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2019



S.H. BELL CHICAGO FACILITY

Community Involvement Plan

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

Purpose of this CIP, EPA's community outreach objects and brief site history.

2 COMMUNITY CONCERNS AND QUESTIONS

Community members concerns, questions and comments.

3 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT GOALS AND ACTIVITIES

Goals, activities and timeline to keep residents and local officials informed and involved.

4 THE COMMUNITY

5

Composition of the city of Chicago East Side Neighborhood.

THE SITE Description and history of activities.



- **APPENDIX A** Definition of key words, initials and acronyms (words are in bold throughout the document).
- APPENDIX B Places where community members can find more information about the site and possible meeting locations.
- APPENDIX C List of federal, state and local agencies and interested parties
- APPENDIX D EPA's step-by-step process to determine the best way to clean up a contaminated site and opportunities for community involvement.

APPENDIX E Environmental Justice

INTRODUCTION

Purpose of this CIP and community outreach objectives.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency prepared this **Community** Involvement Plan to inform, engage and support the community near the S.H. Bell Company facility located in Chicago, Illinois. Our community involvement effort is committed to promoting effective and meaningful communication between the public and the Agency. We want to make sure that (1) members of the affected community know and understand when and how they can participate in decision making during the cleanup activities at these sites and (2) the community's concerns and information needs are considered and addressed as activities at each site progress.

This CIP was prepared to support environmental and cleanup activities near the S.H. Bell Co. Chicago facility. We used several information sources to develop this plan, including research, discussions with community members and information gathered at community interviews. We conducted 26 in-person interviews and one telephone interview in August 2018 with community members including local residents, members of local community groups and other parties interested in activities and cleanup efforts. (Words in bold are defined in Appendix A.)

The CIP is a working document that will evolve as the investigation and cleanup progress continues and input is received from the community. It is intended to be flexible, adaptable and used as a guideline for our communication with the community.

This CIP describes EPA's plan for addressing concerns and keeping residents informed and involved in investigation and cleanup activities at the site. We will use this document as a guide to involve and communicate with residents, businesses and the local governments in the city of Chicago.

If you are interested in submitting comments or have questions or suggestions concerning this CIP, please contact:

Heriberto León Community Involvement Coordinator EPA Region 5 312-886-6163 leon.heriberto@epa.gov

EPA'S COMMUNITY OUTREACH OBJECTIVES

- Assist the public in understanding the decision-making process during the investigation and cleanup and the community's role in that process.
- Give the public accessible, accurate, timely and understandable information about the project as it moves forward.
- Ensure adequate time and opportunity for the public to give informed and meaningful input and for that input to be considered.
- Reflect community concerns, questions and information needs.
- Respect and fully consider public input throughout the entire process.

BRIEF SITE BACKGROUND

S.H. BELL CHICAGO FACILITY SITE



The S.H. Bell Chicago site is in the neighborhood adjacent to the S.H. Bell Co. Chicago South Avenue "O" Terminal facility located at 10218 S. Avenue "O" (See Site Boundary Map above). The area includes a mixture of industrial, commercial and residential properties. The site is located southeast of downtown Chicago in the East Side neighborhood and bounded by E. 100th Street to the north, Ewing Avenue to the east, 104th Street to the south, and the S.H. Bell Co. facility and South Calumet River Street to the west.

The S.H. Bell Co. facility handles, stores and processes metals, minerals and industrial materials. The facility has been in operation since 1973. During January and March 2018, the city of Chicago collected soil samples in the rights-of-way around the East Side Neighborhood to assess the impact of fugitive dust emissions from the S.H. Bell facility. Manganese, a metal stored at the S.H. Bell facility, was found at concentrations exceeding EPA's risk-based screening levels at three of the 27 residential area rights-of-way. In April 2018, the city of Chicago requested the EPA Superfund program to sample residential yards near the S.H. Bell facility to determine if they had elevated levels of lead and/or manganese.

S.H. BELL CHICAGO FACILITY SITE

From May to October 2018, EPA collected soil samples from over 100 residential properties within the site boundaries. Samples were collected from the 0-6 inch and 6-12-inch intervals for front, back and side yards; and from the 0-6-inch interval for gardens. EPA's Removal Management Levels (RML's) in surficial soil (0-6 inches) for manganese is 5,500 parts per million (ppm) and 400 ppm for lead at residential properties. RML's help identify areas, contaminants, and conditions where a removal action may be appropriate. Sites with contaminant concentrations above the RML's may not necessarily warrant a removal action dependent upon such factors as background concentrations, the use of site-specific exposure scenarios, or other program considerations.

Some properties sampled had manganese and/or lead above EPA's RMLs. EPA will continue to work with the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry to review all sampling data and evaluate possible cleanup levels and cleanup actions if necessary.



EPA contractor collecting samples from a garden.

Since 2013, EPA has been studying air in Chicago's East side in response to resident's concerns about the area's long industrial history. EPA has inspected the S.H. Bell facility several times since 2014. As a result, S.H. Bell installed an air monitoring network on site and continues to operate and maintain the network. EPA reviews and publishes the results of the air monitoring each month. Visit EPA's web page for the latest data: https://www.epa.gov/il/sh-bell-chicago-facility.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IS ESSENTIAL TO THE SUCCESS OF SUPERFUND CLEANUPS

Ongoing input and involvement by the community is essential to our efforts to provide effective **community engagement**. We have learned that EPA's decision-making ability is enhanced by actively seeking input and information from the community. Community members need to be involved in all phases of the investigation and cleanup so that the **contamination** is addressed in a way that protects people and the environment – now and in the future.

Residents, business owners and local government officials may be able to provide valuable information about a hazardous site that can help us determine the best way to clean it up. Information can help determine the location of contamination, how people may be exposed to the contamination and perhaps sources of the contamination. Local residents educated EPA about their community and told EPA about their concerns, which are explained in the Community Concerns and Questions section on the next page.



COMMUNITY CONCERNS AND QUESTIONS

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

Summarizes what community members are concerned about, the questions they asked and what they told EPA

WHAT WE HEARD

This section focuses on the concerns and issues that EPA heard from community members about the site.

We learned about concerns, questions and informational needs related to the S.H. Bell site by speaking with and/or conducting interviews with residents and other interested community members in August 2018.

Note to readers: This section is intended to faithfully record and reflect the issues and concerns expressed to EPA by residents and others interviewed during the community interviews. By necessity, this is a collection and summary of thoughts and observations and, in some cases, opinions. Please be cautioned that the statements contained in this section may or may not be factual and that the opinions and concerns expressed may or may not be valid.

To prepare for the community interviews, EPA mailed out letters to residents who had allowed access for sampling their properties and who had attended previous meetings regarding the S.H. Bell site inviting them to meet with EPA to talk about the site. EPA received requests for interviews from 27 people. Most interviews were held at the Vodak East Side Branch Library during August 2018. A couple of residents asked us to meet with them at their home and one interview was done over the telephone. The interviews were conducted in a discussion format and each interviewee was asked questions from a list and follow-up questions were suggested by the discussions. (Note: the total number of responses does not always add up to the number of interviewees, because based on the discussions, not all questions were asked of everyone, or at times, interviewees preferred not to answer a specific question.)

PRIMARY CONCERNS

Health

Everyone we spoke with expressed health concerns related to the site. Several people said they know of many people with cancer and referred to the area as a "cancer cluster." Others expressed concern about asthma and other respiratory issues that residents, especially children, have. Interviewees said there are many children in the area with inhalers and are sick. People are concerned about long-term health effects. even when sprayed down with water, the dust still spreads. One resident said that the siding on his house is stained red and he believes it is from the dust from the S.H. Bell facility.

Gardening

Two interviewees said they can't plant anything new in their gardens because of soil concerns. One person asked, "What is in the soil?" Another resident said it was really hard to explain to her father why he can't plant in his garden.

Dust

Several people talked about the dust in the neighborhood and said that

Other concerns expressed by individuals during the interviews include:

- Truck traffic coming in and out of S.H. Bell is heavy and it is tearing up the roads.
- Overall concern about environmental impacts from local industries.
- Concern about stuff on bridge over 106th that is covered with a black tarp; he heard there were chemicals that were dangerous.
- The area looks like a dump there is garbage, standing water and salt.
- Airport air safety.
- Economic concerns.
- The study has been done but can't be pursued because it is not politically advantageous; the area has been ignored and not given any attention; no economic development.

PRIMARY CONCERNS

EPA also wanted to know if community members were getting the information they needed and if they understood the information provided.

Communication

Most interviewees said the information they have received from EPA and the city of Chicago has been "clear and easy" to understand. A few people commented that pictures in the communications are helpful. One person said that the results table she received was not easy to understand and some of the technical terms used were hard to understand.

The majority of people said they have been kept adequately informed of site activities. One person said she had not received any information on meetings and has not gotten up to date information about site issues. Though one person said she has been kept informed, she thought she should have been notified early of the issues in their neighborhood. Another community member said that while FPA has made an honest effort at communication, he believes that federal, state and local officials have not done a good in promoting the study and there is no information about what they are willing to do to help the situation.

There are several avenues where people get their information about the site from, including:

- 10th Ward monthly newsletters
- East Side Facebook page
- EPA mailings
- Word of mouth
- "Through the grapevine"
- E-mail blasts

When asked how they want to continue to receive information, mail, e-mail and Facebook were identified by most people as to how they want to receive information. Other suggestions included:

- Placing ads in newspapers such as *Chicago Tribune*, *Chicago Sun-Times* and the Hegewisch Marsh papers, though many others also responded that they do not read newspapers.
- Calling people; several people said this is the best way to reach out to community members.
- Placing newsletters, fact sheets or announcements at the Vodak Library and local grocery stores.
- Sending information with kids through the schools.
- Distributing information through the churches.

PRIMARY CONCERNS

Information Repository

Almost everyone interviewed said they would go to the Vodak Library to review site documents. Many said this is a good place to put bulletins about site activities.

EPA Web Site

About half of the people interviewed said they are aware of EPA's website, but the majority of those have not been on the site. For those that have used the site, they said it easy to navigate. Though one person said there is duplication in the links going to the same location, which was a little confusing.

Meetings

Many community members have attended meetings in the past and plan on attending future meetings. Some that haven't attended or who said they would not attend said that it was because of health issues, work, being busy with grandchildren, or lack of meeting notifications.

We asked people where the best locations would be to hold meetings and the most popular place was the Vodak Library. Other locations suggested included: Gallistel School, the ice cream shop on 106th, St. Francis de Sales High School, the American Legion, The Zone and the Alderwoman's office. Because of the working residents and elderly residents, there was not a consistent time or day of the week suggested as the best time to hold a meeting. Most people said evenings during the week is probably the best time.



Gallistel School



St. Francis de Sales High School

When asked what was special to know about their community, people said:

- Amazing green spaces
- Natural areas, beautiful marshes, lakes, parks
- Bike paths
- Strong work ethic of working class citizens
- Long-growing community
- Multi-generational grandparents, parents and children
- People look out for one another
- Peaceful and calm
- Nice community
- Good shopping
- Roots are here
- Not as congested as Northside have always been a South sider
- Part of Chicago, but has a small town feel
- People police area themselves
- Friends are still here, know a lot of the community
- "Home" it's what I know
- Not congested, can find parking
- Grew up here family is still here
- Great grandparents came here from Mexico to work
- The resiliency history of steel mills and pride in unions
- Comfortable
- Fighters for community
- Close to Indiana, museums; good central location
- The neighbors
- Pride in the community still exists here

"Family" was the number one response from people when asked what is special about their community.

QUESTIONS INTERVIEWEES ASKED EPA

(Questions listed below are being addressed through regular updates to EPA's S.H. Bell Co. Chicago website: www.epa.gov/il/sh-bell-chicagofacility.)

- 1. What is going to be done about the "dirty" dirt?
- 2. Is there a timeline for remedying the situation?
- What about pipes in the house? Has a kit from the city to test the water and has a filter on the faucet.
- 4. What do I do about lead?
- 5. How was the boundary determined? Why are there boundaries?
- 6. Are we talking 10 to 15 years to determine who is right or wrong or for anything to happen?
- 7. Is there a concern outside the sampling area? Why not?
- 8. Is this one of the highest areas in Chicago with cancer?
- 9. When will the soil sampling be completed?
- 10. Will it devalue the homes?

- 11. How is the community outreach going to help the community?
- 12. Why hasn't the area been cleaned up already?
- 13. What do we have to do to get that place [S.H. Bell] shut down?
- 14. Why isn't Illinois EPA doing anything?
- 15. Have you been in touch with Region 5 Cincinnati? There is a group working with the University of Cincinnati on a health study about S.H. Bell.
- 16. If findings show high levels of contamination, will work be done?
- 17. Is there enforcement of companies to make them pay?
- 18. Can you do a soil kitchen/shop? Can you give information and soil sampling kits to residents?
- 19. How has Region 5 communicated with the EPA workers who handled the East Liverpool, Ohio situation? Have you all seen the research? Is that being used as a jumping off point, and if it's not, how do we incorporate that case into our own case here?

COMMUNITY CONCERNS AND QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS INTERVIEWEES ASKED EPA

- 20. With the June data, the long-term average since SH Bell began monitoring is down to 0.164 ug/m3. This long-term average is still higher than the manganese air levels in East Liverpool during the health study that found impacts to IQ (the long-term level there was 0.14 ug/m3). How does this information inform the EPA Region 5 work in our neighborhood? Can it expedite the process to halt operations, stop the handling of the toxic product, whatever needs to be done to ensure the children are not being affected?
- 21. How will the EPA communicate with the community, the local healthcare clinics, Department of Public Health, etc. what symptoms to be looking for, what to test for, etc for manganese exposure? Who will incur the costs of testing, appointments, copays, etc? What does this process look like?
- 22. As the testing of soil continues and high levels of lead are foundhow will that be handled?
- 23. What will happen when there are dangerous levels of manganese and/or lead found?
- 24. How do we get SH Bell to cease operations until it can be assured that there is no health risk to residents?

- 25. How can we ensure that other companies don't end up doing the same thing? Can the EPA force the City to impose a ban/moratorium?
- 26. Has the EPA notified OSHA? Has OSHA gotten involved?
- 27. How can we ensure that other companies are not doing the same thing? What is the status of requiring metals monitors at other manganese-handling facilities? When will EPA test the soil near other manganese-handling facilities?
- 28. Can you send us a clear list for where your office is at with its findings, important info we need to know, and a timeline for how the EPA is moving forward?



COMMENTS INTERVIEWEES SHARED WITH EPA

At the end of the conversations, EPA asked if there was anything else the community members would like to share either about the site or EPA's involvement with the local community. The responses are provided below.

- I am confused about how all the institutions (Illinois EPA, EPA, Housing, local government) work or don't work together.
- 2. I am concerned how EPA monitors dust; how they are being enforced.
- 3. I feel we are getting assaulted here.
- I am worried about the North Point Development because of the diesel from the trucks and the increased truck traffic. There is an elementary and high school there.
- Everything moves so slowly and there are so many kids – it is frustrating that it takes so long.
- 6. Don't need more information know it's bad need action.
- Concerned EPA may not be able to do the job because of funding cuts and political issues.



- 8. If you analyze the geography of the community there is so much pollution here that industry left behind.
- 9. I hope this study and good work you are doing doesn't get put "under the rug."
- 10. I like what EPA is doing.
- 11. Residents in the area get ignored by the media.
- 12. It is insulting to tell people to wash their hands and clean their countertops.
- 13. The environment and cleaning up the soil are important to me.
- 14. Materials need to be in both English and Spanish as there is a large Spanish population.
- 15. EPA is doing a good thing out here.
- 16. There was an abandoned vehicle in front of her house for months and the city just took care of it.
- 17. At least something is being done about the site.

COMMENTS INTERVIEWEES SHARED WITH EPA

- 18. Would like EPA to be more proactive.
- 19. The Alderwoman should be more involved; don't think she has done enough for the community.
- 20. Need a better process for keeping the community engaged and there needs to be a better cycle of information.
- 21. Tries to treat lawn every year but not getting the lawn he should have; it gets brown film and that gets on shoes, which gets tracked into the house.
- 22. Appreciates what you are doing for us.
- 23. Wish there was accountability with the company to stop polluting.
- 24. Don't want to see big company take advantage of the community.
- 25. Steel mills used to dump slag in the alleys.



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT GOALS AND ACTIVITIES

Highlights EPA's goals, activities and timeline to keep residents and local officials informed and involved.

Community involvement is the process of engaging in dialogue and collaboration with community members. The goal of Superfund community involvement is to advocate and strengthen early and meaningful community participation during Superfund cleanups.

When establishing the objectives for a site-specific community involvement program, we consider several factors, including federal requirements and EPA policy that assess the nature and extent of known or perceived site **contaminants** and known community concerns and requests.

To be effective, our community involvement program is designed to meet the community's need to know, give information in a timely manner and accommodate the community's interests and its willingness to participate in decision-making processes. We must also share information in language the public can understand. To meet the needs of the community and to respond to information obtained during discussions and community interviews conducted with residents and other community members in August 2018 and to meet federal requirements, we have established the following objectives for our community involvement efforts:

- Enlist the support, coordination and involvement of the city of Chicago officials and community leaders.
- Monitor citizen interest in the site and respond accordingly.
- Keep the community well informed of ongoing and planned site activities.
- Explain technical site activities and findings in an understandable format for residents.

- · Get public input on key decisions.
- Change planned activities, where warranted, based on community input.
- Update EPA's website regularly and provide useful information on it for the community.
- Update the city of Chicago officials on a periodic basis even if no activities are occurring at the site.
- Hold public meetings, when necessary, within the community to give all residents an opportunity to attend.

EPA has or will put in place the activities described on the following pages to meaningfully and actively engage the community in decisions regarding the investigation and cleanup near the S.H. Bell Co. Chicago facility. The following plan is intended as opportunities for communication between the community and EPA and to address key concerns and questions raised during the discussions and community interviews conducted in August 2018.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT GOALS AND ACTIVITIES

To meet federal requirements and to address community concerns and questions described in the Community Concerns section, EPA has conducted (or will conduct) the activities described below. Through these activities, it is our goal to inform, involve and engage the community during site cleanup decisions and efforts. As the needs of the community change, we will modify the community involvement strategies to address them.

 Maintain point of contact. Heriberto León is the primary liaison between EPA and the city of Chicago East Side community. Mr. León serves as the point of contact for community members and fields general questions about the site. For technical site issues, he coordinates with EPA's on-scene coordinator, or OSC, for the site, Brad Benning.

We will include current contact information for the project staff on all written and electronic information and will notify the community of any contact information changes. EPA has designated the following people as primary site contacts for local residents:

Heriberto León Community Involvement Coordinator 312-886-6163 leon.heriberto@epa.gov

Brad Benning On-Scene Coordinator 847-297-1057 benning.bradley@epa.gov

Patrick Miller Air Division Contact 312-886-4044 miller.patrick@epa.gov

They can also be reached weekdays toll-free at 800-621-8431 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



• Establish a toll-free number for residents to ask questions and receive information.

Mr. León (ext. 66163) and Mr. Miller (ext. 64044) are in EPA's Chicago office and can be reached toll-free at 800-621-8431. Mr. Benning (847-297-1057) is in the Des Plaines, IL office. Residents can call these numbers as questions or concerns arise instead of waiting for a public meeting or to receive written information. We will provide the toll-free number periodically in local newspaper advertisements and include the tollfree number in all fact sheets and all of our other communications with the public. Maintain communication with local officials, agencies and community residents.

We will maintain communication with the local officials throughout the investigation and cleanup

• Share site information on the Internet.

We will provide information on activities and past communications on the following EPA website. The website will be updated as events occur.



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT GOALS AND ACTIVITIES

• Update and maintain the site mailing list.

We have established a mailing list of local residents, organizations, businesses and officials for the site. This list will be used for mailing fact sheets, site updates, invitations to public meetings and events and other site-related information mailed to the community. We will update the list regularly to reflect address changes and changes in elected officials and to add new people interested in site activities. This is a way to ensure that those that do not have access to the Internet or other information sources still have a way to receive information directly about the site and are notified about important meetings. The mailing list is for EPA use only and is not shared with outside entities. If a community member is interested in being placed on the mailing list they can contact Heriberto León, the Community Involvement Coordinator, or CIC, for the site.

• Prepare and distribute fact sheets and site updates.

We will prepare and distribute fact sheets, letters and site updates to those on the site mailing and e-mail lists summarizing current information about the site and describing upcoming activities. These documents are written in non-technical language and are typically issued to coincide with important site activities. To support the residents of the site community, EPA provides all documents in Spanish and English.

We use these types of documents to give the community detailed information in a relatively quick, simple and easy-tounderstand manner. In addition to being shared with individuals on the site mailing list, we also place the fact sheets and site updates in the **information repository** and post them on EPA's website:

www.epa.gov/il/sh-bell-chicago-facility.

Community members interviewed suggested hanging informational flyers at churches, local grocery stores and the Vodak Library in the neighborhood. As appropriate, EPA may hang flyers at the locations recommended and any other locations identified.

Establish and maintain a sitespecific information repository.

We have set up a local information repository for the site at the following location:

Vodak-East Side Branch Library 3720 East 106th St. Chicago, IL 60617 312-747-5500 https://www.chipublib.org/locations/71/

The repository is a collection of site information available to the public for reading and photocopying. Documents include fact sheets, technical reports, the CIP, general Superfund information and other documents. EPA adds new documents about the site as the documents become available. Information repositories give residents local access to site information in forms that can be easily read and photocopied for future use. An online information repository is also available on the site's web page www.epa.gov/il/sh-bell-chicagofacility to access information electronically.

CHICAGO PUBLIC LIBRARY VODAK - EAST SIDE BRANCH

> Vodak-East Side Branch Library

• Establish and maintain the administrative record.

A copy of the **administrative record** for the site can be found at the library listed above and at the EPA Region 5 Superfund Records Center in Chicago *(see Appendix B).* We will update the administrative record as necessary. The administrative record gives residents a paper trail of all documents EPA relied on, or considered, to reach decisions about the site cleanup.

• Conduct public meetings, hearings and information sessions.

A public meeting is an opportunity for EPA to present specific information and a proposed course of action. EPA staff is available to share information and answer questions. A public meeting is not a formal public hearing where testimony is received. Instead, it might be a meeting to exchange information or comments. In addition, we may hold an informal open-house style meeting, called an availability session, where residents can meet EPA experts one-on-one to discuss the activities at the site. Either type of meeting

allows community members an opportunity to express their concerns and ask questions of the Agency, state or local government officials. Public meetings or availability sessions can be held at various times throughout the investigation and cleanup process. We typically schedule a meeting when there are technical milestones or when the community has expressed an interest in having a meeting.

A public hearing is a formal meeting where we hear the public's views and concerns about an EPA action or proposal. There are specific regulations about when the Agency is required to consider such comments when evaluating its actions. Public hearings are recorded by a professional transcriber and become part of the administrative record. The comments are also posted on the Web.

EPA will consider conducting additional meetings at different times and different locations throughout the community to give all residents an opportunity to attend as needed.

• Provide additional tools for communities as needed.

There are additional programs that can be helpful to the community if there is a need for them. Two of these programs are the Technical Assistance Services for Communities, or TASC, and the Technical Assistance Grant, or TAG. The TASC program supplies communities with technical help so they can better understand the science, regulations and policies of environmental issues and EPA actions. TAGs provide money for activities that help communities participate in decision making at eligible Superfund site.

• Write and distribute news releases and public notices.

We will prepare and release announcements to the local newspaper such as the Chicago Tribune, Chicago Sun-Times or Our Neighborhood Times to share information about events such as significant site investigation findings, public comment periods, public meetings and completion of major milestones such as the proposal of a cleanup pan. We will also provide this information to the District 10 Alderwoman Susan Sadlowski Garza for posting on the website as well as publishing in any community newsletters.

Community members interviewed also suggested hanging flyers announcing meetings or significant findings at churches and parks in the neighborhood. As appropriate, EPA may hang flyers at the locations recommended and any other locations identified.

News releases allow us to reach large audiences quickly. We will also post the news releases on the website, https://www.epa.gov/il/sh-bellchicago-facility

EPA will issue news releases and public notices as site activities progress. We will also put copies of the news releases and public notices in the site information repository.



• Evaluate community involvement and outreach efforts and make adjustments as warranted. This CIP was designed to consider site- and community-specific factors as well as to comply with federal requirements. Within this CIP, community concerns, the objectives of the community involvement program for the site and the specific activities to address these concerns were based on information obtained during discussions and interviews with local residents and other community members. We recognize that changes in areas such as community perceptions, information needs and population demographics can occur over time and that such changes may necessitate a revised approach to conducting community involvement activities. For this reason, as well as to determine whether the activities in this revised plan are achieving their intended objectives, we will conduct periodic reviews to determine whether additional activities are warranted or whether changes to current methods of starting up the activities outlined in this revised plan are necessary. As the needs of the community change, we will modify the community involvement strategies to address them in a CIP revision.

The status of activities is presented on the following two pages.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PLAN S.H. BELL CHICAGO FACILITY SITE

E	Maintain point of contact: Heriberto León 312-886-6163 leon.heriberto@epa.gov Brad Benning 847-297-1057 benning.bradley@epa.gov	Patrick Miller 312-886-4044 miller.patrick@epa.gov	
	Establish a toll-free number	800-621-8431 Ext. 66163 (Heriberto León) Ext. 64044 (Patrick Miller)	V
	Develop a community involvement plan	Update as needed	V
	Maintain communication with local officials, agencies and community residences	Ongoing as needed	3
	Share site information on the Internet	http://www.epa.gov/il/sh-bell-chicago-facility https://espanol.epa.gov/espanol/instalaciones -de-sh-bell-chicago	
	Update and maintain site mailing list	Update as needed	3

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PLAN S.H. BELL CHICAGO FACILITY SITE

Establish and maintain site- specific information repository and administrative record	Ongoing as needed	\$
Conduct public meetings, hearings and information sessions	Ongoing as needed	\$
Write and distribute news releases and public notices	Ongoing as needed	\$
Maintain communication with local officials, agencies and community residences	Ongoing as needed	\$
Evaluate community involvement and outreach efforts and adjust as warranted	Periodically throughout the process	3

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT GOALS AND ACTIVITIES

THE COMMUNITY

Provides a brief summary of the composition and history of the city of Chicago East Side Neighborhood.

Community Profile Chicago East Side Neighborhood

The city of Chicago, located in Cook County, Illinois, is divided into 77 official community areas. The East Side Neighborhood is located on the city's far southeast side, between the Calumet River and the Illinois-Indiana state line, approximately 15 miles south of Downtown Chicago. The neighborhood encompasses an area of 2.8 square miles. Figure 1 on Page 28 outlines the boundaries of the S.H. Bell facility and sampling area within the Chicago East Side Neighborhood boundaries.

The city of Chicago was incorporated in 1837, but the area that now makes up the East Side was not annexed into the city until 1890 (Source: https://chicagology.com/population). Into the mid-1800s, Native American families from several villages lived in the area. In the 1870s, heavy industry entered the Calumet area. Population grew quickly as immigrants from Europe settled the area to work in the steel mills and other related industries. Prior to the 1920s, the East Side was known as Taylorville, Goosetown and Colehour. By this time, the East Side became a significant producer of steel and iron due to its proximity to railroads and natural port on the Calumet River (Source: http://www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org/ pages/406.html).



Obelisk denoting Illinois-Indiana boundary

The dominance of the local steel mills in the East Side led to conflict in the 1930s as workers tried to unionize. After Republic Steel mill, one of the main employers in East Side, refused to sign a collective bargaining agreement, the Steel Workers Organizing Committee (now the United Steelworkers of America) called for a strike. On Memorial Day 1937, 1,000 strikers marched toward the mill gates where Chicago police ordered them to retreat. Police shot at the crowd, killing 10 and injuring many more. Courts exonerated the police violence as justified force. Republic Steel was eventually unionized in 1941 and the steel industry remained the main employer in the area until the riverside steel mills and heavy industries went into major decline from 1970 to 2000 (Source: http://www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org/ pages/406.html).



Chicago police shooting at strikers during the Memorial Day Massacre

S.H. BELL CHICAGO FACILITY SITE



Today, on the site of what was SWOC headquarters (11731 S Avenue O, Chicago, Illinois) stands a memorial to the 10 people who died in 1937.

Established residents were often hostile to new immigrants to the area. German and Swedish residents promoted their "American-ness" over the Croatian, Slovene, and Serbian families who emigrated in the 1880s. This trend continued as new groups, such as Italian immigrants, entered the area until after World War I, when immigration slowed and Americanization programs gained popularity. After World War II, however, East Siders violently resisted African American families' attempts to move into the area, leading to race riots at Calumet Park and Trumbull Park in nearby South Deering. In the late 1900s, the Hispanic population of the East Side more than quintupled, growing from 13 percent in 1980 to 68 percent in 2000 (Source: http:// www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org/ pages/406.html).

East Side residents can access Lake Michigan from Calumet Park. The 198acre park includes a beach, boat launch, gymnasium, field house, sports fields and picnic groves (Source: https://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/ parks-facilities/calumet-park). Eggers Grove, part of the Cook County Forest Preserve, is also located in the East Side neighborhood. The woodland has picnic groves, walking paths, and access to the Burnham Greenway (https://fpdcc.com/places/locations/ eggers-grove/).

S.H. BELL CHICAGO FACILITY SITE



Figure 1. Chicago East Side Neighborhood

Governmental structure

The city of Chicago has a mayor council form of government. The City Council is made up 50 aldermen, one representing each of Chicago's 50 wards. East Side is part of Chicago's 10th Ward and Susan Sadlowski Garza is the 10th Ward Alderwoman. The mayor and aldermen are elected and serve four-year terms. The Chicago Police Department's 4th District and two Chicago Fire Department stations serve the East Side neighborhood.

10th Ward Alderwoman

Susan Sadlowski Garza 773-768-8138 Ward10@cityofchicago.org

Demographics

The following demographic information was obtained from the 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates for both the East Side Neighborhood and the S.H. Chicago Facility site community. The table below compares demographic statistics of the East Side Neighborhood with the community directly affected by the S.H. Bell Chicago Facility. The graphics on the following pages provide information for the community directly affected by the S.H. Bell Chicago Facility.

	East Side		SH Bell Site	
Category	Neighborhood	Percentage	Community	Percentage
Total Population	24,145		2,077	
Minority Population	20,896	83%	1,818	88%
Non-Hispanic	4,853		319	
White Alone	4,049	17%	259	12%
Black Alone	695	3%	52	2%
Other	109	0%	8	0%
Total Hispanic	19,292	80%	1,758	85%
Males	11,735	49%	1,063	51%
Females	12,410	51%	1,014	49%
Age 0-4	1,599	7%	167	8%
Age 5-17	5,582	23%	533	26%
Age 18 - 64	14,296	59%	1,143	55%
Age 65+	2,668	11%	234	11%
Population 25+ by Educational Attainment	14,521		1,212	
Less than 9th Grade	2,590	18%	301	25%
9th - 12th Grade, No Diploma	1,762	12%	189	16%
High School Graduate	4,981	34%	381	31%
Some College, No Degree	3,256	22%	253	21%
Associate Degree	665	5%	55	5%
Bachelor's Degree or more	1,932	13%	88	7%
Housing Units	7,022		7,173	
Owner Occupied	4,758	68%	303	52%
Renter Occupied	2,264	32%	283	48%
Freedow d David at the Area AC: Marine	21.020		4 536	
Employed Population Age 16+ Years	31,838	6704	1,536	500/
In Labor Force	11,231	62%	903	59%
Civilian Unemployed in Labor Force	2,015	11%	253	16%
Not in Labor Force	6,900	38%	632	41%
Population by Language Spoken at Home (Age 5+)	22,172		1,630	
English	6,285	28%	377	23%
Spanish	15,427	70%	1,230	75%

Demographics Comparing Chicago East Side Neighborhood with S.H. Bell Sampling Area Community Information from EJ Screen American Community Survey 2013-2017 Report

S.H. BELL CHICAGO FACILITY SITE

Demographics



The U.S. Census Bureau considers the Hispanic/Latino designation an ethnicity and not a race. The population self-identified as Hispanic/Latino is also represented within the "Race" demographic.





S.H. BELL CHICAGO FACILITY SITE



APPENDIX A GLOSSARY - INITIALS - ACRONYMS

Action Memorandum: The primary decision document selecting a removal response. It:

- determines the need for a CERCLA removal action,
- authorizes the removal action,
- identifies the action and cleanup levels (if applicable) and
- explains the rationale for the removal response.

On-Scene Coordinators prepare action memos for all fund-financed removal actions either prior to the start of a response or after the fact for removals initiated using an OSC's delegated warrant authority.

Administrative Record: The body of documents that forms the basis for the selection of a particular response at a site. For example, the Administrative Record for remedy selection includes all documents that were considered or relied upon to select the remedy through the record of decision.

Air Emissions: The release or discharge of a pollutant into the air.

CERCLA: See Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act.

CIC: See Community Involvement Coordinator.

CIP: See Community Involvement Plan.

Cleanup: Actions taken to deal with a release or threat of release of a hazardous substance that could affect humans and/or the environment. The term "cleanup" is sometimes used interchangeably with the terms "remedial action," "remediation," "removal action," "response action," or "corrective action."

Community: An interacting population of various types of individuals, or species, in a common location; a neighborhood or specific area where people live.

Community Engagement: The process of involving communities in all phases of the cleanup process. Communities are asked to provide input on how the cleanup will be conducted and how it may affect community plans and goals. See also Community Involvement.

Community Involvement: The term used by EPA to identify its process for engaging in dialogue and collaboration with communities affected by Superfund site. EPA's community involvement approach is founded in the belief that people have a right to know what the Agency is doing in their community and to have a say in it. Its purpose is to give people the opportunity to become involved in the Agency's activities and to help shape the decisions that are made.

Community Involvement Coordinator: The EPA official whose lead responsibility is to involve and inform the public about the Superfund process and response actions in accordance with the interactive community involvement requirements set forth in the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan.

APPENDIX A GLOSSARY - INITIALS - ACRONYMS

Community Involvement Plan: A plan that outlines specific community involvement activities that occur during the investigation and cleanup at the site. The CIP outlines how EPA will keep the public informed of work at the site and the ways in which residents can review and comment on decisions that may affect the final actions at the site. The document is available in the site's information repository maintained by EPA. The CIP may be modified as necessary to respond to changes in community concerns, information needs and activities.

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act: A federal law passed in 1980 and modified in 1986 by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act. Commonly known as Superfund, CERCLA is intended to protect people's health and the environment by investigating and cleaning up abandoned or uncontrolled hazardous waste site. Under the program, EPA can either:

- Pay for site cleanup when parties responsible for the contamination cannot be located or are unwilling or unable to do the work; or
- Take legal action to force parties responsible for site contamination to clean up the site or pay back the federal government for the cost of the cleanup.

Consent Decree: A legal document that formalizes an agreement reached between EPA and parties considered potentially responsible for contamination, called PRPs, where PRPs will perform all or part of a Superfund site cleanup. The consent decree describes actions that PRPs are required to perform, the costs incurred by the government that the PRPs will reimburse, as well as the roles, responsibilities and enforcement options that the government may exercise in the event of noncompliance by the PRPs. A consent decree is subject to a public comment period.

Contaminant(s): Any physical, chemical, biological or radiological substance or matter that has an adverse effect on air, water or soil.

Contamination: Introduction into water, air and soil of microorganisms, chemicals, toxic substances, wastes or wastewater in a concentration that makes the medium unfit for its next intended use. Also applies to surfaces of objects, buildings and various household use products.

Emergency Removals: Require an immediate response to releases or threatened releases to the environment and are initiated within hours or days of the determination that the removal action is appropriate. Typical emergency removals address immediate threats, such as fires, explosions, toxic spills, or imminent contamination of a water supply. Because an emergency removal can begin within hours or days of the determination that a removal is appropriate, there is little or no time for planning and relatively few procedural and community involvement requirements. Instead, the focus is on communications: quickly disseminating information to warn of the potential threats, advising community members about how to protect themselves, and explaining the protective measures EPA is taking.

Emergency Response: If a site poses an immediate threat to the community's health or the environment, the EPA under the authority of CERCLA will step in to stop the threat. Emergency responses can sometimes be expanded to eliminate the need for later long-term action.

APPENDIX A GLOSSARY - INITIALS - ACRONYMS

EJ: See Environmental Justice.

Environmental Justice: The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

Feasibility Study: The feasibility study is an analysis of the practicality of a proposal and evaluates alternatives and costs for their effectiveness in protecting human health and the environment.

FS: See Feasibility Study.

Hazardous Substance(s): Any material that poses a threat to human health and/or the environment. Typical hazardous substances are toxic, corrosive, ignitable, explosive or chemically reactive. Any substance designated by EPA to be reported if a designated quantity of the substance is spilled in the waters of the United States or is otherwise released into the environment.

Hazardous Waste: Byproducts that can pose a substantial or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly managed. Hazardous wastes usually possess at least one of four characteristics (ignitability, corrosivity, reactivity or toxicity) or appear on special EPA lists.

Information Repository: A file containing current information, technical reports and reference documents regarding a site. The information repository usually is located in a public building convenient for local residents such as a public school, town hall or library.

Lead: Lead is a naturally occurring bluish-gray metal found in small amounts in the earth's crust. Lead can be found in all parts of our environment. Much of it comes from human activities including burning fossil fuels, mining, and manufacturing. Lead has many different uses. It is used in the production of batteries, ammunition, metal products (solder and pipes), and devices to shield X-rays. Because of health concerns, lead from paints and ceramic products, caulking, and pipe solder has been dramatically reduced in recent years. The use of lead as an additive to gasoline was banned in 1996 in the United States. Exposure to lead can happen from breathing workplace air or dust, eating contaminated foods, or drinking contaminated water. Children can be exposed from eating lead-based paint chips or playing in contaminated soil. Lead can damage the nervous system, kidneys, and reproductive system. More information can be found on the following website: www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/tfacts13.pdf.

Manganese: Manganese is a trace element and consuming small amounts from food or water is needed to stay healthy. Exposure to excess levels of manganese may occur from breathing air, particularly where manganese is used in manufacturing, and/or from drinking water and eating food. At high levels, it can cause damage to the brain.
APPENDIX A GLOSSARY - INITIALS - ACRONYMS

National Priorities List: EPA's list of serious uncontrolled or abandoned hazardous waste site identified for possible long-term cleanup under Superfund. The list is based primarily on the score a site receives from the Hazard Ranking System. EPA is required to update the National Priorities List at least once a year.

Non-Time-Critical Removals: This type of removal is undertaken when EPA determines that a removal action is appropriate and the situation allows for a planning period of at least six months before on-site activities must begin. Because non-time-critical sites do not present an immediate threat to public health or safety, more time is available to thoroughly assess potential threats and evaluate cleanup alternatives.

NPL: See National Priorities List.

On-Scene Coordinator: The EPA staff responsible for directing or overseeing responses to oil spills and hazardous substance releases reported to the federal government. OSCs coordinate all federal efforts with, and provide support and information to, state, regional and local agencies.

OSC: See On-Scene Coordinator.

PA: See Preliminary Assessment.

Preliminary Assessment: The process of gathering information about site conditions to evaluate whether the site poses a threat to the community's health or the environment, and whether further investigating is needed.

Proposed Plan: A plan for a site cleanup that is available to the public for comment.

Public Meeting(s): Formal public sessions that are characterized by a presentation to the public followed by a question-and-answer session. Formal public meetings may involve the use of a court reporter and the issuance of transcripts.

Public Comment Period: The time allowed for the public to express its views and concerns regarding an action by EPA (for example, a cleanup plan for a site or a public notice of a draft permit).

Record of Decision: A legal, technical, and public document that explains which cleanup alternative will be used at a Superfund NPL site. The ROD is based on information and technical analysis generated during the remedial investigation and feasibility study and consideration of public comments and community concerns.

Remedial Project Manager: The EPA or state official responsible for overseeing on-site remedial action.

APPENDIX A GLOSSARY - INITIALS - ACRONYMS

Removal Management Levels: Values used by EPA to help determine if any future actions may be needed. A determination that a sample result is higher than a RML by itself does not imply that adverse health effects will occur.

Removal Negotiations: Discussions between EPA and the potentially responsible parties (PRPs) on the liability for and conduct of a removal cleanup action.

Removal Response Action: A type of cleanup response that is done under the authority of CERCLA that involves either a short- or long-term action to remove contamination (or the threat posed by contamination). Examples of a removal response action include digging up and removing soil contaminated with high levels of lead. Containing the contamination through means such as covering contaminated soil to prevent it from continuing to pose a risk, or treating the waste on site.

RMLs: See Removal Management Levels.

ROD: See Record of Decision.

RPM: See Remedial Project Manager.

SARA: See Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act.

SI: See Site Inspection.

Site Inspection: Typically following a preliminary assessment, air water and soil at the site are tested to determine what hazardous substances are present, whether they are being released in to the environment and whether they pose a threat to human health or the environment. These activities are collectively referred to as "site inspection."

Superfund: The program operated under the legislative authority of CERCLA that funds and carries out EPA solid waste emergency and long-term removal and remedial activities. These activities include establishing the National Priorities List, investigating sites for inclusion on the list, determining their priority and conducting and/or supervising cleanup and other remedial actions.

Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act: Modifications to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, enacted on October 17, 1986.

Time Critical Removal Action: A kind of cleanup that is done under CERCLA when there is a release or threatened release of a hazardous substance into the environment or a release or threatened risk of a pollutant or contaminant that may present an imminent and substantial danger to humans or the environment. Time critical removal actions are those removal actions where on-site activities must be initiated within six months of the determination. Examples include removal of drums or small volumes of contaminated soil and stabilization of lagoons.

APPENDIX B

Information Repository, Administrative Record, Websites and Public Meeting Locations

Local Information Repository Vodak-East Branch Library

3710 E 106th St. Chicago, IL 60617 312-747-5500 https://www.chipublib.org/locations/71/



Vodak-East Branch Library

Official Information Repository

EPA Region 5 Superfund Records Center 77 W Jackson Blvd. Room 711, 7th Floor Ralph Metcalfe Federal Building

EPA Site Web Page

Chicago, IL 60604

www.epa.gov/il/sh-bell-chicago-facility https://espanol.epa.gov/espanol/instalaciones-de-sh-bell-chicago

Possible Meeting Locations

Vodak-East Side Branch Library 3720 E 106th St. Chicago, IL 60617 312-747-5500 https://www.chipublib.org/locations/71/

Gallistel Language Academy

10347 S. Ewing Ave. Chicago, IL 60617 773-535-6540 Gallistel.cps.edu/

The Zone

11731 S. Avenue O Chicago, IL 60617 773-535-6540





List of Contacts (Information is current as of June 2019)

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Federal Elected Officials

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Chicago Office 230 S Dearborn St., Suite 2892 Chicago, IL 60604 312-353-4952

Robin Kelly

U.S. Representative 1239 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515 202-225-0773 https://robinkelly.house.gov Matteson Office 600 Holiday Plaza Dr., Suite 505 Matteson, IL 60443 708-679-0078

Heriberto León

Community Involvement Coordinator Superfund Division RE-6J EPA 77 W Jackson Blvd. Chicago, IL 60604 312-886-6163 or 800-621-8431 x 66163 leon.heriberto@epa.gov

Tammy Duckworth

Senator 524 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510 202-224-2854 https://www.duckworth.senate.gov

Chicago Office 230 S Dearborn St., Suite 3900 Chicago, IL 60604 312-886-3506





State Elected Officials

J.B. Pritzker

Governor James R. Thompson Center 100 W Randolph St., 16-100 Chicago, IL 60601 312-814-2121 https://www2.illinois.gov/

Robert Peters (District 13)

State Senator 1509 E 53rd St., 2nd Floor Chicago, IL 60615 773-363-1996 http://www.senatorrobertpeters.com/

Curtis J. Tarver II (District 25)

State Representative 264-S Stratton Office Building Springfield, IL 62706 217-782-8121

District Office 872-356-2055 http://ilga.gov/house/Rep.asp? MemberID=2748

Chicago Officials

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Anna M. Valencia

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Commander, 4th District 2255 E 103rd St. Chicago, IL 60617 312-747-8205 Caps.004district@chicagopolice.org

Ernest Roberts

City Engineer 204 Pulaski Rd. Calumet City, IL 60409 708-331-6700 eroberts@reltd.com

Alicia Tate-Nadeau

Director Office of Emergency Management and Communications 121 N LaSalle St. City Hall Chicago, IL 60602 312-746-9111

Health Agencies/Organizations

Agency for Toxic Substances and

Disease Registry Region 5 77 W. Jackson Boulevard Room 433, M/S 4J Chicago, IL 60604 Phone: 312-886-0840 https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/dro/r5.html

The Great Lakes Center for Children's Environmental Health

312-864-5526 Toll Free: 866-967-7337 Email: ChildrensEnviro@uic.edu http://publichealth.uic.edu/greatlakes/childrens-health

Great Lakes Center for Occupational and Environmental Safety and Health

1603 W. Taylor Street, (MC 923) Chicago, Illinois 60612-4394 Phone: 312-864-7340 http://publichealth.uic.edu/great-lakes **City of Chicago Department of Public Health** City Hall 121 N. LaSalle Street Chicago, IL 60602 Phone: 311 (within Chicago), 312-744-5000 https://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/cdph.html

The Occupational Health Services Institute University Health Service

Dr. Julie Morita

Department of Public Health

Commissioner

333 S State St.

312-747-2374

Chicago, IL 60604

Room 200

835 South Wolcott, Room E-144 Chicago, Illinois 60612 312-413-0369 https://hospital.uillinois.edu/primary-and-specialty-care/ occupational-environmental-medicine



Organizations in the East Side Neighborhood

Southeast Environmental Task Force

13300 S Baltimore Avenue Chicago, Illinois 773-646-0436

Chicago South East Side Coalition to Ban Petcoke 13300 S Baltimore Avenue Chicago, Illinois 773-712-4956

Newspapers

Chicago Tribune 160 N Stetson Ave. Chicago, IL 60601 312-222-3232

La Raza 200 S Michigan Ave. #1600 Chicago, IL 60604 312-870-7000

Radio

WLS 890 AM 190 N State St., 9th Floor Chicago, IL 60601 312-984-0890 http://www.wlsam.com/

WNUA 95.5 FM (Spanish) 233 N Michigan Ave. Chicago, IL 60601 312-540-2000 http://www.wnua.com/ **Chicago Sun-Times** 30 N Racine Ave. 3rd Floor Chicago, IL 60607 312-321-3000

Our Neighborhood Times 13318 S Baltimore Ave. Chicago, IL 60633

WGN 720 AM

435 N Michigan Ave. Chicago, IL 60611 312-222-4700 http://www.wgnradio.com/

WDRV 97.1 FM

875 N Michigan Ave., Suite 1510 Chicago, IL 60611 312-274-9710 http://www.wdrv.com/



Radio

WVIV 93.5 FM

541 N. Fairbanks Ct, 11th FL Chicago, Illinois 60611 844-370-0935 http://www.935Chicago.com

WOJO Qué Buena 105.1 FM

541 N. Fairbanks Ct, 11th FL Chicago, Illinois 60611 844-370-1051 https://www.univision.com/radio/chicago-wojo-fm/que-buena-105-1-fm

WPPN Amor 106.7 FM

541 N. Fairbanks Ct, 11th FL Chicago, Illinois 60611 844-370-1067 http://www.univision.com/radio/chicago-wppn-fm/amor-106-7-fm

WLEY 107.9 FM

150 N Michigan Ave Chicago, Illinois 60601 312-591-7070 http://www.laley1079.com

WKRS 1200 AM

3250 Belvidere Rd Waukegan, Illinois 60085 847-244-1220

WRTO 1220 AM

541 N Fairbanks Ct STE 1100 Chicago, IL 60611 312-670-1000 www.univision.com/chicago/wrto-am/univision-deportes-chicago-1200-am

WPJX 1500 AM

77 West 66th Street Zion Illinois 60099 773-909-0303 www.rebelradio.com

PAGE C-5

Television

WLS-TV ABC 7

190 N State St. Chicago, IL 60601 312-750-7777 http://www.abclocal.go.com/wls/index

WTTW-TV 11

5400 N St. Louis Ave. Chicago, IL 60625 773-583-5000 http://www.wttw.com/

WBBM-TV CBS 2

22 W Washington St. Chicago, IL 60602 312-899-2222 https://chicago.cbslocal.com/

WSNS-TV

Telemundo Chicago 454 N Columbus Dr. Chicago, IL 60611 312-836-3110 http://www.telemundochicago.com

WMAQ-TV NBC 5 454 N Columbus Dr. Chicago, IL 60611 312-836-5555 http://www.nbcchicago.com/

WFLD-TV FOX 32

205 N Michigan Ave. Chicago, IL 60601 773-528-2311 http://www.myfoxchicago.com/

WGBO-DT

Univision Chicago 541 N Fairbanks Ct. #1100 Chicago, IL 60611 312-670-1000 http://www.univision.com/local/chicago-wgbo



APPENDIX D

Community Engagement and the Superfund Process

Superfund is an environmental cleanup program enabled by a federal law enacted in 1980 known as the **Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act**, or **CERCLA**, also called Superfund. In 1986, another law, the **Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act**, or SARA, reauthorized CERCLA to continue Superfund cleanup activities. The CERCLA law gives EPA the authority to require those parties responsible for creating hazardous waste sites to clean up those sites or to reimburse the government if EPA cleans up the sites. EPA compels responsible parties to clean up **hazardous waste** sites through administrative orders, **consent decrees** and other legal settlements. EPA is authorized to enforce the Superfund laws within Indian reservations, in all 50 states and in U.S. territories. Superfund site identification, monitoring and response activities are coordinated with state, tribal and territorial environmental protection or waste management agencies.

There are several steps involved in cleaning up a contaminated site. Once EPA has been made aware of a contaminated site from individual citizens, local, tribal or state agencies or others, EPA follows a step-by-step process (see the next page of this Appendix) to determine the best way to clean up the site and protect human health and the environment.

If the site poses an immediate threat to public health or the environment, EPA can intervene with an emergency response action. The goal of EPA's Emergency Response and Removal Program is to protect the public and the environment from immediate threats posed by the release or discharge of **hazardous substances**.

The Superfund program encourages active dialogue between communities affected by the release of hazardous substances and all of the agencies responsible for carrying out or overseeing cleanup actions. EPA considers community involvement to be an important part of the Superfund program and opportunities for community involvement occur throughout the process. At each step in the process, there are opportunities for various levels of community involvement (see the following page for more details).



Visit these EPA websites for more information on the Superfund process. Superfund: www.epa.gov/superfund

Cleanup Process: https://www.epa.gov/superfund/cleaning-superfund-sites **Community Involvement:** https://www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-community-involvement

Community Involvement Activities Throughout the Superfund Removal Process

REMOVAL SITE	ACTIONS (less than 6 months before on site activity must begin) • Designate Agency sp	ookesperson ilability of Administrative od (minimum 30 days)		ative Rec emo for E / Involver ailability a A in a ne
DISCOVEIV	emoval Time Critical A/SI Actions	Removal Ac (EE/CA precedes removal action		P
REMOVAL SITE EVALUATION Meet with local off Coordination with	ACTIONS (less than 6 months before on site activity must begin) ficials OSC Public meeting Regular fact sh Regular comm Workshops on Media visits Availability/pos Speak to school	<i>before</i> EE/CA neets unity visits issues missed in CIP ter sessions ols & civic groups gs for local officials	NON TIME CRITICALS (with a planning period greater than 6 months) Fact sheet to explain alternative chosen	POS CON

OST-REMOVAL SITE

sitory ecord or EE/CA phase

vement Plan by and brief newspaper

Post-Removal Site Control

OST-REMOVAL SITE ONTROL

al action

APPENDIX E

Environmental Justice

The Environmental Justice Act of 1992 obligates federal agencies to make environmental justice part of its overall mission by "identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations." Following this order, the Office of Environmental Equity within EPA became the Office of Environmental Justice. EPA's Office of Environmental Justice ensures that all people, regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, enjoy the same degree of protection from environmental and health hazards and equal access to the decision-making process for a healthy living, learning, and work environment. Ensuring environmental justice means not only protecting human health and the environment for everyone, but also ensuring that all people are treated fairly and are given the opportunity to participate meaningfully in the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. EPA considers the neighborhoods affected by the USS Lead Superfund site and DuPont Facility discussed in this CIP are environmental justice communities, which means they are communities that historically are under-represented minority and low-income areas burdened with significant environmental challenges.

When making decisions about a cleanup and planning its community involvement initiative for a community, environmental justice issues must be taken into account. As part of this effort, the EPA collaborates with the state agencies, representatives from the city of East Chicago and concerned residents in addressing environmental challenges in more effective, efficient, and sustainable ways. EPA defines environmental justice as the **fair treatment** and **meaningful involvement** of all people--regardless of race, color, national origin or income-- with respect to development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

Fair treatment means that no group of people should bear a disproportionate share of the negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, governmental, or commercial operations, or the execution of federal, state, local, and tribal programs and policies.

Meaningful involvement means that potentially affected community residents have an appropriate opportunity to participate in decision-making about a proposed activity that will affect their environment and/or health.

EPA has this goal for all communities and persons across this nation. It will be achieved when everyone enjoys:

- the same degree of protection from environmental and health hazards, and
- equal access to the decision-making process to have a healthy environment in which to live, learn, and work.