid mist released into the air as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforation of the nasal septum.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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Media Contact: William Omohundro  
(312) 353-8254

Legal Contact: James Morris  
(312) 886-6632

For Immediate Release: August 31, 1999

No. 99-OPA244

## **EPA CITES TRI-K CYLINDER; INCLUDES \$4,000 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against Tri-K Cylinder Service, Inc., for alleged violations of Federal regulations on chromium--a hazardous air pollutant--at the company's electroplating plant, 4539 Wayne Rd., Springfield, MI. A \$4,000 penalty was proposed.

EPA said Tri-K failed to comply with reporting, recordkeeping, and testing requirements of Federal regulations for hard-chrome plating plants.

Tri-K has 30 days from receipt of the complaint to file an answer and request a hearing. It may also request an informal conference with EPA at any time to discuss the allegations.

"EPA is committed to enforcing regulations for hazardous air pollutants to protect public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is

found in chromic acid mist released into the air as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

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Last Updated: 9/13/99 15:01€

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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(317) 886-7278

Media Contact: Mick Hans  
(312) 353-5050

For Immediate Release: August 31, 1999

No. 99-OPA245

## **EPA PROPOSES DELETING NEAL'S DUMP SITE FROM SUPERFUND LIST; COMMENT PERIOD ENDS SEPT. 24**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has proposed deleting the Neal's Dump Superfund site (Spencer, IN) from the National Priorities List of hazardous waste sites. The comment period ends Sept. 24.

EPA approved an estimated \$2 million cleanup, paid for by CBS Corp. in September 1998. The site was an industrial waste dump that received PCB-contaminated materials from 1966 to 1971.

The cleanup included excavation and disposal of PCB-contaminated soils, which were sent to a federally approved landfill, and incineration of PCB-contaminated electrical capacitors at another approved facility. As a result of the cleanup, the site may now be used for residential development.

The public is invited to submit written or oral comments on this proposal by Sept. 24. All written comments should be addressed to: Gladys Beard (SR-6J), Associate Remedial Project Manager, Superfund Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5, 77 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60604. Oral comments should be directed to Beard at: 312-886-7353.

Detailed information on Neal's Dump is available at Monroe County Public Library branches, 303 East Kirkwood Ave., Bloomington, and 600 West Temperance, Ellettsville.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



Technical Contact: Michelle Jaster  
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Media Contact: Mick Hans  
(312) 353-5050

Legal Contact: Steven J. Murawski  
(312) 886-6741

For Immediate Release: September 8, 1999

No. 99-OPA246

## **EPA: CLEANUP COMPLETE AT CEDAR SERVICES SITE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today that a \$750,000 cleanup is now complete at the Cedar Services site, Bemidji, MN.

The 38-acre Brownfield site, about 1/4 mile east of the intersection of State Highway 197 and County Road 404 (a.k.a Carr Lake Road), was a telephone- and powerline-pole treatment operation from 1971 to 1980. Brownfields are abandoned or underused industrial or commercial properties where redevelopment is slowed by real or perceived environmental contamination.

EPA's primary concern was to eliminate pentachlorophenol (PCP) contamination at the site. PCP is a probable cancer-causing agent in humans. Long-term exposure to the chemical may damage the liver, kidneys, blood, and nervous system.

The project was completed in three phases: (1) preliminary removal of hazardous materials by EPA in fall 1997; (2) sampling and analysis by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) and the Security State Bank of Bemidji in spring and summer 1998; and (3) additional hazardous

materials removal by EPA beginning in June 1999.

The 1999 cleanup included:

- Disposal of about 450 tons of PCP-contaminated surface soils, and steel and concrete debris, primarily from the east side of the site. This material was sent to a facility in Belleville, MI.
- Incineration of about 250 tons of PCP-contaminated soils from the former boiler area, sent to a facility in Aragonite, UT.
- Disposal of 12 drums of PCP liquids, sent today to a facility in Calvert City, KY.
- Disposal of 21 cubic yards of asbestos boiler insulation, sent to a facility in Canyon, MN.

An empty warehouse and a few maintenance sheds remain at the site.

The cleanup began at the request of the MDA, and was mostly paid for and managed by a Chicago-based Superfund emergency response team.

"It's nice to see another Brownfield site cleaned up and moving toward redevelopment," said EPA Regional Administrator Francis X. Lyons. "People often associate Brownfields with urban areas, but there are many sites just like Cedar Services in smaller communities all across the midwest."

Said Bemidji Mayor Doug Peterson, "We're pleased this work is wrapping up at one of the area's most visible Brownfield sites. From here, we look forward to supporting Security State Bank and MDA in their efforts to redevelop the property."

Next steps for the site include: a revised environmental assessment, continued ground water monitoring, and any additional work required by the MDA for site closure. EPA also hopes to enter into a Prospective Purchaser Agreement with the next owner of the site. The agreement—a tool EPA often uses to encourage reuse of formerly polluted sites—provides the future owner with liability protection for past contamination known to be at the site. The MDA can also offer similar liability assurances to future owners.

For more information about the site, call: Bill Mawe, Security State Bank, 218-751-1510.



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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa246.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



Technical Contact: John O'Grady  
(312) 886-1477

Media Contact: Leo Rosales  
(312) 353-6198

For Immediate Release: September 1, 1999

No. 99-OPA247

## **EPA: CLEANUP BEGINS AT ARCANUM IRON & METAL SITE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today that a projected \$5.8 million cleanup will begin this week at the Arcanum Iron & Metal Superfund site, Darke County, OH. Residents and businesses near the site can expect to see heavy equipment, construction vehicles, and workers in required protective clothing through late 1999.

The cleanup, paid for by the responsible parties, includes removal of 4,000 cubic yards of lead-acid battery casing chips, demolition and disposal of 3 buildings, and disposal of contaminated soils, drums, trailers, and storage tanks. Current data from site ground-water samples and residential wells shows no ground-water contamination at this time.

The 4.5 acre site, just outside city limits of the Village of Arcanum in Twin Township, was a lead battery recycler from the early 1960's to 1982. During the company's operation, plastic and black rubber battery casings were split to extract lead cores for smelting, and acids from the batteries were allowed to drain to a low area on the property. In addition, reprocessing of the casings produced lead oxide sludge that collected in various areas of the property. Some of these materials were also buried in on-site pits.

For more information about the cleanup, contact EPA community involvement coordinator Leo Rosales, 312-353-6198, or email,

[rosales.leo@epa.gov](mailto:rosales.leo@epa.gov). Site documents are available for review at Arcanum Public Library, 101 North St.

EPA selected a final amended cleanup plan in June 1997. This plan revised the cleanup levels for lead-contaminated soils, resulting in a much-lower projected cost--from about \$20 million to less than \$6 million. Negotiations between EPA and the responsible parties regarding engineering and design work ended in July 1998, with a consent decree entered in April 1999 at the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio, Western Division, Dayton.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



Media Contact: Jennifer Ostermeier  
(312) 353-0618

For Immediate Release: September 2, 1999

No. 99-OPA248

## **EPA: MONTHLY AVAILABILITY SESSIONS ON KALAMAZOO**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 will hold the first in a series of monthly availability sessions on installation of new city water lines in Kalamazoo, MI, Wednesday, Sept. 8, 5:30 to 8 p.m., Oshtemo Township Building, 7275 West Main St.

The water lines are being installed in an area potentially contaminated by the West KL Avenue Landfill, a Superfund site near the intersection of Alma and 2nd St.

Availability sessions are informal, open-house style meetings, in which residents can meet one-on-one with EPA representatives. EPA anticipates the monthly meetings, held on the second Wednesday of each month, will continue through early 2000.

Site documents are available for review at Oshtemo Branch Library, 7265 West Main St.

For more information, call Community Involvement Coordinator Jennifer Ostermeier, 800-621-8431 or 312-353-0618, or e-mail: [ostermeier.jennifer@epa.gov](mailto:ostermeier.jennifer@epa.gov).

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



Media Contact: Mick Hans  
(312) 353-5050

For Immediate Release: September 7, 1999

No. 99-OPA249

## **NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA TOUR AND PHOTO-OP AT BEMIDJI, MN, CLEANUP SITE, WED. SEPT. 8, 9:30 A.M.**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 will host a media tour and photo-opportunity at the Cedar Services Superfund site, Wednesday, September 8, 9:30 a.m. -10:30 a.m. The site was a telephone- and powerline-pole treatment operation from 1971 to 1980. EPA's \$750,000 cleanup will wrap up this week.

At about 10 a.m., 12 drums will be loaded into a hazardous-waste truck and transported to a licensed disposal facility.

Bemidji Mayor Doug Peterson, and representatives from EPA and Minnesota Department of Agriculture will be available to answer questions and explain the project.

The 38-acre site is about 1/4-mile east of the intersection of State Highway 197 and County Road 404 (Carr Lake Road).

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa249.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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(312) 886-6237

Andre Daugavietis  
(312) 886-6663

For Immediate Release: September 10, 1999

No. 99-OPA252

## **EPA CITES MARATHON ASHLAND FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Marathon Ashland Petroleum LLC for alleged violations of Federal clean-air regulations at the company's oil refinery, Marathon Ave., Robinson, IL.

EPA said the company has repeatedly flared acid gas that should have gone to the refinery's sulfur recovery unit for treatment. The acid gas has high concentrations of hydrogen sulfide which, when flared, releases sulfur dioxide into the air.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Marathon Ashland has 30 days from receipt of the notice to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing the Clean Air Act," said Margaret

Guerrero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "To protect public health and the environment, we will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with clean-air regulations."

Sulfur dioxide causes acid rain. Exposure to sulfur dioxide can impair breathing, aggravate existing respiratory diseases like bronchitis, and reduce the ability of the lungs to clear foreign particles.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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Legal Contact: Mary McAuliffe  
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Andre Daugavietis  
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For Immediate Release: September 10, 1999

No. 99-OPA253

## **EPA CITES MARATHON ASHLAND FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Marathon Ashland Petroleum LLC for alleged violations of Federal and State clean-air regulations at the company's oil refinery, 1300 South Fort St., Detroit, MI.

EPA said the company failed to minimize sulfur dioxide emissions by flaring gases containing the chemical instead of treating them in the refinery's sulfur recovery plant. In addition, the gases were improperly flared.

Marathon Ashland also failed to properly manage benzene and control emissions of benzene--a hazardous air pollutant and volatile organic compound (VOC)--at the refinery.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Marathon Ashland has 30 days from receipt of the

notice to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing regulations for hazardous air pollutants, to protect public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Sulfur dioxide causes acid rain. Exposure to sulfur dioxide can impair breathing, aggravate existing respiratory diseases like bronchitis, and reduce the ability of the lungs to clear foreign particles.

Benzene is known to cause cancer. Long-term exposure to benzene may cause blood and bone-marrow diseases, leukemia, and chromosome changes. Short-term exposure can cause drowsiness, dizziness, headaches, and loss of consciousness.

VOC's combine in the air with other chemicals on warm days to form ground-level ozone, which can cause breathing problems, reduced lung function, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and reduced resistance to colds and other infections. Ozone can aggravate asthma and damage lung tissue. Children, the elderly, and people with chronic respiratory diseases are the most sensitive. Ozone can also damage crops and trees.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa253.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: September 10, 1999

No. 99-OPA254

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH PARIS CLEANERS ON CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with Paris Cleaners on alleged violations of Federal clean-air regulations at the company's dry cleaning plant, 1975 Celina Rd., St. Marys, OH. No penalty was assessed.

EPA cited Paris Cleaners last March for not properly enclosing and venting two 40-lb transfer machines and five tumbler dryers at the plant, where perchloroethylene—a hazardous air pollutant--was used in the cleaning process.

In addition, EPA said Paris Cleaners failed to give timely notification of its existence and other information required under the Clean Air Act.

The agreement requires Paris Cleaners to bring all perchloroethylene emission sources at the plant into compliance with EPA regulations within one year.

"Hazardous air pollutants are a serious threat to human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that

companies comply with the regulations."

Short-term exposure to high concentrations of perchloroethylene--particularly in poorly ventilated areas--can cause dizziness, light-headedness, nausea, kidney dysfunction, confusion, difficulty in speaking and walking, and loss of consciousness. Long-term exposure can damage the liver and nervous system. Perchloroethylene is classified as a probable, but low-hazard, cancer-causing agent in humans.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa254.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: September 10, 1999

No. 99-OPA255

## **EPA CITES NORTH STAR BHP STEEL FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited North Star BHP Steel, Ltd., for alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's steel mill, 6767 County Rd. 9, Delta, OH.

EPA said North Star BHP failed to comply with testing requirements in its air permit and to minimize emissions of nitrogen oxide. In addition, EPA said the company has not complied with emission limits for carbon monoxide and nitrogen oxide.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. North Star BHP has 30 days from receipt of the notice to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with the Clean Air Act."

When carbon monoxide enters the bloodstream, it reduces delivery of oxygen to the body's organs and tissues. Exposure to high levels of carbon monoxide can cause death or impair vision, hand movement, learning ability, and performance of complex tasks. Persons with heart disease have the greatest risk when exposed to this pollutant.

Nitrogen dioxide can irritate the lungs and lower resistance to respiratory infections. Nitrogen oxides contribute to formation of ground-level ozone (smog) and acid rain.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa255.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: September 10, 1999

No. 99-OPA256

## **EPA CITES ZIMMER PATIENT CARE FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Zimmer Patient Care Division for alleged violations of Federal clean-air regulations at the company's sterilization plant, 200 West Ohio Ave., Dover, OH.

The company uses ethylene oxide--a hazardous air pollutant--to sterilize medical products at the plant.

EPA said Zimmer failed to do an initial performance test on the vent in its ethylene oxide sterilization chamber vent before June 4, 1999, the regulatory deadline.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Zimmer has 30 days from receipt of this finding to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"Hazardous air pollutants are potentially a serious threat to human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the

regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the regulations."

A probable human carcinogen, ethylene oxide vapors can cause headaches, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, difficulty in breathing, drowsiness, weakness, and loss of muscle control. Higher exposures may cause a buildup of fluid in the lungs that can cause death.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa256.htm>€





# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: September 10, 1999

No. 99-OPA257

## **EPA CITES FCI FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited FCI, Inc., for alleged violations of Federal and State clean-air regulations at the company's wood office-furniture manufacturing plant, 1750 North Lawndale Ave., Chicago.

EPA said FCI failed to give EPA timely written notice that it is a major source of volatile hazardous air pollutants.

FCI failed to get construction permits before building and operating four coating spray booths that emit volatile organic compounds (VOC's). In addition, the booths did not meet lowest achievable emission rate requirements. In 1998, FCI exceeded the emissions limit on a vinyl sealer.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. EPA met with FCI on September 8 to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing regulations for hazardous air pollutants, to protect public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take

all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

VOC's combine in the air with other chemicals on warm days to form ground-level ozone, which can cause breathing problems, reduced lung function, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and reduced resistance to colds and other infections. Ozone can aggravate asthma and damage lung tissue. Children, the elderly, and people with chronic respiratory diseases are the most sensitive. Ozone can also damage crops and trees.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa257.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: September 14, 1999

No. 99-OPA258

## **EPA CITES VILLAGE OF WITTENBERG FOR ASBESTOS VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited the Village of Wittenberg, WI, for alleged violations of Federal regulations on asbestos--a hazardous air pollutant--at a building, 703 East Grand Ave., demolished by the Wittenberg Fire Dept.

The department used the building, which had asbestos-containing slate siding, for fire-fighting and fire-rescue training on Nov. 17, 1997, and then allowed the fires to completely burn the building.

EPA said the Village of Wittenberg failed to:

- thoroughly inspect the building for the presence of asbestos before demolition;
- give EPA timely written notice of its intent to demolish;
- adequately wet all asbestos-containing material and keep it wet until collected and contained, or treated, before disposal; and
- remove all asbestos-containing material before burning the building.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may

issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. The Village of Wittenberg has 30 days from receipt of this finding to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"Hazardous air pollutants are a serious threat to human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure compliance with the regulations."

Asbestos is a known cancer-causing substance that can cause mesothelioma (a type of lung cancer) and asbestosis (a lung disease) many years after exposure.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: September 14, 1999

No. 99-OPA259

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH G&W ELECTRIC; INCLUDES \$10,395 FINE & PROJECT**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with G&W Electric Co. on alleged violations of Federal hazardous air pollutant regulations at the company's plant, 3500 West 127th St., Blue Island, IL.

The agreement includes a \$10,395 penalty and a pollution-control project costing at least \$55,885. It resolves a complaint, filed at the same time, alleging the company did not comply with Federal solvent-cleaning air toxicant regulations at the Blue Island complex.

Specifically, G&W, which makes electrical transmission voltage power-system products, failed to submit required notifications and to take proper steps to control emissions of perchloroethylene, a hazardous air pollutant used as a cleaning solvent.

As its pollution control project, G&W has agreed to install within 120 days a new epoxy-dispensing machine that will cut the plant's yearly use of methanol--a hazardous air pollutant and volatile organic compound (VOC)--by eight to ten 55-gallon barrels. After installation of the epoxy dispenser, methanol emissions from the process will be zero.

Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division, said: "Hazardous air pollutants are potentially a serious threat to human health and the environment. EPA will take all necessary steps to ensure compliance with hazardous air pollutant regulations."

Long-term exposure to perchloroethylene can damage the liver and nervous system. It is a probable low-hazard, cancer-causing agent in humans.

Long-term exposure to methanol may result in headache, giddiness, insomnia, visual problems, and blindness. EPA has not classified it as a cancer-causing agent.

Methanol is also a volatile organic compound that contributes to the formation of ground-level ozone, or smog. Metropolitan Chicago does not meet the health-based standard for smog, which affects children, the elderly, and people with heart and lung diseases the most.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: September 14, 1999

No. 99-OPA260

## **EPA CITES PEPSI-COLA GENERAL BOTTLERS (CINCINNATI) FOR CHEMICAL RELEASE REPORTING VIOLATIONS; PROPOSES \$83,325 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against Pepsi-Cola General Bottlers (Cincinnati, OH), for violation of Federal laws on the reporting of a hazardous chemical release. EPA has proposed a \$83,325 fine.

EPA alleges that on Sept. 23, 1998, the facility, 2121 Sunnybrook Dr., failed to promptly report the release of about 38,030 lb of ferric sulfate. All releases of the chemical above 1,000 lb must be reported promptly to the National Response Center, and the State and local emergency planning committees.

The facility eventually notified the National Response Center, the Ohio Emergency Response Commission, and the Hamilton County Emergency Planning Committee on Sept. 25, 1998—about 50 hours after the incident.

The release occurred when a forklift driver accidentally struck the supply line to a ferric sulfate tank, causing the release of the chemical onto asphalt—which then flowed into a storm sewer and into a tributary of Mill Creek. The facility was evacuated for 2 hours and three employees were injured while attempting to control the release.

Ferric sulfate, which is used to purify water at the plant, may, in large doses, be hazardous to aquatic life.

"Compliance with the chemical reporting laws is critical, because fire departments, hospitals, and other authorities must have the necessary information to respond appropriately when a release occurs," said regional Superfund director William Muno. "Public health, as well as the environment, is at stake."

Under the Federal emergency response laws, facilities cited may request a meeting with EPA within 30 days to discuss or contest the matter.

Since 1989, EPA Region 5 has filed 215 complaints for hazardous chemical reporting violations, resulting in 204 settlements with \$4.86 million in total fines and \$3.09 million in environmental projects. Since the 1999 fiscal year began, EPA has filed 23 cases and reached 30 settlements.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: September 15, 1999

No. 99-OPA262

## **EPA TO OBSERVE UN DAY FOR PRESERVATION OF OZONE LAYER**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 will join the United Nations Thursday, Sep. 16, in observing the UN's International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer.

The theme will be "Save Our Sky: Be Ozone Friendly." The purpose is to raise public awareness of the threat to the stratospheric, or "good", ozone layer that protects the earth's surface from cancer-causing ultraviolet rays.

Additional goals are to encourage governments, organizations, and companies around the world to help raise awareness of the importance of protecting the ozone layer.

"Preservation of the stratospheric ozone layer is an important part of EPA's mission to protect public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We welcome this opportunity to help increase awareness of the problem and of the known solutions."

EPA staff will distribute literature and will be available for discussion at an exhibit in the lobby of Metcalfe Federal Building, 77 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For additional information, visit the UN's World Wide Web site at

[www.un.org](http://www.un.org).

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa262.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: September 16, 1999

No. 99-OPA263

## **EPA: VALLEYCREST LANDFILL CLEANUP TO CONTINUE THROUGH 2001**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today that cleanup of buried drums and contaminated materials at the Valleycrest Landfill Superfund site (Dayton, OH) will continue through 2001. EPA recently revised the estimated number of buried drums at the site to about 25,000—far greater than originally suspected. The cleanup is being funded by the Valleycrest Drum Removal Action Group (VDRAG), a group of potentially responsible parties.

A meeting to answer residents' questions about the project will be held at 7 p.m. tonight, at Stebbins High School, 1900 Harshman Rd., Riverside.

The 102-acre site, at 200 Valleycrest Dr. (between Brandt Pike and Valley St.), was a gravel pit, which accepted industrial and municipal waste from 1965 to 1975, and foundry sand, fly ash, and air filter baghouse dust from the mid-1970's to 1989.

EPA and Ohio EPA began investigating the site in 1986. Ground-water monitoring wells were installed on site and at the perimeter of the site. The site was added to the National

Priorities List in May 1994. In January 1995, Ohio EPA and several potentially responsible parties entered into an administrative order to investigate the site, including a ground-water investigation.

In September 1996, an underground fire occurred in the eastern portion of the landfill. Contractors hired by the potentially responsible parties uncovered and disposed of about 100 partially buried drums. By November 1997, additional investigation by Ohio EPA indicated the potential of thousands of buried drums. In May 1998, EPA conducted an extensive geophysical survey of the eastern and western portions of the site, which indicated a large volume of underground metal. The metallic material was recently confirmed to be drums.

In September 1998, a smaller group of potentially responsible parties—the VDRAG—entered into an administrative order on consent issued by EPA. The order required the VDRAG to:

- (1) Develop a site safety plan,
- (2) Excavate and properly dispose of all buried drums, containers, and contaminated soils and debris, and
- (3) Install a landfill gas control system.

In November 1998, drum removal under the administrative order by the VDRAG contractors began. So far, 3,700 drums have been excavated and 4,000 cubic yards of contaminated soils and debris from the western portion of the site have been sent for disposal. Initial analysis of the drums and soil and debris collected indicates elevated levels of trichloroethylene, benzene, lead, vinyl chloride, and PCB's.

Current work at the site includes excavation and sampling of drums and contaminated soil and debris, air monitoring during these activities, and the installation of a perimeter landfill gas control system. Separately, a comprehensive ground-water investigation continues under the direction of Ohio EPA. EPA is overseeing all work conducted by the VDRAG, in coordination with Ohio EPA, the Ohio Department of Health, and the Dayton and Riverside fire departments.

For more information, call Leo Rosales, community involvement coordinator, EPA, at (800) 621-8431, or email: [rosales.leo@epa.gov](mailto:rosales.leo@epa.gov).

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: September 16, 1999

No. 99-OPA264

## **EPA CITES PACE FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Pace Industries, Inc., for alleged violations of Federal clean-air regulations at the company's wood household-furniture manufacturing plant, 2545 West Polk St., Chicago.

EPA said Pace failed to give EPA a timely written notice that it is a major source of volatile hazardous air pollutants. The company also failed to limit hazardous air pollutant emissions from its finishing operations, using any of the compliance methods approved by EPA regulations.

In addition, Pace failed to comply with EPA recordkeeping and planning requirements.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. EPA met with Pace August 24 to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing regulations for hazardous air pollutants, to protect public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take

all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Volatile organic compounds combine in the air with other chemicals on warm days to form ground-level ozone, which can cause breathing problems, reduced lung function, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and reduced resistance to colds and other infections. Ozone can aggravate asthma and damage lung tissue. Children, the elderly, and people with chronic respiratory diseases are the most sensitive.

Metropolitan Chicago is unable to meet health-based standards for ground-level ozone.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: September 17, 1999

No. 99-OPA266

## **EPA: OPEN HOUSE AT CLARE WATER SUPPLY SITE, SEPT. 22**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 will host an open house to update residents on the nearly complete cleanup at the Clare Water Supply Superfund site, Clare, MI. The open house, plus optional site tours, will be held Wednesday, Sept. 22, from 3 to 7:30 p.m., at the soil treatment building, 519 West 5th St.

Representatives from EPA, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, and the responsible parties will be available to discuss the most recent cleanup work, including installation of a water and soil treatment system.

EPA activity, including investigation of potentially responsible parties, site assessment, development of cleanup and engineering plans, and site cleanup, began in 1985. More information about the Clare Water Supply site is available at the Garfield Memorial Library, 4th and McEwan Sts., Clare.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: September 21, 1999

No. 99-OPA267

## **EPA: \$3.5 MILLION CLEANUP UNDERWAY AT SOUTH CENTRAL SITE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today a \$3.5 million cleanup of the South Central Terminal site is now underway. The site—located on U.S. Route 51—is on the south side of Pana, IL, in Christian County. Residents and businesses in the area can expect to see construction vehicles, heavy equipment, and workers in required protective clothing until March or April 2000.

The 93-acre site was an oil refinery from 1939 to 1982. The site was sold to South Central Terminal Co. in 1984, and subsequently cited by Illinois EPA for a variety of solid- and hazardous waste violations. In July 1992, 200,000 gallons of ammonium sulfate spilled from a leased storage tank and migrated from a stream on the site into Coal and Opossum Creeks, and eventually into the Kaskaskia River (which flows into the Mississippi River), impairing 20 stream miles and killing an estimated 156,000 fish.

Between 1992 and 1994, Illinois EPA issued several consent orders to the site owners requesting cleanup actions. Some limited cleanup was performed, but most of the hazardous materials remained on-site. In December 1998, a series of inspections by Illinois EPA confirmed additional water, land, and air pollution violations, as well as continuing



problems with hazardous and flammable materials stored at the site. In May 1999, Illinois EPA requested formal involvement by U.S. EPA to address a range of site issues.

The cleanup, managed by a Chicago-based Superfund emergency response team, includes:

- Dismantling, decontamination, and off-site disposal of more than 50 above-ground storage tanks and distillation towers.
- Disposal of about 250,000 gallons of remaining petroleum and agricultural chemicals, corrosive liquids, and sludges contained in the tanks.
- Disposal of asbestos-containing insulation material from numerous decaying tanks, process pipes, and electrical transformers.

"We're very happy to see EPA take aggressive steps to clean up the South Central Terminal property," said Pana Mayor Sharon Belinski. "This site has been an eyesore for a number of years, as well as a potential fire hazard."

The cleanup will not address non-contaminated office buildings on the property. EPA will pay for and manage the cleanup in coordination with Illinois EPA, as well as continue to seek cleanup costs from the responsible parties.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa267.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: September 20, 1999

No. 99-OPA268

## **EPA CITES FORMEL INDUSTRIES FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Formel Industries, Inc., for alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's printing plant, 2355 North 25th Ave., Franklin Park, IL.

Formel makes printed food coverings for the food industry. It operates three flexographic printing press lines that print polypropylene film, cellophane film, and laminated polyester film.

EPA said Formel used inks and coatings with a higher percentage of volatile organic compounds (VOC's) than is allowed by State regulations. The company also failed to have on its printing lines control devices that comply with State regulations.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Formel has 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"Metropolitan Chicago suffers from high levels of ozone during hot summer days," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "EPA enforcement of VOC emission regulations protects public health by cutting these ozone levels."

VOC's combine in the atmosphere with other chemicals to form ground-level ozone, which can cause breathing problems, reduced lung function, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and reduced resistance to colds and other infections. Ozone can aggravate asthma and damage lung tissue. Children, the elderly, and people with chronic respiratory iseases are the most sensitive.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: September 20, 1999

No. 99-OPA270

## **EPA TO PRESENT THIRD LECTURE IN GLOBAL CLIMATE-CHANGE SERIES**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today the third lecture in its global climate-change series, "Climate Change and Waste", will be given at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Sep. 22, at EPA's Chicago office.

The speakers will be two EPA solid-waste specialists, Susan Mooney and Megan Gavin. Both speakers are members of the regional Waste, Pesticides, and Toxics Division staff.

The speakers will discuss the connection between climate change and waste and how greenhouse gas emissions can be cut by reducing sources and by recycling. They will also discuss success stories of various companies that have taken part in EPA's Waste Wise partnership program.

The lecture will be held at EPA Region 5, 77 West Jackson Blvd., Lake Huron Rm., 12th Fl.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa270.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: September 24, 1999

No. 99-OPA271

## **EPA MAKES CHANGES TO CLEANUP PLAN FOR BOFORS-NOBEL SITE; MEETING SEPT. 29**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently amended the cleanup plan for the Bofors-Nobel Superfund site (Muskegon, MI). The changes—which were proposed by the potentially responsible parties—provide safeguards to ensure the potentially responsible parties will take additional action if the cleanup remedy is not completely effective.

A meeting to explain the amended plan will be held Wed., Sept. 29, 7 p.m., at Egelston Township Hall, 5428 East Apple Ave. A formal presentation will start promptly at 7 p.m., followed by an open house-style availability session at 7:45 p.m. Representatives from EPA and Michigan Department of Environmental Quality will be available to answer questions about the amended plan.

Site documents are available for review at Egelston Township Hall and Hackley Library, 316 West Webster St. For more information, contact EPA Community Involvement Coordinator Cheryl Allen, 800-621-8431 or e-mail, [allen.cheryl@epa.gov](mailto:allen.cheryl@epa.gov).

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: September 27, 1999

No. 99-OPA272

## **EPA CITES YALE POLISHERS AND PLATERS FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Yale Polishers and Platers, Inc., for alleged violations of Federal regulations on chromium--a hazardous air pollutant--and State clean-air regulations at the company's metal-plating plant, 5247 South Keeler Ave., Chicago.

EPA said Yale failed to either do a stack test on its chrome-plating tank, or to take surface tension readings, to ensure compliance with Federal emission limits for chromium.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Yale has 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division, said: "Hazardous air pollutants are a serious threat to human health and the environment. EPA will take all necessary steps to ensure compliance with hazardous air-pollutant regulations."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is found in chromic acid mist released into the air as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa272.htm>€





# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: September 28, 1999

No. 99-OPA273

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH CALUMET STEEL; INCLUDES \$69,646 FINE & PROJECT**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached an agreement with Calumet Steel Co. on alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's steel minimill, 311 East 11th St., Chicago Heights, IL.

In addition to paying a \$69,646 penalty, the company has agreed to complete an environmental project costing \$16,000.

In a complaint issued at the same time, EPA cited Calumet Steel for exceeding State emissions limits for particulates (dust, ash, smoke) from its melt shop and cast house, during an emissions test done in March at EPA's request.

As its environmental project, Calumet Steel will install a continuous bag leak-detection monitoring system at its baghouse. The monitors can detect leaking bags earlier than visual inspection, so that bags can be repaired earlier, cutting particulate emissions.

"We are pleased that Calumet Steel has agreed to complete this project," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation

Division. "It should help to further improve the quality of our air."

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can affect children, the elderly, or those with heart and lung diseases the most.

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Last Updated: 9/28/99 15:45€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa273.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: September 28, 1999

No. 99-OPA274

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH DURO- CHROME; INCLUDES \$35,000 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with Duro-Chrome Industries, Inc., on alleged violations of Federal hazardous air pollutant regulations at the company's electroplating plant, 275 Industrial Dr., Wauconda, IL. A \$35,000 penalty was assessed.

In a complaint filed at the same time, EPA said four of Duro-Chrome's six hard-chrome electroplating tanks exceeded the Federal chromium emission limit during stack tests in November 1997. Emissions from one of these tanks also exceeded limits during a test in June 1998, after new control equipment was installed.

In addition, the complaint said Duro-Chrome had violated Federal notification, workpractice, and emissions testing regulations related to all six of its tanks.

EPA said Duro-Chrome had corrected all problems pertaining to the alleged noncompliance by last February.

"We are pleased Duro-Chrome has taken steps to control air pollution and

to improve the quality of our air," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division.

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is found in chromic-acid mist, released into the air as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

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Page maintained by: [Kristen Tyrpin](#), Office of Public Affairs

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa274.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: September 28, 1999

No. 99-OPA275

## **EPA HONORS SANDWICH, IL, FOR OUTSTANDING WASTEWATER TREATMENT**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has given Sandwich, IL, the 1999 Operations and Maintenance Excellence Award for having the second most improved wastewater treatment plant in the six-State region. EPA presented the award to Sandwich Mayor Tom Thomas today in a ceremony at Sandwich City Hall. Sandwich is one of 12 communities in the Region being honored.

EPA selected the Sandwich plant because of rapid and dramatic improvements at the city's wastewater treatment plant. The plant exceeded its permit limits in 7 out of 12 months during 1995 alone. But, with the help of EPA staff, the plant returned to full compliance within three months and has not exceeded its permit limits since April 1996.

It now does an exceptional job of removing more than 97 percent of pollutants from its discharge. Its improved operation has helped protect water quality in Harvey Creek and the Fox River.

The Sandwich plant serves a community of 5,600, as well as industrial sources, treating an average of 630,000 gallons of wastewater per day.

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Page maintained by: [Kristen Tyrpin](#), Office of Public Affairs

Last Updated: 9/30/99 16:59

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa275.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: September 28, 1999

No. 99-OPA276

## **EPA CITES SEGERDAHL FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Segerdahl Corp. for alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's printing and coating plant, 1351 Wheeling Rd., Wheeling, IL.

EPA said Segerdahl is using adhesives with a volatile organic compound (VOC) content above the level allowed by State regulations.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. EPA met with Segerdahl Aug. 25 to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations."

VOC's combine in the atmosphere with other chemicals on warm days to form ground-level ozone (smog), which can cause breathing problems, reduced lung function, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and reduced resistance to

colds and other infections. Ozone can aggravate asthma and speed up aging of lung tissue.

Wheeling is in Metropolitan Chicago, which does not meet the health-based standard for ozone.

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Last Updated: 9/28/99 15:41€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa276.htm>€





# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: September 28, 1999

No. 99-OPA277

## **EPA CITES BISON PLATING; INCLUDES \$1,300 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against Bison Plating, Inc., for alleged violations of Federal regulations on chromium--a hazardous air pollutant--at the company's electroplating plant, 600 Sherman Ave., Adell, WI. A \$1,300 penalty has been proposed.

EPA said that Bison failed to comply with planning, recordkeeping, reporting, and testing requirements of Federal regulations for decorative-chrome plating tanks and anodizing tanks. The regulations went into effect Jan. 25, 1997.

Bison has 30 days from receipt of the complaint to file an answer and request a hearing. It may request an informal conference to discuss the allegations anytime.

"Hazardous air pollutants are potentially a serious threat to human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is found in chromic-acid mist released into the air as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa277.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: September 29, 1999

No. 99-OPA278

## **EPA CITES BP CHEMICALS; INCLUDES \$92,800 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against BP Chemicals, Inc., for alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's plant on Ft. Amanda Rd., Lima, OH. A \$92,800 penalty has been proposed.

EPA said BP Chemicals began building a unit to make butanediol--a hazardous air pollutant--before its permit to prevent significant deterioration of air quality in the area became effective.

Companies must get this type of permit before they can build or modify air pollution sources in areas that already meet national health-based air quality standards for all air pollutants.

BP Chemicals has 30 days from receipt of the complaint to file an answer and request a hearing. It may also request an informal conference with EPA at any time to discuss the allegations.

"Hazardous air pollutants are serious threats to human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air

and Radiation Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with the regulations."

Butanediol is suspected to be toxic to the nervous system and to the heart and blood.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: September 29, 1999

No. 99-OPA279

## **EPA CITES ACME HARD CHROME; INCLUDES \$47,600 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against Acme Hard Chrome, Inc., for alleged violations of Federal regulations on chromium--a hazardous air pollutant--and State clean-air regulations at the company's electroplating plant, 555 Freedom Ave., Alliance, OH. A \$47,600 penalty was proposed.

EPA said Acme, which operates 10 hard-chrome plating tanks, failed to do a timely performance test, showing it met the chromium emission limit for four tanks. Acme also installed five tanks before getting State installation permits.

Federal regulations for hard-chrome plating tanks and anodizing tanks went into effect Jan. 25, 1997. Performance testing had to be done before July 25, 1997, for existing sources.

Acme has 30 days from receipt of the complaint to file an answer and request a hearing. It may also request an informal conference with EPA at any time to discuss the allegations.

"EPA is committed to enforcing regulations for hazardous air pollutants,

to protect public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is found in chromic-acid mist released into the atmosphere as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: September 29, 1999

No. 99-OPA280

## **EPA CITES NATIONAL MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited National Maintenance and Repair, Inc., for alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's barge and towboat cleaning and repair facility, Foot of Hawthorn St., Hartford, IL.

EPA said it discovered, during an October 1998 inspection, that National did not keep records of coatings it used and did not have proper permits for its coating operations and parts of its wastewater treatment system. In addition, the company's degreasers were left open during the inspection.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. EPA met with National Aug. 17 to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA's mission is to protect public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations."

Coatings are a source of volatile organic compounds which combine in the air with other chemicals on warm days to form ground-level ozone (smog). Smog, in turn, can cause breathing problems, reduced lung function, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and reduced resistance to colds and other infections. It can aggravate asthma and speed up aging of lung tissue.

Hartford is in Madison County which is part of the Metro East Area of Metropolitan St. Louis. This area does not meet the health-based standard for ground-level ozone.

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Page maintained by: [Kristen Tyrpin](#), Office of Public Affairs

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: September 29, 1999

No. 99-OPA281

## **EPA CITES SELLS PRINTING; INCLUDES \$67,916 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against Sells Printing Co. LLC for alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's printing plant, 16000 West Rogers Dr., New Berlin, WI. A \$67,916 penalty was proposed.

EPA said the company violated emission limits on volatile organic compounds (VOC's), recordkeeping requirements, and compliance scheduling. The allegations are based on an EPA inspection of the plant in October 1998 and a company response to an EPA information request received last December.

Sells Printing has 30 days from receipt of the complaint to file an answer and request a hearing. It may also request an informal conference with EPA at any time to discuss the allegations.

"EPA's goal is to protect public health and the environment, and we will take all necessary steps to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division.

VOC's combine in the air with other chemicals on warm days to form ground-level ozone (smog), which can cause breathing problems, reduced lung function, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and reduced resistance to colds and other infections. Ozone can aggravate asthma and speed up aging of lung tissue.

New Berlin is in the Metropolitan Milwaukee area, which does not meet the health-based standard for ozone.

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Page maintained by: [Kristen Tyrpin](#), Office of Public Affairs

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: September 30, 1999

No. 99-OPA282

## **EPA SETTLES WITH LAKESHORE ELECTRO- PLATE FOR CHEMICAL REPORTING VIOLATIONS; INCLUDES \$20,992 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently signed an agreement with Lakeshore Electro-Plate, Inc. (Stevensville, MI) to settle an administrative complaint for violating Federal laws on the reporting of hazardous chemicals. The company will pay a \$20,992 fine.

During an April 1998 inspection at the electroplating facility, EPA learned that Lakeshore had never provided the Michigan Emergency Response Commission, the local emergency planning committee, or the Stevensville Fire Department with the required 1996 and 1997 forms for reporting hazardous chemicals stored on-site, including hydrochloric acid and sulfuric acid. (Lakeshore later submitted the required information. Prior to the citation, the company had provided the local police with a copy of its site contingency plan, who in turn, provided it to the Stevensville Fire Department.) EPA administers the reporting requirement under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act, which requires annual reports by March 1.

In this case, Lakeshore reported that it had 5,000 lb of sulfuric acid on-site

during 1996, and 8,000 lb on-site in 1997. The law requires reporting of the chemical when more than 500 lb are on-site. Lakeshore also stored 25,000 lb of hydrochloric acid on-site in 1996 and 55,000 in 1997. The reporting minimum for hydrochloric acid is 10,000 lb.

"Compliance with the chemical reporting laws is critical, because fire departments, hospitals, and other authorities must have the necessary information to respond appropriately when a release occurs," said regional Superfund director William Munro. "Public health, as well as the environment, is at stake."

Since 1989, EPA Region 5 has filed 215 complaints for hazardous chemical reporting violations, resulting in 204 settlements with \$4.86 million in total fines and \$3.09 million in environmental projects. Since the 1999 fiscal year began, EPA has filed 23 cases and reached 30 settlements.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa282.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: September 30, 1999

No. 99-OPA283

## **EPA CITES S&S AUTO SALES; INCLUDES \$8,005 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against S&S Auto Sales, Inc., 9832 West Appleton Ave., Milwaukee, WI, for alleged violations of Federal regulations on chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) refrigerants that can damage the stratospheric, or "good," ozone layer. An \$8,005 penalty was proposed.

EPA said S&S services motor vehicle air conditioners with a refrigerant called McCool Chill-It, without using properly trained and certified technicians.

In addition, the company failed to install the required unique fittings and to apply warning labels on motor vehicle air conditioners they had charged with McCool Chill-It.

The company has 30 days from receipt of the complaint to file an answer and request a hearing. It may also request an informal conference with EPA at any time to discuss the allegations.

"EPA's mission is to protect public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation

Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations."

Depletion of the stratospheric ozone layer by CFC refrigerants allows dangerous amounts of cancer-causing ultraviolet rays from the sun to strike the earth. Production of some of these chemicals was stopped in 1995, and Federal law strictly controls their use and handling. Releasing them into the air is forbidden.

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Page maintained by: [Kristen Tyrpin](#), Office of Public Affairs

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa283.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: September 30, 1999

No. 99-OPA284

## **EPA CITES ADVANCED ORGANICS FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Advanced Organics, Inc., for alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's waste food recycling plant, 7148 State Rte 199, Upper Sandusky, OH.

(Advanced Organics recycles waste food products into ingredients for animal feeds.)

EPA cited the company last January for failing to comply with requirements of its State permit to install and to apply for and get a State permit to operate. In addition, an EPA inspection in August 1998 found excessive visible particulates (smoke, dust, ash) coming out of the plant's stack.

Last January, EPA asked Advanced Organics for information that required it to do performance tests. The tests showed emissions of particulates, carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, and volatile organic compounds (VOC's) exceeding the limits of the company's State permit to install.

EPA said VOC emissions were high enough to require the company to get

a permit to prevent significant deterioration of air quality. Companies must get this type of permit before they can build new plants or modify existing plants in areas that have met national health-based air quality standards for all air pollutants.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. The company has 30 days to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing clean-air regulations to protect public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

VOC's combine in the air with other chemicals on warm days to form ground-level ozone, which can cause breathing problems, reduced lung function, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and reduced resistance to colds and other infections. Ozone can aggravate asthma and speed up aging of lung tissue.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa284.htm>





# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: September 30, 1999

No. 99-OPA285

## **EPA: CLEANUP TO BEGIN AT PETOSKEY MANUFACTURING CO.; WELL FIELD SITE UPDATE MEETING OCT. 6**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today that cleanup of contaminated soil at the Petoskey Manufacturing Co. will begin the week of October 11-15. The property is next to the Petoskey Municipal Well Field Superfund site, Petoskey, MI. Residents and businesses near the metal fabrication plant, 200 West Lake St., can expect to see heavy equipment, construction vehicles, increased truck traffic, and workers in protective clothing until at least the end of October.

A meeting to discuss the project will be held Wednesday, Oct. 6, 7 p.m., Petoskey City Community Room, 2nd Floor, 100 West Lake St. Representatives from EPA will make a brief presentation and answer questions.

The cleanup will include excavation and off-site disposal of about 2,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil and installation of a soil-vapor extraction system. EPA will monitor the air to ensure that the cleanup poses no risks to residents or workers at the plant. The soil is not a risk to residents or workers. It does, however, act as a source of ground-water contamination,

as rain washes in and through the plant area.

Petoskey Manufacturing, which has operated at this location since 1946, historically disposed of spent solvents, paint sludges, and other waste materials on the ground outside the facility. As a result of this practice, there is significant soil- and ground-water contamination in the immediate area.

Residents with questions about the cleanup may call Giang-Van Nguyen, 800-621-8431 or 312-886-6726.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: October 5, 1999

No. 99-OPA287

## **EPA CITES CLEAN HARBORS FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Clean Harbors, Inc., for alleged violations of Federal regulations on benzene--a hazardous air pollutant--at the company's facility, 11800 South Stony Island Ave., Chicago.

(Clean Harbors treats, stores, or disposes of hazardous waste generated by chemical manufacturing plants, coke by-product recovery plants and petroleum refineries.)

EPA said Clean Harbors failed to:

- determine the amount of benzene received from off-site;
- comply with management and treatment requirements for its own waste;
- include information in its annual reports on proper control of benzene emissions from its waste stream;
- transfer benzene-containing wastes from one container to another one day last February using proper controls or covers.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may

issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. EPA met with Clean Harbors September 27 to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division, said: "Hazardous air pollutants are a serious threat to human health and the environment. EPA will take all necessary steps to ensure total compliance with the regulations."

Benzene can cause cancer in humans. Short-term exposure can cause drowsiness, headaches, and loss of consciousness. Long-term exposure has been linked to blood and bone marrow diseases, chromosome changes, and leukemia.

In addition to being a hazardous air pollutant, benzene is a volatile organic compound that contributes to the formation of ground-level ozone, or smog. Ground-level ozone can cause breathing problems, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and can aggravate asthma. It can reduce lung function and resistance to colds and other infections and can damage lung tissue. Children, the elderly, and people with chronic respiratory diseases are the most sensitive.

Metropolitan Chicago does not meet the national health-based standard for ground-level ozone.

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Page maintained by: [Kristen Tyrpin](#), Office of Public Affairs

Last Updated: 10/6/99 10:11

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa287.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: October 5, 1999

No. 99-OPA288

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH PERSTORP; INCLUDES \$140,378 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with Perstorp Polyols, Inc., on alleged clean-air violations at the company's plant, 600 Matzinger Rd., Toledo, OH. A \$140,378 penalty was assessed.

(Perstorp makes synthetic organic chemicals at the plant.)

The agreement resolves an EPA administrative complaint filed last February, and amended in August, alleging Perstorp violated organic hazardous air pollutant standards by failing to:

- submit timely and correct notification of compliance; and,
- do timely and valid performance tests of its pollution-control devices and to submit the results on time.

"Hazardous air pollutants are a serious threat to human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa288.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: October 6, 1999

No. 99-OPA289

## **EPA CITES PEPSI-COLA GENERAL BOTTLERS (MUNSTER) FOR CHEMICAL RELEASE REPORTING VIOLATIONS; PROPOSES \$138,050 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against Pepsi-Cola General Bottlers (Munster, IN), for violation of Federal laws on the reporting of a hazardous chemical release. EPA has proposed a \$138,050 fine.

EPA alleges that on Nov. 16, 1997, the facility, 9300 Calumet Ave., failed to promptly report the release of about 3,150 lb of anhydrous ammonia. All releases of the chemical above 100 lb must be reported promptly to the National Response Center, and to the State and local emergency planning committees.

The facility eventually notified the National Response Center, the Indiana Emergency Response Commission, and the Lake County Emergency Planning Committee--more than 14 hours after the incident. A written follow-up report was also filed late, 9 days after the incident. The incident occurred when a pressure relief valve in the company's refrigeration system opened and released the chemical. The facility was evacuated. No

injuries were reported.

Anhydrous ammonia can cause burns to the skin and eyes, and irritation to the respiratory tract. It can also cause blindness and, if inhaled, can be fatal.

"Compliance with the chemical reporting laws is critical, because fire departments, hospitals, and other authorities must have the necessary information to respond appropriately when a release occurs," said regional Superfund director William Munro. "Public health, as well as the environment, is at stake."

Facilities cited may request a meeting with EPA to discuss or contest the matter.

Since 1989, EPA Region 5 has filed 215 complaints for hazardous chemical reporting violations, resulting in 204 settlements with \$4.86 million in total fines and \$3.09 million in environmental projects. In fiscal year 1999, EPA filed 23 cases and reached 30 settlements.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa289.htm>





# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: October 5, 1999

No. 99-OPA290

## **EPA CITES ACME STEEL FOR HAZARDOUS WASTE VIOLATIONS; PROPOSES \$1,569,744 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Acme Steel Co. for alleged hazardous waste violations at the company's plant, 11236 South Torrence Ave., Chicago. EPA has proposed a \$1,569,744 penalty.

EPA alleges that during an October 1997 inspection, unpermitted hazardous waste piles were discovered at the facility. Acme Steel did not have a written closure plan, which is a plan to cover, decontaminate, or dispose of the waste piles. In addition, the company failed to provide cost estimates of such a plan, or records demonstrating that it had the financial resources to meet those costs or any potential liability from storing the hazardous waste.

EPA has ordered the company to comply with hazardous waste regulations, to stop storing and disposing of hazardous wastes on-site without a permit, and to submit and carry out a closure plan.

The company has a right to request a hearing or contest the complaint or

proposed penalty.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa290.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: October 6, 1999

No. 99-OPA291

## **EPA CITES FARMERS GRAIN FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Farmers Grain Co. for alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's grain elevator, 525 Gould St., Beecher, IL.

EPA said Farmers Grain built and operated a column dryer without getting a State construction or operating permit. EPA discovered the alleged violations during an inspection in November 1998 and from information obtained from Illinois EPA and Farmers Grain.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Farmers Grain has 30 days from receipt of the notice to request a meeting to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations."

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: October 28, 1999

No. 99-OPA292

## **EPA CONTINUES MERCURY SAMPLING OF VAN WERT, OHIO, HOME**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today that the mercury sampling of the home located at 412 East Main Street in Van Wert, Ohio, will continue today. Results of the sampling will be available within two weeks.

EPA has confirmed that mercury has been found inside the home located at 412 East Main Street, no other properties or homes have been affected.

Residents who participated in the renovation of the home in the past ten days, prior to the mercury being found, have been tested for mercury exposure and results will become available to them within the next couple of days. Other residents who entered the house in the past couple of months, and have questions or would like to be tested, should contact their physicians.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: October 12, 1999

No. 99-OPA293

## **EPA TELLS 12 WISCONSIN AUTO BUSINESSES TO COMPLY WITH CLEAN AIR ACT**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently ordered 12 Wisconsin auto businesses to comply with Federal regulations designed to protect the stratospheric, or "good," ozone layer from the harmful effects of chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) refrigerants.

EPA alleges the companies have failed to comply with Federal rules on removing the refrigerants from automobile air conditioners and on recharging the air conditioners with refrigerants.

The companies will not be allowed to remove refrigerants from automobile air conditioners, or to recharge them, until they show EPA they can comply with the regulations.

The companies are: Arena Auto, 753 Lombardi Ave., Green Bay; Auto Clinic, 515 W22724 Arcadian Ave., Waukesha; B&D Auto & Truck Body, N5665 Frontage Rd., Plymouth; Basler Auto, 906 Ohio St., Oshkosh; Blanchard RV, 4111 8th St., Wisconsin Rapids; Cadott Auto

Sales, 433 East Chippewa St., Cadott.

Germantown Auto Body, W161 N11790 Fond Du Lac Ave., Germantown; Marathon Motors, 116 Main St., Marathon; Robert Euhardy Auto & Cycle, N4796 Country B, New London; RP Motors, Inc., 305 North 35th St., Milwaukee; Southport Auto Center, 5210 7th St., Kenosha; and Village Auto Sales, 1650 Velp Ave., Green Bay.

"EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take the necessary steps to ensure compliance with regulations to protect the stratospheric-ozone layer."

Chlorofluorocarbon refrigerants deplete the stratospheric ozone layer that shields the earth from dangerous ultraviolet radiation, which can cause skin cancer and cataracts and can weaken the immune system. Production of some of these chemicals was stopped in 1995, and now Federal law strictly controls their use and handling.

Releasing them into the air is prohibited.

(NOTE TO EDITORS: EPA Attorney Michael Berman is only involved with the Arena Auto case.)

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: October 12, 1999

No. 99-OPA294

## **EPA SELECTS CLEANUP PLANS FOR FOUR OHIO SITES**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently signed cleanup decision documents for four Ohio Superfund sites: Lammers Barrel (Beavercreek), Master Metals (Cleveland), Eagle Picher (Delta), and Dover Chemical Corp. (Dover).

The cleanup decision documents outline the measures EPA has approved for dealing with contamination at the hazardous waste sites.

At Lammers Barrel, the plan includes: extension of county water lines to homes with contamination above Federal guidelines; construction of a high-powered vacuum system to remove liquid and gas from contaminated soil and ground water; and monitoring of the ground water plume. Estimated cost: \$1.5 million.

At Master Metals, the plan includes: excavation and treatment of contaminated soil outside the property boundaries and consolidation with contaminated soil within the property boundaries; covering the soil with 2 feet of clean fill and a top layer of vegetation; monitoring and maintaining the soil cap for 30 years; and deed restrictions on certain future activities. All soil to be excavated is considered site soil. Estimated cost: \$537,000.



At Eagle Picher, where the primary contaminants are lead and other metals, the plan includes: excavation, treatment, and off-site disposal of contaminated soil and foundry sand, as well as contaminated soil outside the site boundaries; and at Fewless Creek, excavation treatment and off-site disposal of contaminated soil and canal sediment in the Lagoon Area; and the enhancement of ongoing extraction and treatment of contaminated ground water. Estimated cost: \$23 million.

Copies of the decision documents ("Action Memorandums") and other site documents will be available for review at public information repositories in communities near the sites. Administrative records, which contain the information upon which the cleanup decisions were based, have also been established in conjunction with the repositories, and are also available at EPA's Records Center in Chicago.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: October 12, 1999

No. 99-OPA296

## **FOREST COUNTY POTAWATOMI, STATE OF WISCONSIN SIGN AGREEMENT**

The Forest County Potawatomi Community (FCP) and the State of Wisconsin have signed an agreement that resolves issues related to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed Class I air quality redesignation for about 11,000 acres of Potawatomi tribal land in Forest County, WI.

The agreement was signed by Governor Tommy Thompson, Potawatomi Vice-Chair Harold Frank, and EPA Region 5 Administrator Francis X. Lyons.

In February 1995, the FCP requested that EPA redesignate air quality classification within tribal boundaries in Forest County to Class I status under the Federal Clean Air Act Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) construction permit program.

The PSD program works with facilities, such as paper mills, foundries, and power plants, that emit large quantities of air pollutants. The program is intended to insure that air quality remains good in areas where it is currently meeting standards.

A Class I designation means that little or no degradation in the existing air quality on the reservation would be allowed to occur.

In June 1995, EPA proposed approval of the redesignation request, but the States of Wisconsin and Michigan objected to the proposal and requested negotiations to resolve the dispute. Michigan, however, did not participate in the dispute-resolution discussions.

The signed final agreement provides a cooperative framework for establishing State, tribal, and Federal implementation of Class I air quality status for the FCP.

The agreement addresses how permit applications in Wisconsin will be processed for new PSD air sources, and major modifications to existing major sources, potentially affecting the Class I lands.

Although the agreement is signed, it would not become effective unless EPA grants the FCP request for redesignation. EPA expects to publish a decision on the redesignation request and the dispute resolution in the Federal Register within the next six months.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: October 14, 1999

No. 99-OPA297

## **FOUR TRIBES RECEIVE EPA WATER PROTECTION GRANTS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has designated the Upper Sioux Community, Lower Sioux Community, Prairie Island Community (all in MN), and Hannahville Indian Community (MI) eligible to receive Federal water-quality protection grants.

On Oct. 1, the Hannahville Indian Community received a \$80,000 grant to develop a water-resources management program; the Prairie Island Community received a \$75,000 grant; and the Upper and Lower Sioux Communities each received \$37,500 grants to establish and carry out water-pollution control programs.

These grants, awarded under the Clean Water Act, may be used for activities related to the tribes' water resources. The tribal grants are used to fund a wide range of water-pollution control activities, including water-quality planning and assessments, ambient monitoring, groundwater and wetlands protection, and nonpoint-source control measures.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: October 15, 1999

No. 99-OPA298

## **EPA CITES SAFETY-KLEEN FOR HAZARDOUS WASTE VIOLATIONS; PROPOSES \$39,300 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed a civil administrative complaint and compliance order against Safety-Kleen (Blaine, MN) for violations of Federal rules on reporting toxic chemicals. A \$39,300 fine is proposed.

The facility, which stores and treats toxic substances, violated requirements for control of storage-tank air emissions under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. A December 1998 EPA inspection revealed that two tanks containing waste antifreeze and washing solvent did not meet Federal regulations.

Safety-Kleen has been ordered to perform inspections, keep inspection logs, and submit reports to EPA annually.

EPA regulates the safe handling, transportation, treatment, and disposal of municipal and industrial wastes, from the time of production to their final disposal. Safety-Kleen has the right to request a hearing to discuss the charges.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: October 15, 1999

No. 99-OPA299

## **EPA CITES MICHIGAN RECOVERY SYSTEMS FOR HAZARDOUS WASTE VIOLATIONS; PROPOSES \$240,000 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed a civil administrative complaint and compliance order against Michigan Recovery Systems, 36234 Van Dorn Rd., Romulus, MI, for hazardous waste violations. A \$240,000 fine is proposed.

The facility, which stores and treats toxic substances, violated requirements for control of storage-tank air emissions under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. A September 1998 EPA inspection revealed that infractions took place between 1996-99.

Michigan Recovery has been ordered to:

- Equip tank roofs with closing devices;
- Secure closures when not in use;
- Conduct timely vapor-pressure tests;
- Complete initial and annual inspections; and
- Develop and write a facility inspection plan.

EPA regulates the safe handling, transportation, treatment, and disposal of municipal and industrial solid wastes, from the time of production to their final disposal. Michigan Recovery has the right to request a hearing to discuss the charges.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: October 15, 1999

No. 99-OPA300

## **EPA CITES FORD FOR HAZARDOUS WASTE VIOLATIONS; PROPOSES \$303,745 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently issued a civil administrative complaint and compliance order against Ford Motors Co., Avon Lake, OH, for alleged violations of Federal rules on hazardous waste. A \$303,745 penalty is proposed.

The complaint charges that the facility, 650 Miller Rd., violated requirements for permitting and control of air emissions under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. An August 1998 EPA inspection and a records review revealed that infractions took place between 1996 and the present.

Under the compliance order, Ford is required to:

- Discontinue treatment, storage, or disposal of hazardous waste without a permit;
- Operate equipment in contact with hazardous waste according to EPA requirements; and
- Submit to EPA, within 30 days, documents showing compliance.

EPA regulates the safe handling, transportation, treatment, and disposal of

municipal and industrial solid wastes, from the time of production to their final disposal. Ford has the right to request a hearing to discuss the charges.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: October 15, 1999

No. 99-OPA301

## **EPA CITES ROUGE STEEL FOR PCB VIOLATIONS; PROPOSES \$75,900 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed a civil administrative complaint against Rouge Steel Co., (Dearborn, MI) for violations of Federal rules on PCB's. EPA has proposed a \$75,900 fine.

The facility, 3001 Miller Rd., was cited for violating the use, marking, storage, and disposal requirements of the Toxic Substances Control Act. An EPA inspection discovered that Rouge Steel was storing combustible materials too close to a PCB transformer, failed to mark access to PCB transformers, and had not dated 55-gallon drums containing PCB-contaminated oil. The company also failed to dispose of spilled PCB's according to Federal regulations.

PCB's are a group of toxic chemicals, once used widely in industry as coolants and lubricants. EPA banned the manufacture of PCB's in 1979 because of evidence that they accumulate in the environment and present health hazards for people.

EPA regulates the proper cleanup, disposal, marking, recordkeeping, storage, and limited use of PCB's to protect the public from these potentially dangerous chemicals.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: October 15, 1999

No. 99-OPA302

## **EPA CITES WAYNE DISPOSAL FOR PCB VIOLATIONS; PROPOSES \$41,250 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed a civil administrative complaint against Wayne Disposal, (Belleville, MI) for violations of Federal rules on PCB's. EPA has proposed a \$41,250 fine.

The complaint charges that the facility, 49350 North I-94 Service Dr., violated Federal regulations for the disposal of PCB's under the Toxic Substances Control Act. Wayne Disposal failed to notify the EPA, within the proper time, of a 12,000 gallon leachate spill on June 30, 1999, and did not sample or treat the PCB-contaminated material according to its Federal permit.

PCB's are a group of toxic chemicals, once used widely in industry as coolants and lubricants. EPA banned the manufacture of PCB's in 1979 because of evidence that they accumulate in the environment and present health hazards for people.

EPA regulates the proper cleanup, disposal, marking, recordkeeping, storage, and limited use of PCB's to protect the public from these potentially dangerous chemicals.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: October 19, 1999

No. 99-OPA303

## **EPA CITES RHO CHEMICAL FOR HAZ WASTE VIOLATIONS; PROPOSES \$54,193 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed a civil administrative complaint and compliance order against Rho Chemical Co. (Joliet, IL) for violations of Federal rules on hazardous waste. A \$54,193 penalty is proposed.

EPA alleges that the company accumulated and stored solid waste at its 30 Industry Ave. facility without determining if it was hazardous. In February and June 1999, national and State EPA inspectors found deteriorating containers of various unidentified materials at the site. Under the Resource and Conservation Recovery Act, Rho Chemical is required to determine if materials stored on-site are hazardous. In addition to the fine, Rho will:

- Evaluate all solid wastes at the facility to determine if they are hazardous; and
- Submit all lab data, material safety sheets, and reports to EPA.

EPA regulates the management and disposal of municipal and industrial solid wastes, from the time of production to their final disposal. Rho may request a hearing on the charges.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: October 19, 1999

No. 99-OPA304

## **EPA SETTLES WITH PIERCE & STEVENS FOR HAZ. WASTE VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently settled with Pierce & Stevens Corp. for hazardous waste violations at its Carol Stream, IL, facility.

The specialty adhesives and coatings manufacturer will pay a \$50,000 fine and do a supplemental environmental project for multiple violations, including improper storage of hazardous waste without a permit.

Pierce & Stevens has been ordered to spend not less than \$145,000 to build a cooling tower, plus \$14,000 annually to operate the system, which is anticipated to reduce the site's water consumption by about 80 percent.

The company is also required to submit a closure plan for the hazardous waste unit at the site, 245 East Kehoe. The site will require cleanup and testing for any potential releases from the unit. On completion of the project, Pierce & Stevens must submit a report to EPA and follow up with annual documentation.

Under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, EPA regulates the management and disposal of municipal and industrial solid wastes, from

the time of production to their final disposal.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: October 19, 1999

No. 99-OPA305

## **EPA CITES LODERS CROKLAAN FOR HAZ. WASTE VIOLATION; PROPOSES \$27,500 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed a civil administrative complaint and compliance order against Loders Croklaan USA, Inc. (Channahon, IL) for violation of Federal rules on hazardous waste. A \$27,500 penalty is proposed.

The facility, 24708 West Durkee Rd., accumulated and stored solid waste without determining if it was hazardous, as required by Federal law.

Based on April 1999 EPA fly-over of the site, and a May 1999 EPA inspection, the company has also been ordered to evaluate all solid wastes at the facility and provide documentation to EPA.

EPA regulates the safe handling, transportation, treatment, and disposal of municipal and industrial solid wastes, from the time of production to their final disposal. Loder Croklaan has the right to request a hearing on the charges.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: October 19, 1999

No. 99-OPA306

## **EPA, DOE TO RECOGNIZE CHICAGO'S METCALFE FEDERAL BUILDING AS ONE OF NATION'S MOST ENERGY-EFFICIENT FACILITIES**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) will present an Energy Star Label for Buildings to Chicago's Ralph H. Metcalfe Federal Building, recognizing it as one of America's most energy-efficient facilities.

The ceremony will be held Wednesday, Oct. 20, 11 a.m., in the Metcalfe Building's main lobby, 77 West Jackson Blvd.

The Metcalfe Building is the first building in Illinois and the first Federal building in the Midwest to receive the Energy Star Label for Buildings, the mark of excellence in energy performance.

EPA Region 5 Administrator Francis X. Lyons will present the label to Deputy Assistant Regional Administrator for Public Buildings Service Norbert Kieszowski of the U.S. General Services Administration, the agency that manages all Federal buildings. Val Jensen, director of DOE's Chicago Regional Office, will also be at the ceremony.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: October 20, 1999

No. 99-OPA307

## **EPA, DOE: CHICAGO'S METCALFE FEDERAL BLDG. ONE OF NATION'S MOST ENERGY- EFFICIENT FACILITIES**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) today presented an Energy Star Label for Buildings to Chicago's Metcalfe Federal Building, recognizing it as one of America's most energy-efficient facilities.

The Metcalfe Building, 77 West Jackson Blvd., is the first building in Illinois and the first Federal building in the Midwest to receive the Energy Star Label for Buildings for its performance in saving energy and reducing pollution.

The label, a brass plaque that will be attached to the building's exterior, was unveiled at a ceremony this morning in the Metcalfe Building's main lobby.

Francis X. Lyons, administrator of EPA Region 5, presented the label to Norbert Kieszkowski, deputy assistant regional administrator for Public Buildings Service of the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA), the agency that manages all Federal buildings.

"The Energy Star Label for Buildings program allows everyone to benefit," Lyons said. "Our agencies, our employees, the taxpayers, and the

environment gain. We save energy, and in return, we reduce pollution and provide a comfortable and productive indoor environment for our employees."

Val Jensen, director of DOE's Chicago Regional Office, discussed energy efficiency and renewable energy opportunities in buildings and their benefits.

To qualify for the Energy Star Label for Buildings, the Metcalfe Building had to meet rigorous standards for indoor environmental quality and energy efficiency. It had to score in the top 25 percent of comparable buildings in the Nation.

Energy upgrades in the Metcalfe Building will result in estimated annual savings of more than \$223,000. The building also participates in Commonwealth Edison's voluntary summer energy curtailment program, which has resulted in additional energy savings.

The reduction in energy consumption translates to an air pollution reduction of over 3.6 million lb of carbon dioxide, which is equivalent to planting over 490 acres of trees and removing 360 cars from the roads.

More information on the Energy Star Label for Buildings program is available at [www.lbselbse.org](http://www.lbselbse.org).

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: October 21, 1999

No. 99-OPA308

## **EPA ISSUES SECOND CLEANUP ORDER TO W.R. GRACE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 recently issued its second administrative order to W.R. Grace and Co. to clean up ammonia threatening an underground source of drinking water for the Lansing, MI area. On Sep. 2, W.R. Grace filed a Notice of Appeal in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit requesting that the court review the order.

EPA ordered W.R. Grace to develop measures to prevent ammonia from reaching drinking-water wells and, in the long term, to reduce levels of ammonia in the aquifer. These measures reflect the recommendations of the Saginaw Aquifer Technical Evaluation Team and include installing technology in the aquifer to ensure that ammonia will not interfere with the Lansing drinking-water plant's disinfection process or prevent the plant from meeting Federal and State drinking-water standards.

In 1993, W.R. Grace was among several defendants that agreed to investigate possible contamination in the Saginaw Aquifer. A report revealed that a plume of ammonia was present in the aquifer near the Lansing Board of Water and Light (BWL) North Well Field. As a result, the BWL closed some of its drinking-water production wells in 1997. Further study showed that the plume was moving northwestward towards



the closed wells.

In Dec. 1998, samples taken at the closed wells showed levels of ammonia that presented an imminent and substantial danger to public health. In Feb. 1999, EPA issued its first order to W.R. Grace, but it was later withdrawn to give the Saginaw Aquifer Technical Evaluation Team an opportunity to identify and evaluate ways to protect the aquifer to protect human health and to comply with drinking-water regulations.

The team included representatives from W.R. Grace, the Lansing BWL, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, and EPA.

EPA is also currently negotiating the cleanup of the Saginaw aquifer under Superfund laws with W.R. Grace and other potentially responsible parties. In the 1960's, W.R. Grace produced fertilizer at a facility uphill from the Motor Wheel Disposal site, 1401 Lake Lansing Rd. Wastes, including ammonia, washed into the site. The site was placed on the Superfund National Priorities List in 1986.

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For Immediate Release: October 27, 1999

No. 99-OPA309

## **EPA OK'S \$1.5 MILLION FOX RIVER CLEANUP PLAN GRANT TO WDNR**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 today announced it has approved a \$1.5 million grant to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR). The funding supplements previous grants totaling \$2 million during Fiscal Years 1997-1998, for a total of \$3.5 million.

The grant supports WDNR's work on a remedial investigation and feasibility study, which will provide comprehensive engineering, planning, and scientific analysis to support the proposed cleanup plan for the Fox River and Green Bay. A late 1999 completion date for WDNR's proposed plan was anticipated. However, the proposed plan is now expected to be released in late spring 2000.

The additional funds and time will allow WDNR to respond to public comments and to incorporate them into the draft plan, released in February, 1999. New data on PCB concentrations in sediments, water, fish, and birds will also be included in the report.

EPA has requested that the work be expanded to include a complete remedial investigation, a feasibility study with alternative evaluations, and

a risk assessment for both human and ecological health for the entire bay of Green Bay. This is in addition to the work already done for 39 miles of the Fox River.

The expanded scope was recommended by EPA's National Remedy Review Board, an internal panel composed of scientist-policymakers in EPA. The board provides to EPA regions recommendations and advice on large and costly proposed cleanups for environmental integrity, cost effectiveness, and consistency with national policy.

"EPA is committing these additional resources--and time-- in an effort to provide the most thorough, scientifically comprehensive analysis possible," said Regional Administrator Francis X. Lyons. "Expanding the scope of the study to include Green Bay should, by no means, be taken as an indicator that EPA envisions large-scale cleanup of the bay. However, we do need to know what the PCB impacts have been and what needs to be done to reduce additional environmental pollution in the future."

After revisions are made, WDNR and EPA will release the study which will include a proposed cleanup plan and a public-comment period.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa309.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: October 22, 1999

No. 99-OPA310

## **EPA: CLEANUP TO BEGIN AT FORMER EAGLE-PICHER SITE**

Cleanup of lead-contaminated soil and foundry sand at the former Eagle-Picher Superfund site (Delta, OH) will begin the week of Oct. 25.

Under a legal agreement, called a consent order, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in cooperation with Ohio EPA, will oversee the cleanup. All work will be done by former site owner Eagle-Picher Industries, Inc., on property currently owned by Bunting Bearings Corp. and on nearby residential properties. The cleanup will start with residential properties and is expected to be completed by the end of December. During this time, residents may notice increased truck traffic and noise, workers taking soil samples while wearing protective clothing, and heavy equipment removing and stockpiling soil. The cleanup will include:

- excavation, treatment, and off-site disposal of contaminated soil and foundry sand from the Bunting Bearings property, as well as contaminated soil from residential properties.;
- excavation, treatment, and off-site disposal of contaminated soil and sediment from nearby Fewless Creek; and
- installation of a culvert in Fewless Creek, from the site to Jackson St.

Copies of the consent order, work plan, and other site-related documents are available for review at the Delta Public Library, 402 Main St.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa310.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: October 28, 1999

No. 99-OPA311

## **EPA COMPLETES 5-YEAR REVIEW OF KENTWOOD LANDFILL**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently completed a status review of the Kentwood Landfill Superfund site, Kentwood, MI.

The Superfund law requires regular reviews (at least every 5 years) of sites where the cleanup has been completed. EPA's review confirmed that the pretreatment system and the ground water-leachate systems are properly functioning.

The 72-acre site, 4900 Walma Rd. (about 2 miles southeast of Grand Rapids), is bordered by Kentwood city municipal buildings, a church, and a low-density residential area to the south.

The cleanup plan consisted of excavating topsoil, capping the soil, installing treatment system to clean the ground water, and continuous monitoring of any leachate and ground water.

EPA concluded that cleanup at the Kentwood Landfill continues to protect human health and the environment. Some areas for improvement were noted. These will be dealt with by December 1999, through discussions

with EPA, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, City of Kentwood, and Kent County.

A copy of the cleanup plan, the 5-year review report, and other site documents are available for review at the Cadillac-Westford Library, 411 South Lake St., Cadillac, MI. Community members with questions may contact Jennifer Ostermeier, Community Involvement Coordinator, (P-19J), U.S. EPA Region 5, 77 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL. 60604, 800-621-8431 x. 30618, fax 312-353-1155, E-mail: ostermeier.jennifer@epa.gov.

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Last Updated: 10/29/99 17:38€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa311.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: October 28, 1999

No. 99-OPA312

## **EPA SETTLES WETLANDS CASE WITH WAREHOUSE SPECIALISTS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with Warehouse Specialists, Inc., Wayne Van Handel Trucking and Excavating, and Phenco, Inc., settling allegations that they filled-in wetlands in Menasha, WI, without a permit. The above parties will pay a \$18,880 fine and carry out several environmental projects costing \$49,000.

EPA alleged that in November and December 1996 and from April to June 1997, while digging a road and water line, the three companies had discharged, or caused the discharge of, 4200 cubic feet of soil and gravel into over half an acre of wetlands owned by Warehouse Specialists, Inc., without first obtaining a permit.

As part of the settlement, Warehouse Specialists will donate to the town 9 acres of property containing wetlands. Warehouse Specialists and the other two parties will also buy and donate an additional 5 acres of wetlands to Menasha and impose a conservation easement on both properties. In addition, they will install a culvert to connect the donated land to wetlands in the Heckrodt Nature Reserve and remove obstructions to water flow to the culvert.



Under the Clean Water Act, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers must issue a permit before any waters of the United States, including wetlands, are filled. EPA is authorized to order restoration of illegally filled wetlands and to assess administrative penalties of \$11,000 per day for each violation up to a maximum of \$137,500.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa312.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: November 2, 1999

No. 99-OPA315

## **EPA ANNOUNCES BATTERY CHIP FILL SAMPLING DEADLINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 today announced that Nov. 12 is the last day to request sampling of properties that might have been filled with battery casings from the NL Industries-Taracorp Superfund site in Granite City, IL. After that date, EPA will no longer sample, and any necessary sampling and cleanup will be the responsibility of property owners.

According to EPA Project Manager Brad Bradley, crushed rubber battery casings were used as fill material in many alleys in Venice and in many driveways, parking lots, and yards in Eagle Park Acres. Battery chips have also been found in Granite City, Madison, and Glen Carbon, IL.

To request a sampling, call Shane Jarman of ENTACT, Inc., 618-876-7216. For questions concerning the NL Industries Site cleanup, call EPA Project Managers Brad Bradley or Sheri Bianchin, 800-621-8431.

The 16-acre NL Industries Taracorp site, 2 miles east of St. Louis, was a metal refining and fabricating plant from 1903 until 1982. Lead contamination from the site has been identified in a number of residential areas in Granite City, Venice, Madison, and Eagle Park Acres, IL.

To date, EPA has cleaned up over 1,500 residences that were contaminated due to stack emissions. It is expected that about 50 more will be done by the end of this year. In addition, over 100 properties have been cleaned where battery chips were used as fill material.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa315.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: November 4, 1999

No. 99-OPA316

## **EPA: FOX RIVER STUDY RESULTS AVAILABLE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources are making public today two, independent peer-review studies on cleanup of the Lower Fox River.

In September 1998, EPA's contractor selected experts and established two technical panels to review components of the draft Lower Fox River Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (cleanup plan). The first panel consisted of experts in Superfund data evaluation and decision making. A second panel included experts in natural recovery and behavior of toxic chemicals.

The Superfund data panel concluded that environmental information used to develop the cleanup plan supports moving ahead with a cleanup. The natural-recovery panel said that the natural-recovery option needed a more complete evaluation. Conclusions and recommendations of both panels will be evaluated and incorporated into the cleanup plan.

EPA and Wisconsin agree:

1. with the panels' conclusion that existing information on similar sediment cleanup projects is sufficient to make a final cleanup decision;
2. with the panels' assessments that the water-quality models used in the cleanup study appear to be appropriate for determining cleanup

alternatives;

3. that a better explanation on the models is needed in the cleanup study;  
and

4. that further comparisons between natural recovery and other cleanup options are needed.

While technical evaluations show that the natural-recovery option for the Lower Fox River is unlikely to protect people's health and wildlife from PCB's, a more extensive evaluation of the option will be developed in the final draft of the study.

According to William Muno, EPA Region 5's Superfund Division director, the information in the reports will be used for completing the cleanup study. "We were very glad to have had this chance to review the peer-review reports," he said. "EPA and Wisconsin believe that these reports gave us some good information, which we'll use when completing the cleanup study and for developing a final cleanup plan."

Ed Lynch, Wisconsin's Project Manager who oversees development of the cleanup study, believes that the peer-review panel's results support several proposed changes to the plan as the cleanup study nears completion. "These ideas, as well as the work that is being completed by the model evaluation work group, will strengthen the assessment and results of the study and remediation plan selection effort."

The peer-review studies and other site information will be available at 10 local information repositories and at EPA's Web-site:  
[www.epa.gov/region5/foxriver](http://www.epa.gov/region5/foxriver).

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: November 4, 1999

No. 99-OPA318

## **EPA CITES WOODLAND PAVING; INCLUDES \$21,250 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against Woodland Paving Co. for alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's asphalt plant, 3566 Millcreek Ave., Comstock Park, MI. A \$21,250 penalty was proposed.

EPA said stack emissions testing in June 1998 showed that Woodland violated carbon monoxide emission limits in its installation permit.

Woodland has 30 days from receipt of the complaint to file an answer and request a hearing. It may request an informal conference with EPA to discuss the allegations anytime.

"EPA's mission is to protect public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with the Clean Air Act."

When carbon monoxide enters the bloodstream, it reduces delivery of oxygen to the body's organs and tissues. Exposure to high levels of carbon

monoxide can impair vision, hand movement, learning ability, and performance of complex tasks. Persons with heart disease have the greatest risk when exposed to this pollutant.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: November 4, 1999

No. 99-OPA317

## **EPA AWARDS ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE GRANTS TO INDIANA, MINNESOTA**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has awarded grants of \$100,000 each to the Indiana Dept. of Environmental Management and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency for environmental justice programs in each State.

The Indiana agency will work with local communities to develop an environmental justice strategy, to ensure that the agency's decision-making complies with Federal law and that it incorporates environmental justice goals into its policies, programs, and activities.

The Minnesota agency will work with local communities to increase the agency's awareness of environmental justice concerns and its compliance with Federal law. It also plans to work with other State agencies to cut gross contamination in minority and low-income communities.

The State and tribal Environmental Justice grants program was created to provide financial aid to State and tribal environmental departments that are working with environmental justice issues. The grants aim to support State or tribal efforts to effectively comply with Federal law in their environmental programs and to establish environmental justice programs.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: November 8, 1999

No. 99-OPA319

## **EPA CITES UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN; INCLUDES \$28,000 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against University of Wisconsin for alleged violations of State clean-air regulations at the La Crosse campus. A \$28,000 penalty was proposed.

EPA said emissions of particulates (smoke, ash, dust) from boiler No. 2 at the university's heating plant exceeded State standards during a stack test done Jan. 21-22, 1998.

The university filed an answer to the complaint on Oct. 22 and requested a hearing. It may also request an informal conference with EPA at any time to discuss the allegations.

Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division, said: "EPA's goal is to protect public health and the environment. We will take all necessary steps to ensure compliance with the Clean Air Act."

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can affect children, the elderly, and people with heart and lung diseases the most.

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For Immediate Release: November 8, 1999

No. 99-OPA320

## **EPA CITES INTERNATIONAL MALTING; INCLUDES \$169,287 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against International Malting Co., LLC, for alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's Froedtert Malt, West Plant, 2100 South 43d St., Milwaukee, WI. A \$169,287 penalty was proposed.

EPA said visible emissions of particulates (dust) from the company's grain-loading process exceeded the standard for opacity (the amount of light obscured by the dust) during a State inspection last December.

In September 1998, a State inspector discovered evidence that the company had failed to take precautions in keeping particulates from becoming airborne during handling, transporting, or storing.

International Malting has 30 days from receipt of the complaint to file an answer and request a hearing. It may request an informal conference to discuss the allegations anytime.

Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division, said: "EPA's mission is to protect public health and the

environment. We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations."

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can affect children, the elderly, and people with heart and lung diseases the most.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: November 8, 1999

No. 99-OPA321

## **EPA SETTLES WITH LAKEHEAD PIPE LINE; INCLUDES \$13,365 FINE AND LAND PRESERVE BY FOX RIVER**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with Lakehead Pipe Line Co. for alleged violations of the Clean Water Act near Plano, IL. Lakehead has agreed to pay a \$13,365 fine and donate land along the lower Fox River to the Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources (IDNR).

EPA said the company had discharged bentonite -- into the Millhurst fen (a type of wetland), surrounding wetlands, and a tributary of the Fox River -- on three occasions in 1998 while laying an underground pipeline. The discharge damaged part of the fen vegetation.

Lakehead, working through Conservation Foundation of Naperville, agreed to donate 12 acres of land along the lower Fox River, near Wedron, to IDNR. The property includes a sedge meadow wetland, a creek, and sandstone cliffs that provide habitat for the snowberry, a state endangered plant. The property is next to 17 acres of land already owned by IDNR and will be valuable as part of a larger effort to protect the quality of the lower Fox River.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: November 9, 1999

No. 99-OPA322

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH TEXTRON AUTOMOTIVE; INCLUDES \$80,500 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with Textron Automotive Co. on alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's Plant #2, 707 Veterans Pkwy., Rantoul, IL. An \$80,500 penalty was assessed.

The agreement resolves an EPA administrative complaint filed at the same time alleging Textron, which makes automobile dashboards, used paints that contained more volatile organic compounds (VOC's) than are permitted at two paint spray booths.

EPA said one booth exceeded limits for 21 months during the period between August 1995 and January 1999, and the other booth exceeded limits for 12 months during the period between June 1997 and December 1998.

"EPA's goal is to protect public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations."



VOC's combine in the air on warm days to form ground-level ozone (smog), which can cause breathing problems, asthma attacks, eye irritation, and stuffy nose. Ozone can also reduce lung function and resistance to colds and other infections and may speed up aging of lung tissue.

Children, the elderly, and those with existing lung problems are most susceptible.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: November 9, 1999

No. 99-OPA323

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH PROPHETER; INCLUDES \$40,000 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with Bob Propheter Construction, LLC, on alleged clean-air violations at the company's hot-mix asphalt plant, formerly located in Toulon, IL. A \$40,000 penalty was assessed.

The agreement resolves an EPA administrative complaint alleging Propheter exceeded Federal limits for particulates (smoke, dust, ash) and opacity (the amount of light obscured by the particulates).

EPA discovered the violations during a Sep. 10, 1997, inspection and from compliance testing done the next day by Propheter.

"EPA is committed to enforcing the Clean Air Act," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "To protect public health and the environment, we will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can affect children, the elderly, and those with heart or lung conditions the most.

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For Immediate Release: November 9, 1999

No. 99-OPA324

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH VILLAGE OF FREEBURG; INCLUDES \$23,000 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with the Village of Freeburg (IL) on alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the village's electrical generating plant, 412 West High St. A \$23,000 penalty was assessed.

The agreement resolves an EPA administrative complaint alleging Freeburg had built two new distillate fuel generators without first getting a permit. Potential nitrogen oxide emissions from the two generators are about 315 tons per year.

Freeburg has certified that it has asked the Illinois EPA for a 39 tons per year nitrogen oxide emission limit on the two generators and for an overall emission limit for the plant's eight generators of 100 tons per year.

Nitrogen oxides combine with other chemicals in the air on warm days to form ground-level ozone (smog). Freeburg is in the Metro-East St. Louis area--an area that does not meet national health-based standards for ozone. Federally enforceable State regulations require major nitrogen oxide emitters that build in areas not meeting this standard to install the most

stringent control technology available.

"EPA is committed to enforcing clean-air regulations to protect public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Ground-level ozone can cause breathing problems, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and can aggravate asthma. It can reduce lung function and resistance to colds and other infections and may speed up aging of lung tissue.

Children, the elderly, and people with chronic respiratory diseases are the most sensitive.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: November 9, 1999

No. 99-OPA325

## **EPA CITES CDT LANDFILL; INCLUDES \$72,380 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against CDT Landfill Corp. for alleged violations of Federal clean-air regulations at the company's municipal solid waste landfill, 2851 Mound Rd., Joliet, IL. A \$72,380 penalty was proposed.

EPA said CDT failed to submit a report on nonmethane organic compound (volatile organic compound or VOC) emission rates, submit a gas collection and emission control system design plan on time, and do required performance tests. In addition, the company failed to apply for a Clean Air Act program permit.

Clean Air Act regulations for municipal solid waste landfills became effective May 30, 1996, for landfills that started construction, reconstruction, or modifications, or began taking waste on or after May 30, 1991.

CDT has 30 days from receipt of the complaint to file an answer and request a hearing. It may request an informal conference to discuss the allegations anytime.

"EPA's mission is to protect public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations."

VOC's combine in the air with other chemicals on warm days to form ground-level ozone, which can cause breathing problems, reduced lung function, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and reduced resistance to colds and other infections. Ozone can aggravate asthma and damage lung tissue. Children, the elderly, and people with chronic respiratory diseases are the most sensitive. Ozone can also damage crops and trees.

Joliet is in the Chicago metropolitan area--an area that currently does not meet the health-based standard for ground-level ozone.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: November 9, 1999

No. 99-OPA326

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH COHEN; LIFTS 'CEASE AND DESIST' ORDER**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached an agreement with Cohen Industrial Scrap Processors (990 West 5th St., Cincinnati, OH) that lifts an EPA "cease and desist" order issued in April 1998 telling the company to stop accepting and processing appliances containing refrigerants.

Under the agreement, Cohen may accept and process appliances, but it must first get verification from the seller that the refrigerant has been removed. If the refrigerant has not been removed, Cohen must have it removed by a certified technician.

The agreement also requires the company to put into effect detailed scrap-handling procedures and to keep records of refrigerant removal, verification statements, or both for at least three years.

"EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with the Clean Air Act."



Chlorofluorocarbon refrigerants deplete the stratospheric, or "good," ozone layer, allowing dangerous amounts of cancer-causing ultraviolet rays from the sun to strike the earth. Production of some ozone-depleting chlorofluorocarbon refrigerants was stopped in 1995, and Federal law strictly controls their use and handling. Releasing them into the air is prohibited.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: November 10, 1999

No. 99-OPA327

## **EPA COMPLETES CANNELTON SITE CLEANUP**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has completed cleanup of the Cannelton Industries, Inc., Superfund site, Sault Ste. Marie, MI.

EPA supervised the cleanup, completed in October 1999, assisted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Soo District. Long-term monitoring will be carried out to verify that the site is not a threat to human health and the environment.

Because of recent seeding in the area, a site tour for the community will not be held until next spring. EPA will send invitations to those on its mailing list when tour planning is complete.

The Cannelton site is on the shore of St. Marys River, about 1 mile upstream of Soo Locks and 1.5 miles west of downtown Sault Ste. Marie. Northwestern Leather Co. operated a tannery on the property from 1900 to 1958. The plant had a limited sewerage system and, as a result, tannery wastes were dumped into ditches on the property and discharged into and along the western shoreline of the river.

EPA site analysis began in 1989, with the original cleanup-plan announced in 1992. After predesign studies, a revised cleanup-plan--called a Record of Decision--was finished in 1996. The engineering design for the plan was completed in December 1998.

Cleanup began in June 1999, in five areas on the property. Activities included:

- excavation of 33,000 tons of tannery-waste materials and contaminated soils from the Barren Zone, Western Shoreline, and Southern Shoreline of the Tannery Bay (waste was disposed of at two solid waste facilities);
- regrading and landscaping of the western shoreline, backfilling and regrading as needed in the Barren Zone;
- construction of surface drainage works and replacement of the shoreline berm to prevent erosion along the Barren Zone;
- construction of stabilization berm along the southern shoreline of Tannery Bay;
- construction of a water-treatment system, to treat wastewater from the site excavation and dewatering activities;
- collection and treatment to State standards of about 3.2 million gallons of water on site and discharged to St. Marys River;
- seeding and mulching to revegetate Western Shoreline and Barren Zone;
- removal of hazardous-waste signs and most fencing on the site, except that needed to protect property boundaries against trespassing;
- installation of air-monitoring equipment and dust-control measures to reduce effects on homes and businesses near the site.

Detailed information about the Cannelton site, clean-up plans, and general Superfund information is available at:

Bayliss Public Library  
541 Library Dr.  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI

U.S. EPA Region 5  
Office of Superfund  
77 West Jackson Blvd.  
Chicago, IL 60604  
(by appointment)

Additional information may also be available from:

Don de Blasio

Community Involvement Coordinator €  
U.S. EPA Region 5 €  
Office of Public Affairs (P-19J) €  
77 West Jackson Blvd. €  
Chicago, IL 60604 €  
312-886-4360 €  
Toll-free 800-621-8431 €  
E-mail: [deblasio.don@epa.gov](mailto:deblasio.don@epa.gov)€

Rosita Clarke-Moreno €  
Remedial Project Manager €  
U.S. EPA Region 5 €  
Office of Superfund €  
Response Branch (SR-6J) €  
77 West Jackson Blvd. €  
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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: November 15, 1999

No. 99-OPA328

## **EPA CITES SPARTA FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Sparta Manufacturing Co., Inc., for alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's grey iron foundry, 445 Holton St., Sparta, WI.

EPA said monitoring and reporting records from July 1998 to June 1999 show Sparta failed to consistently maintain a temperature in its cupola process high enough to cut carbon monoxide emissions.

In addition, the foundry failed stack tests for carbon monoxide and particulate (smoke, dust, ash) emissions in May 1998. A visual inspection done last December found that Sparta violated its limit for opacity (the amount of light obscured by particulates).

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. EPA met with Sparta on Oct. 27 to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA's mission is to protect public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation

Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with the Clean Air Act."

When carbon monoxide enters the bloodstream, it reduces delivery of oxygen to the body's organs and tissues. Exposure to high levels of carbon monoxide can impair vision, hand movement, learning ability, and performance of complex tasks. Persons with heart disease have the greatest risk when exposed to this pollutant.

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can affect children, the elderly, and people with heart and lung diseases the most.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: November 15, 1999

No. 99-OPA329

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH BANTA; INCLUDES \$17,000 FINE & PROJECT**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with Banta Direct Marketing, Inc., on alleged clean-air violations at the company's printing and paper-coating plant, 2075 Busse Rd., Elk Grove Village, IL.

Banta has paid a \$17,000 penalty and has agreed to complete an environmental project costing at least \$68,720.

The agreement resolves an administrative complaint, filed at the same time, alleging that the company had used a coating that did not meet State standards and that it had failed to submit required documentation.

The Banta plant does lithographic printing and paper coating on eight lines that emit volatile organic compounds (VOC's). They must be controlled by using coatings and inks with low VOC content, or by using control devices that cut emissions to meet State standards.

The plant is in Metropolitan Chicago, which does not meet health-based standards for ground-level ozone, a byproduct of VOC's.

As its environmental project, Banta will install additional controls on its presses no later than Jan. 1. The company estimates that, in addition to the cost of control equipment, it will lose about \$50,000 by not having the use of its presses while the equipment is being installed.

"We are pleased that Banta has agreed to complete this environmental project to help improve the quality of our air," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division.

VOC's combine in the atmosphere with other chemicals to form ground-level ozone, which can cause breathing problems, reduced lung function, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and reduced resistance to colds and other infections. It can aggravate asthma and may speed up aging of lung tissue.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: November 15, 1999

No. 99-OPA332

## **EPA CITES MUNCIE PRECISION HARD CHROME; INCLUDES \$2,000 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against Muncie Precision Hard Chrome, Inc., for alleged violations of Federal regulations on chromium--a hazardous air pollutant--at the company's electroplating plant, 1001 East 18th St., Muncie, IN. A \$2,000 penalty was proposed.

EPA said Muncie Precision Hard Chrome, which operates two hard-chrome electroplating tanks at the plant, violated the chromium emission limit. In addition, the company failed to do a timely performance test and failed to follow the requirements of an administrative order issued by EPA in November 1998.

The company has 30 days from receipt of the complaint to file an answer and request a hearing. It may request an informal conference to discuss the allegations anytime.

"EPA is committed to enforcing regulations for hazardous air pollutants," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous, cancer-causing substance, is found in chromic acid mist released into the air as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing.

Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: November 15, 1999

No. 99-OPA333

## **EPA CITES COUNTRYMARK; INCLUDES \$73,500 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against Countrymark Cooperative, Inc., for alleged violations of Federal clean-air regulations at the company's petroleum refinery, 1200 Refinery Rd., Mount Vernon, IN. A \$73,500 penalty was proposed.

EPA said Countrymark failed to comply with Federal performance standards for new air emission sources; namely, those relating to inspection of valves for leaks of volatile organic compounds (VOC's).

Countrymark has 30 days from receipt of the complaint to file an answer and request a hearing. It may also request an informal conference with EPA at any time to discuss the allegations.

Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division, said: "EPA's goal is to protect public health and the environment. We will take all necessary steps to ensure compliance with the Clean Air Act."

VOC's combine with other chemicals in the air to form ground-level

ozone (smog). Ground-level ozone can cause breathing problems, reduced lung function, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and reduced resistance to colds and other infections. Ozone can also aggravate asthma and speed up aging of lung tissue. Children, the elderly, and people with lung diseases are the most sensitive.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: November 16, 1999

No. 99-OPA334

## **EPA CITES ESSROC FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Essroc Italcementi Group for alleged violations of federally enforceable clean-air regulations at the company's portland cement manufacturing plant, 3084 West County Rd. 225 South, Logansport, IN.

EPA said particulate (dust) emissions from one of Essroc's conveyor belts and from one of its screen shaker outlets exceeded State standards for opacity (the amount of light obscured by dust) when readings were taken last July 14.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. EPA met with Essroc on Nov. 10 to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure compliance with clean-air regulations."

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can affect children, the

elderly, and people with heart and lung diseases the most.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: November 16, 1999

No. 99-OPA335

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH BP AMOCO; INCLUDES \$163,516 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with BP Amoco Chemical Co. for alleged clean-air violations at the company's Joliet Plant, 23425 Amoco Rd., Channahon, IL. A \$163,516 penalty was assessed.

The agreement resolves an EPA administrative complaint filed at the same time alleging BP Amoco operated a process vent in its isophthalic acid unit, in violation of Federal hazardous organic air pollutant regulations.

EPA said the gas exhaust from the unit released hazardous organics such as benzene, methanol, methyl bromide, and xylene into the air. BP Amoco has made process changes to bring the vent into compliance.

"Hazardous air pollutants are a serious threat to human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure compliance with the Clean Air Act."

In addition to being hazardous air pollutants--dangerous to human health--benzene, methanol, methyl bromide, and xylene are volatile organic

compounds that contribute to the formation of ground-level ozone, or smog. Ground-level ozone can cause breathing problems, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and aggravate asthma in humans and can harm farm crops. Methyl bromide can also damage the stratospheric, or "good," ozone layer.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: November 17, 1999

No. 99-OPA336

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH E.P. GRAPHICS; INCLUDES \$44,000 FINE & \$250,000 PROJECT**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with E.P. Graphics, Inc., on alleged violations of federally enforceable State clean-air regulations at the company's printing plant, 169 South Jefferson St., Berne, IN.

The company has agreed to pay a \$44,000 penalty and to complete an environmental project costing at least \$250,000.

The agreement resolves an administrative complaint filed at the same time alleging, primarily, that the control system for two printing lines at the plant failed to capture 100 percent of volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions and to destroy 90 percent of them, as required by State permit.

As its environmental project, E.P. Graphics will replace the solvent-based coating system on one of its presses with a solids-based ultraviolet system that will cut VOC emissions from the process by 90 percent. The job must be completed by next May 31, and the company must use the new coater for at least 5 years after installation for all press runs requiring coating.

EPA's investigation of E.P. Graphics was prompted by citizen complaints of burning throats and difficult breathing, as well as periodic acrid smells from the plant over the past 3 years.

"We are pleased that E.P. Graphics has agreed to complete this environmental project to improve the quality of the air in Berne," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division.

VOC's combine in the atmosphere to form ground-level ozone (smog). Ground-level ozone can cause breathing problems, asthma attacks, eye irritation, and stuffy nose. It can also reduce lung function and resistance to colds and other infections and may speed up aging of lung tissue. Children, the elderly, and those with existing lung problems are most susceptible.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: November 17, 1999

No. 99-OPA337

## **EPA CITES WESTERN ROTO ENGRAVERS; INCLUDES \$18,150 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently filed an administrative complaint against Western Roto Engravers, Inc., for alleged violations of Federal regulations on chromium--a hazardous air pollutant--at the company's WRE/Color Tech electroplating plant, 668 Seville Rd., Wadsworth, OH. An \$18,150 penalty was proposed.

EPA said Western failed to comply with certain testing, planning, and reporting requirements of the chromium regulations.

Western has 30 days from receipt of the complaint to file an answer and request a hearing. It may request an informal conference to discuss the allegations anytime. The company has already contacted EPA to discuss resolution of the matter.

"EPA is committed to enforcing regulations for hazardous air pollutants to protect public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division.

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is found in chromic acid mist released into the air as part of the

electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforation of the nasal septum.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: November 18, 1999

No. 99-OPA338

## **EPA CITES KIENAST FOR ASBESTOS VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited L.G. Kienast Utility Construction (765 Washburn Rd., Oshkosh, WI) for alleged violations of Federal regulations on asbestos--a hazardous air pollutant. The violations took place at a demolition site, the former H.D. Hudson Manufacturing Building, 106 East Tennessee Ave., Oshkosh.

EPA said Kienast failed to:

- \* thoroughly inspect the building for the presence of asbestos before demolition;
- \* give EPA timely written notice of its intent to demolish;
- \* adequately wet all asbestos-containing material and keep it wet until collected and contained, or treated, before disposal;
- \* remove all asbestos-containing material before demolition; and,
- \* properly dispose of asbestos-containing waste material.

The violations were discovered during State inspections in September and December 1998.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Kienast has 30 days from receipt of this finding to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"Hazardous air pollutants are a serious threat to human health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure compliance with the regulations."

Asbestos is a known cancer-causing substance that can cause mesothelioma (a type of lung cancer) and asbestosis (a lung disease) many years after exposure.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: November 18, 1999

No. 99-OPA339

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH PINE VIEW PLATING; INCLUDES \$1,000 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with Pine View Plating Co. on alleged violations of Federal regulations for chromium--a hazardous air pollutant. The violations took place at the company's hard-chrome plating plant, 4529 New Cumberland Rd., NE., Mineral City, OH. A \$1,000 penalty was assessed.

The agreement resolves an administrative complaint filed Sept. 23, alleging Pine View Plating failed to:

- \* comply with applicable emission deadlines;
- \* do timely performance testing of pollution-control equipment;
- \* prepare an operation and maintenance plan for the pollution-control equipment; and
- \* keep daily records of pressure drop across its pollution-control system.

Federal regulations for hard-chrome plating tanks and anodizing tanks went into effect Jan. 25, 1997. Performance testing had to be done before July 25, 1997.

"EPA is committed to enforcing regulations for hazardous air pollutants, to protect public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is found in chromic acid mist released into the atmosphere as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: November 18, 1999

No. 99-OPA340

## **EPA CITES CADE FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Cade Autoair, Inc., for alleged violations of Federal and State clean-air regulations at the company's metal parts plant, 5640 Enterprise Dr., Lansing, MI.

EPA said emissions of trichloroethylene--a hazardous air pollutant--from Cade's degreaser exceeded Federal limits, as well as limits set by the company's State installation permit.

In addition, Cade failed to comply with Federal reporting and recordkeeping requirements. The violations were discovered during a State inspection in June 1998.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. EPA and Cade had a conference call on Oct. 28 to discuss the allegations and how they can be resolved.

"EPA is committed to enforcing hazardous air pollutant regulations to protect public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take

all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Breathing small amounts of trichloroethylene for short periods may cause headaches, lung irritation, dizziness, poor coordination, and difficulty concentrating. Breathing it for long periods may cause nerve, lung, kidney, and liver damage. EPA considers trichloroethylene as an intermediate between a probable and possible cancer-causing agent in humans.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa340.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: November 18, 1999

No. 99-OPA341

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH ELECTROLIZING CORP.; INCLUDES \$11,000 FINE & \$138,000 PROJECT**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with Electrolizing Corp. of Ohio on alleged violations of Federal regulations on chromium--a hazardous air pollutant--at the company's electroplating plant, 1325 East 152nd St., Cleveland, OH.

The company has agreed to pay an \$11,000 penalty and to complete an environmental project costing at least \$138,000.

The agreement resolves an EPA administrative complaint filed last May alleging that Electrolizing did not properly operate its continuous monitoring equipment and do timely performance testing on its hard chrome plating tanks.

As its environmental project, the company has agreed to upgrade its electroless nickel plating lines and to purchase chemicals needed for the equipment. It will operate the new system for at least three years after installation.

"Hazardous air pollutants are a serious threat to public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the regulations."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous, cancer-causing substance, is found in chromic acid mist released into the air as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa341.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: November 18, 1999

No. 99-OPA342

## **EPA CITES NORBROOK PLATING FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Norbrook Plating, Inc., for alleged violations of Federal and State clean-air regulations at the company's electroplating plant, 11400 East Nine Mile Rd., Warren, MI.

EPA said Norbrook failed to comply with Federal work practice and monitoring standards for chromium--a hazardous air pollutant. In addition, Norbrook installed a sludge dryer and six acid tanks without first getting a State installation permit.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Norbrook has 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing regulations for hazardous air pollutants, to protect public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air

Act."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is found in chromic acid mist released into the air as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: November 18, 1999

No. 99-OPA343

## **EPA CITES B&L PLATING FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited B&L Plating, Inc., for alleged violations of Federal regulations on chromium--a hazardous air pollutant--at the company's electroplating plant, 21353 Edom Ave., Warren, MI.

EPA said B&L Plating failed to comply with work practice, monitoring, and reporting requirements.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. B&L Plating has 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"Hazardous air pollutants are potentially a serious threat to public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the regulations."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is

found in chromic-acid mist, released into the air as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: November 18, 1999

No. 99-OPA344

## **EPA CITES PRAEFKE BRAKE & SUPPLY FOR ASBESTOS VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Praefke Brake & Supply Co. for alleged violations of Federal regulations on asbestos--a hazardous air pollutant--at the company's plant, 8075 North 76th St., Milwaukee, WI.

Praefke removed worn linings from brake shoes and reinstalled new linings, some of which contained asbestos, at the plant until it moved its operations to 133 Oak St., West Bend, WI.

EPA said the company failed to:

- \* do visible emissions monitoring;
- \* keep records of the required monitoring; and,
- \* properly label its asbestos-containing waste.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit

against the company. EPA and Praefke had a conference call on Oct. 26 to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division, said: "Hazardous air pollutants are a serious threat to human health and the environment. EPA will take all necessary steps to ensure total compliance with the regulations."

Asbestos is a known cancer-causing substance that can cause mesothelioma (a type of lung cancer) and asbestosis (a lung disease) many years after exposure.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: November 19, 1999

No. 99-OPA346

## **EPA CITES ADAMS PLATING FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Adams Plating Co. for alleged violations of Federal regulations on chromium--a hazardous air pollutant--at the company's electroplating plant, 521 North Rosemary St., Lansing, MI.

EPA said Adams failed to comply with Federal work practice, planning, monitoring, and recordkeeping standards.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Adams has 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing regulations for hazardous air pollutants, to protect public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is found in chromic acid mist released into the air as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: November 29, 1999

No. 99-OPA353

## **EPA: CLEANUP COMPLETED AT UNITED AND ARCANUM SITES**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today that cleanup at United Scrap Lead Superfund site (Troy, OH) and the Arcanum Iron & Metal Superfund site, (Darke County, OH) have been recently completed.

Final inspection will be held at United site Nov. 30 at 1:30 p.m. and at the Arcanum site on Dec. 1, at 9 a.m. The cleanup at United included removal of 62,000 cubic yards of lead-acid battery casing chips, and disposal of some 10,000 cubic yards of lead-contaminated soils. The battery casing chips and lead-contaminated soils were excavated, treated, and disposed of in an EPA-approved off-site landfill.

The cleanup at Arcanum included removal of 4,000 cubic yards of lead-acid battery casing chips, demolition and disposal of three buildings, plus disposal of contaminated soils, drums, trailers, and storage tanks. In addition, about 24,000 cubic yards of contaminated soils were excavated and disposed of in an EPA-approved landfill offsite.

Responsible parties paid for and did the cleanup at both sites. The estimated cleanup cost at United was \$16.7 Million; at Arcanum \$6 Million.

Sampling and analysis of ground water and residential wells shows no

groundwater contamination at this time. However, responsible parties plan to do two additional rounds of ground water sampling and analysis over the next year.

Both sites were lead-battery reprocessing plants. United operated from the 1940's until 1980, and Arcanum operated in the 1960's until 1982.

The original cleanup plans were selected by EPA in the mid-to-late 1980's. Both plans were revised in 1997.

Site related documents for United are available for review at Troy-Miami County Public Library, 419 West Main St. For Arcanum at Arcanum Public Library, 101 North St.

Residents with questions about either cleanup may call Janet Samuel at (312) 353-8069, or e-mail: [samuel.janet@epa.gov](mailto:samuel.janet@epa.gov).

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Last Updated: 12/1/99 8:20€

URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa353.htm>€



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: November 30, 1999

No. 99-OPA354

## **EPA: TRI-COUNTY CLEANUP STOPS FOR WINTER**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today that cleanup at the Tri-County/Elgin Landfills (IL) Superfund site will stop for the winter. The site has been secured to protect Brewster Creek from any erosion that may result from rain or snowfall.

The 66-acre site includes two adjacent landfills near the junction of Cook, DuPage, and Kane Counties, IL. Prior to the 1940's, the Tri-County Landfill was part of a gravel mining operation, then became a sand and gravel mining operation in the 1950's, and developed into a solid waste landfill from 1968 to 1976.

During the 1999 field construction season, the following activities on the Tri-County Landfill portion of the site (about 46 acres) were completed:

- \* Cleared all trees and vegetation;
- \* Excavated contaminated soils and sediments from the wetland area;
- \* Graded and blocked out site surface to drainage specifications;

- \* Installed landfill gas extraction system;
- \* Installed and replaced monitoring wells;
- \* Completed seeding and erosion control in the drainage swales; and
- \* Placed an asphalt cap on the Elgin-Wayne portion of the site (Waste Management transfer station).

Work will resume next spring at the Tri-County portion of the site. The work is expected to cost about \$16 million. Under the amended administrative orders from EPA, Waste Management of Illinois (WMI) and the Tri-County Landfill Co. are now responsible for the cleanup activities on the Tri-County Landfill and Elgin-Wayne properties only, and Browning Ferris is responsible for the activities on the Elgin Landfill portion of the site only.

A copy of the cleanup plan and other site documents are available for review at the Gail Borden Public Library, 200 North Grove Ave, Elgin. For more information, call Gordie Blum, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator, 312-353-8501, or e mail [blum.gordon@epa.gov](mailto:blum.gordon@epa.gov)

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: November 30, 1999

No. 99-OPA355

## **EPA O.K.'S SAMPLING TO BEGIN AT THIRD SITE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 recently signed an administrative order authorizing sampling work to begin in mid-November at the Third Site Superfund site near Zionsville, IN. The work will continue through early December.

Third Site, located near the Envirochem and Northside Sanitary Superfund sites, handled overflow from the Envirochem site, which accepted solvents and other organic chemical wastes from hundreds of businesses and industries throughout the Midwest. Part of the contamination at Third Site was spread when a recreational pond was built. The soil and ground water on site may be contaminated with very high levels of volatile organic compounds (VOC's).

In 1996, EPA issued an order to the potentially responsible parties to shift the creek bed for Finley Creek by 40 feet to the south, away from the edge of the contaminated soil area. This most recent order requires additional sampling of soil, ground water, sediments, and surface water (in the pond), as well as an engineering evaluation and cost analysis to look at options for soil and, if necessary, ground water clean up. An evaluation and clean up plan should be completed by the spring of 2000.

For more information, call Gordie Blum, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator, 312-353-8501, or e mail [blum.gordon @epa.gov](mailto:blum.gordon@epa.gov).

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: December 3, 1999

No. 99-OPA357

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH GATX TERMINALS; INCLUDES FINE AND \$147,022 PROJECT**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with GATX Terminals Corp. (Argo, IL) for violating Federal laws on the reporting of hazardous chemicals. The company has agreed to pay a \$10,872 fine and to complete an environmental project costing \$147,022.

During an October 1996 power outage caused by a storm, GATX reported that it had a 56,631 lb vinyl acetate release into an earthen secondary containment that breached and entered the sewer system, and in February 1999 it had an 11,630 lb styrene release on-site. The reporting minimum for vinyl acetate is 5,000 lb. and the reporting minimum for styrene is 1,000 lb.

As its environmental project, GATX Terminals will develop an in-house computer program that will enhance the investigation of releases and provide for a quicker reporting of chemical releases.

Since 1989, EPA Region 5 has filed 218 complaints for hazardous

chemical reporting violations resulting in 205 settlements worth \$4.87 million in total fines and \$3.09 million in environmental projects.

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URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/news99/99opa357.htm>



# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: December 6, 1999

No. 99-OPA361

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH EKCO- GLACO; INCLUDES \$100,000 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with Ekco-Glaco on alleged violations of Federal clean-air regulations at a commercial bakeware refurbishing and recoating plant formerly owned by the company at 800 Moen Ave., Rockdale, IL. A \$100,000 penalty was assessed.

The agreement resolves an EPA administrative complaint filed in 1995, alleging that Ekco-Glaco failed to comply with work practice and certification regulations, and used a coating that did not comply with Federal limits on volatile organic compound (VOC) content.

An administrative hearing on the complaint was held in August 1997, and the initial decision was issued in June 1998. EPA appealed the decision to the Environmental Appeals Board (EAB) in Washington, DC, and the appeal was upheld. This agreement is the result of the EAB decision.

EPA said Ekco-Glaco installed a thermal oxidizer at the Rockdale plant in late 1994 to control VOC emissions.

"EPA is committed to enforcing clean-air regulations to protect public

health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all steps necessary to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

VOC's combine in the air with other chemicals to form ground-level ozone (smog), which can cause breathing problems, reduced lung function, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and reduced resistance to colds and other infections. Ozone can also aggravate asthma and may speed up aging of lung tissue. Children, the elderly, and those with heart and lung diseases are the most sensitive.

Rockdale is in the Chicago metropolitan area--an area which does not meet the health-based standard for ground-level ozone.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: December 9, 1999

No. 99-OPA366

## **EPA CITES PRECISION PLATING FOR CLEAN-AIR VIOLATIONS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Precision Plating Co. for alleged violations of Federal regulations on chromium--a hazardous air pollutant--and State permitting regulations at the company's electroplating plant, 918 Hazel St., Akron, OH.

EPA said Precision Plating failed to conduct a timely performance test showing compliance with the Federal emission limit for chromium and failed to apply for necessary State operating permits.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Precision Plating has 30 days from receipt of the finding to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"EPA is committed to enforcing the regulations for hazardous air pollutants to protect public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the Clean Air Act."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous cancer-causing substance, is found in chromic acid mist released into the air as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of the nasal septum.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: December 13, 1999

No. 99-OPA368

## **EPA CITES CINERGY FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Cinergy Corp. for alleged violations of Federal and State clean-air regulations at the company's Beckjord coal-fired electric generating station, 757 U.S. Rte 52, New Richmond, OH, southeast of Cincinnati.

EPA said Cinergy violated stack emission limits for particulates (smoke, dust, ash) from two boiler units. Stack test data shows that emissions from boiler No. 1 were four times the State limit, and emissions from boiler No. 2 were three times the State limit.

The Beckjord station was also cited for failure to comply with an EPA administrative order that, among other things, established a three-year compliance monitoring program, and required boiler No. 1 to show compliance and to maintain continuous compliance.

These are preliminary findings of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Cinergy has 30 days from receipt of the notices to

request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division, said, "EPA's goal is to protect public health and the environment. We will take all necessary steps to ensure compliance with the Clean Air Act."

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can affect children, the elderly, and people with heart and lung diseases the most.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: December 14, 1999

No. 99-OPA369

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH YALE POLISHERS AND PLATERS**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with Yale Polishers and Platers, Inc., on alleged violations of Federal regulations on chromium--a hazardous air pollutant--and State clean-air regulations at the company's electroplating plant, 5247 South Keeler Ave., Chicago. A \$500 fine was assessed.

The agreement resolves an EPA administrative complaint filed in September, alleging Yale failed to do an initial performance test and to do surface tension monitoring of its hexavalent chromium plating tank.

"Hazardous air pollutants are a serious threat to public health and the environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the regulations."

Hexavalent chromium, a highly hazardous, cancer-causing substance, is found in chromic acid mist released into the air as part of the electroplating process. Chromic acid is also a respiratory irritant, whose short-term effects include coughing and wheezing. Noncancerous long-term effects include bronchitis, as well as ulcerations and perforations of

the nasal septum.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: December 20, 1999

No. 99-OPA372

## **EPA CITES KEIL CHEMICAL FOR AIR POLLUTION**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently cited Keil Chemical Division of Ferro Corp. for alleged violations of federally enforceable State regulations on emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOC's) at the company's plant, 3000 Sheffield Ave., Hammond, IN.

Keil makes Pyro-Chek, a plastic flame retardant. Ethylene dichloride, a hazardous air pollutant that can cause cancer, is the primary VOC emitted when Pyro-Chek is made.

EPA said Keil has failed to achieve the required 98 percent reduction in VOC emissions from its Pyro-Chek manufacturing process, a major source of VOC's. The plant also failed to meet several testing, reporting, and monitoring requirements.

This is a preliminary finding of violations. To resolve them, EPA may issue a compliance order, assess an administrative penalty, or bring suit against the company. Keil has 30 days to request a meeting with EPA to discuss the allegations and how to resolve them.

"Hazardous air pollutants are a serious threat to human health and the

environment," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "We will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with the regulations."

Ground-level ozone can cause breathing problems, eye irritation, stuffy nose, and can aggravate asthma. It can reduce lung function and resistance to colds and other infections, and may speed the aging of lung tissue. Children, the elderly, and people with chronic respiratory diseases are the most sensitive.

Hammond is in Northwest Indiana, an area that does not meet the Federal health-based standard for ozone.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: December 21, 1999

No. 99-OPA373

## **EPA REACHES AGREEMENT WITH TRANE; INCLUDES \$20,000 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently reached agreement with The Trane Co. on an alleged violation of a federally enforceable State clean-air regulation at the company's air-conditioner production plant, 3600 Pammel Creek Rd., LaCrosse, WI. A \$20,000 penalty was assessed.

The agreement resolves an EPA administrative complaint filed in September, alleging that particulate (smoke, dust, ash) emissions from Trane's Boiler No. 6 exceeded State limits. The violation was discovered during a company stack test done last April.

Trane has since closed the boiler and converted another boiler to natural gas so it can meet its steam production needs without burning coal.

"EPA is committed to enforcing the Clean Air Act," said Margaret Guerriero, acting director of the regional Air and Radiation Division. "To protect public health and the environment, we will take all necessary steps to ensure that companies comply with clean-air regulations."

Inhaling high concentrations of particulates can affect children, the

elderly, and people with heart and lung diseases the most.

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# Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release: December 21, 1999

No. 99-OPA374

## **EPA CITES BP EXPLORATION & OIL FOR CHEMICAL REPORTING VIOLATIONS AT 24 OHIO FACILITIES; INCLUDES \$295,612 FINE**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has recently issued a 926-count administrative complaint against BP Exploration and Oil (Cleveland, OH) for violating Federal laws on the reporting of hazardous chemicals. A \$295,612 penalty was proposed.

EPA alleges that the company either did not submit, or submitted late, Emergency and Hazardous Chemical Inventory forms for 24 Ohio facilities for 1994, 1995, and 1996. These forms must be submitted to the State Emergency Response Commission, local emergency planning committees, and local fire departments to notify them about hazardous chemicals present at a facility. Under the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act, owners and operators of facilities must submit forms for certain hazardous chemicals every year by March 1.

"Reporting requirements are designed to protect public safety and the environment," said regional Superfund director William Muno. "Fire departments, hospitals, and other authorities must have this information to respond appropriately when a release occurs."

The facilities are in Akron, Alliance, Blanchester, Caldwell, Cambridge, Carrollton, Circleville, Clarington, Dayton, Harrisville, Lancaster, Marion, Millersburg, Minster, Mt. Vernon, New Philadelphia, Newark, Newcomerstown, Ontario, Sandusky, Seville, Washington Court House, Williamsfield, and Zanesville, OH.

Chemicals stored at the facilities varied from site to site, but all of the sites stored gasoline and diesel.

Since 1989, EPA Region 5 has filed 221 separate complaints for hazardous chemical reporting violations, resulting in 207 settlements, \$4.88 million in total fines, and \$3.25 million in environmental projects. For fiscal year 1999, there were 26 complaints filed, along with 31 settlements of cases in FY 99 and in earlier years.

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